



Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 3, 2026

9:00 am

Here are a few notes to make you feel more at home as we praise the God of new life!

Bulletins are available to be picked up at the back of the sanctuary. We encourage you to participate throughout worship by speaking the **bold** print and singing along with the hymns. An asterisk * indicates when you are invited to stand, as you are comfortable.

All are welcome to come forward for communion. The ushers will guide you. Juice and gluten-free wafers are available; please let your server know if you need either of these.

A basket for offerings is at the rear of the sanctuary.

A children's table is located at the back of the sanctuary, where you'll find some books and activities to help children feel more at home in worship.

Serving in Worship Today

Presiding Minister	Rev. Andrea McDonough
Organist	Gerry Mass
Assisting Minister	Harry Werner
Lector	Marie Zahn
Crucifer	Adrian Bernardo
Offering Bearer	Maggie Hernandez
Parish Administrator	Jennifer Lasher-Dobush
Custodian	Vanessa Petrakos

***Dismissal**

Go in peace to walk in the way of the Risen Christ. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Postlude

Praying Together

... for those who are homebound, ill, hospitalized or recuperating:
Gayle Agg, Nora Beach, Vince Besesdnjak, Joan Clarke, Chuck Dickey, Bill Flick, Dan Fleming, Eddie Flick, Barbara Fossa, Alan Fugo and family, Donna Franz, Risa Gabor, Barb Gaglione, Michelle Garnett, Rosa Garnett, Jane Gradert, Marge (Shriver) Katarzynski, Dorrie Kearns, Dylan King, Karen Kipfstul, Elaine Knerem, Nel Lanese, Jennifer Lewane, Barbara Mingee, Phyllis Nemeth, Patti Novak, Dick Ptak, Madeline Ptak, Ginny Robinson, Steve Senderak, Claude Starks, Arlene Stoltz, Barb Toth, Verl Williamson, Maud Wright, Charlotte Zaranka, Wilma Dancy, Bill Helmick, Nancy Helmick, Robert Lambrecht, Laura Mele, Judy Morgan, Kris Sandor, Lois Williams, Eugene Winfrey, the Copeland/Lane Family.

Last Week

General Fund receipts for week ending 4/26/2026: \$ 1222.00

***Sending Hymn: Rise O Church Like Christ Arisen**
ELW# 548

Fifth Sunday of Easter — May 3, 2026



1 Rise, O church, like Christ a - ris - en,
 2 Rise, trans - formed, and choose to fol - low
 3 Rise, re - mem - ber well the fu - ture;
 4 Ser - vice be our sure vo - ca - tion;



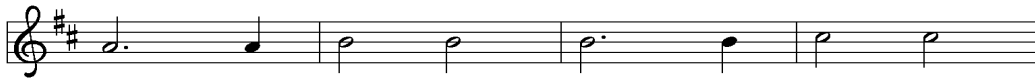
from af - ter God cour - age
 this ter has age
 meal Christ, called be
 of though us our
 love and wound - ed, re - ceive;
 grace; whole; breath;



may bro - ken, pres - mer
 we - ken, ent - cy
 through shared, by be
 such our God's our
 love are lives lov - ing des - ti - na - tion
 en - vi - sion hal - lowed, ture,



whose to Spir - it from
 we re - lease it - this
 are, lease - ed day
 and then and
 whose, our praise.
 to con - sole.
 let us live.
 un - to death.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia;
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia;
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia;
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



God, the won - der of our days.
 Christ, our pres - ent, past, and goal.
 Spir - it, grace by whom we live.
 Rise, O church, a liv - ing faith.

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

***Thanksgiving for Baptism**

In the name of the Giver of all gifts, Creator of word and water, Incarnate God, and life-giving Holy Spirit: In the waters of baptism, God's Holy Spirit comes to us and binds us to the body of Christ. Let us pray thanksgiving for this miracle that always makes wider and deeper the companionship we have with each other through Jesus, our Savior.

This earth, O God, is our home, built by your Word and your breath. Made alive by you, we come to know you and to know ourselves as your people. **We give you thanks.**

We drink your cooling waters. **We give you thanks.**

We see your rivers, lakes, and oceans lush with creatures large and small, food for the eye and for our nourishment. **We give you thanks.**

We bathe and are refreshed in the waters you have made. **We give you thanks.**

Now gathered at baptismal water, a sign of your unending mercy, we praise you for the gift of your Son who in his life, death, resurrection, and ascension embraced the world, calling us to proclaim the good news that welcomes all people. **Make us one in you.**

We praise you for the gift of prayer that allows us to hear you speak in our midst and gives us words when we are speechless with joy. **Make us one in you.**

We praise you for the waters that bring us to this day, to celebrate a new and renewed life in your name. **Make us one in you.**

Come, Holy Spirit, into your people, through the holy Word, by waters blessed. To you be all honor, glory, and gratitude, through Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Gathering Hymn: Wash O God Our Sons and Daughters

ELW # 445



- 1 Wash, O God, our sons and daugh-ters, where your cleans-ing wa-ters flow.
- 2 We who bring them long for nur-ture; by your milk may we be fed.
- 3 Oh, how deep your ho-ly wis-dom! Un-im-ag-ined, all your ways!



Num-ber them a-mong your peo-ple; bless as Christ blessed long a-go.
Let us join your feast, par-tak-ing cup of bless-ing, liv-ing bread.
To your name be glo-ry, hon-or! With our lives we wor-ship, praise!



Weave them gar-ments bright and spark-ling; com-pass them with love and light.
God, re-new us, guide our foot-steps; free from sin and all its snares,
We your peo-ple stand be-fore you, wa-ter-washed and Spir-it-born.



Fill, a-noint them; send your Spir-it, ho-ly dove and heart's de-light.
one with Christ in liv-ing, dy-ing, by your Spir-it, chil-dren, heirs.
By your grace, our lives we of-fer. Re-cre-ate us; God, trans-form!

*Communion Hymn



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-



way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

*Post Communion Prayer

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

*Blessing

May the God who created you and calls you by name, the Christ who is the way, the truth, and the life, and the Holy Spirit who lights your path and leads you forward ✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***Eucharistic Prayer**

***The Lord's Prayer**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Christ taught us
Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those
 who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours,
 now and forever. Amen.

***Greeting:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

***Kyrie**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
 For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
 For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,
 and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
 For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
 let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
 Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.
A - men, a - men.

*Hymn of Praise

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



Refrain
hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



Refrain
gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Great Thanksgiving

Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Creator of the cosmos,
Breath of heaven,
Lover of us all,
you are our praise, our life, our joy.
You are there
through desert wanderings and willful murmurings,
rebellious running and tears of complaint.
You are there
when sorrow becomes our daily food;
you rescue us from ruin and anoint us with blessing.
You are there
in stable and temple,
river and hillside,
cross and tomb
and even beyond the grave.
Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with the eternal chorus of rejoicing
who forever sing:

***Sanctus (next page)**

*Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Offertory Hymn: Let The Vineyards be Fruitful ELW # 184



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

*Offertory Prayer

Almighty God, by your grace, accept the fruit of our labor and the offering of our lives. Let us be a sacrifice of thanksgiving in union with our risen Lord, who lives and reigns with you forever. **Amen.**

*Prayer of the Day

Living God, from the moment you claimed us as your own you have been leading us somewhere. You have set our feet on the path of the righteous, a path that grows brighter with every step. Fill us today with gratitude for the road we are on and hope for the road ahead. Teach us your wisdom. Strengthen us in our weakness. And remind us that the way is not a destination we arrive at — it is a life we live together, in you. Through Jesus Christ, the way, the truth, and the life. **Amen.**

Children's Moment

First Reading: Proverbs 4:10-18

- ¹⁰ Hear, my child, and accept my words,
that the years of your life may be many.
- ¹¹ I have taught you the way of wisdom;
I have led you in the paths of uprightness.
- ¹² When you walk, your step will not be hampered,
and if you run, you will not stumble.
- ¹³ Keep hold of instruction; do not let go;
guard her, for she is your life.
- ¹⁴ Do not enter the path of the wicked,
and do not walk in the way of evildoers.
- ¹⁵ Avoid it; do not go on it;
turn away from it and pass on.
- ¹⁶ For they cannot sleep unless they have done wrong;
they are robbed of sleep unless they have made someone stumble.
- ¹⁷ For they eat the bread of wickedness
and drink the wine of violence.
- ¹⁸ But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn,
which shines brighter and brighter until full day.
God's Word for God's people. **The Light has risen!**

Psalm 119:25-32

- ²⁵ My soul cleaves¹ to the dust;
give me life according¹ to your word.
- ²⁶ I have recounted my ways, and you¹ answered me;
instruct me¹ in your statutes.
- ²⁷ Make me understand the way of¹ your commandments,
that I may meditate on your¹ marvelous works.
- ²⁸ My soul melts a-¹ way from sorrow;
sustain me according¹ to your word.
- ²⁹ Take from me the¹ way of lying;
let me find grace¹ through your teaching.
- ³⁰ I have chosen the¹ way of faithfulness;
I have set your judg-¹ ments before me.
- ³¹ I hold fast to¹ your decrees;
O LORD, do not put¹ me to shame.
- ³² I will run the way of¹ your commandments,
for you increase my¹ heart's capacity.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do

Where division runs deep, sow the seeds of understanding and peace. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Creator God, we give thanks for the world you have made and the life you sustain. We pray for communities in Northeast Ohio and across this nation facing economic uncertainty — families anxious about the future, workers whose livelihoods feel precarious, and those for whom daily bread is not a given. Provide for every need and remind us that we are called to share what we have been given. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Healing God, we pray for all who are suffering — those who are sick in body, mind, or spirit, those who are grieving, those who are lonely, and those who feel lost on the road. We pray for those whose path has grown dark and who cannot yet see the light of dawn. Walk beside them. Revive them according to your word. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Gracious God, today we give thanks for the gift of baptism — for the water that marks us and the promise that holds us. We pray for all the baptized, wherever their journey has taken them. For those who walk closely with you and those who have wandered. For the newly baptized and those still growing into what their baptism means. Keep them all in your care. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Eternal God, we give thanks for all who have walked the path of faith before us and now rest in your presence. Bring us at last with them into the fullness of your marvelous light. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of the journey, receive these prayers and all the prayers we carry in our hearts but cannot find words for. Lead us forward in the way of your risen Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

*Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Rejoicing in the risen Christ who is the way, the truth, and the life, let us pray for the needs of the world.

Living God, you have set before us the path of the righteous, growing brighter with every step. Guide your church in all the world — congregations that are thriving and those that are struggling, communities finding their way in a changing time, and all who are learning what it means to walk in the way of Christ. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of wisdom, we pray for the leaders of this nation and all nations. Where decisions are made that affect the lives of millions, grant discernment and integrity. Where power is abused, bring accountability.

not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,”

⁸ and

“A stone that makes them stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰ Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

God's Word for God's People. **The Light has risen!**

*Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Gospel: 14:1-14

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: Borning Cry ELW # 732



1 “I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I’ll be there when you are old.
2 “When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
3 “In the mid-dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold.
you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.
I’ll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I’ve be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell.”
I’ll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun.”
I’ll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise.”



4 “I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I’ll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold.”

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
Music: WATERLIFE, John C. Ylvisaker
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