

Immanuel Lutheran Church

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Fifth Sunday of Easter May 3, 2026



AS WE GATHER

Let Not Your Hearts Be Troubled

How far can you see? Several factors affect our vision but for an observer at sea level, the horizon is about three miles away. How clearly a person can see may be limited by atmospheric conditions such as fog, haze, dust, and water vapor. A clear vision makes a great difference in every situation! In "What God Ordains Is Always Good," German hymn writer Samuel Rodigast shared this Christian life insight about God's plan and providence: "Now I may know both joy and woe; someday I shall see clearly that He has loved me dearly" (*LSB* 760:4). Our worship helps us clarify our vision of God's graciousness!

PRELUDE AND WELCOME *"Liturgical Improvisation #1," by George Oldroyd*

BIRTHDAY BLESSING 5/5 Luetta Buchholz; 5/7 Linda Dunn

♪ Thanks for our friends who celebrate
And God's rich blessings contemplate.

Praise for another year on earth.

Praise to the Lord who gives us birth. Amen.

✠ **PREPARATION** ✠

HYMN "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing" #475

Please stand as you are able.

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 27:1; 147:11; 104:24a, 31a; Isaiah 2:5b*

Pastor: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

People: **The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

Pastor: The Lord takes pleasure in those who fear Him,

People: **in those who hope in His steadfast love.**

Pastor: O Lord, how manifold are Your works!

People: **In wisdom have You made them all.**

Pastor: May the glory of the Lord endure forever.

People: **Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Humble yourselves then before God, confess your sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.

People: **O almighty God, most merciful Father, I, a repentant sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended You. By nature, I am a sinful creature. In thought, word, and deed I have continually transgressed Your law. For this I justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life and bear fruit in keeping with true repentance.**

Pastor: God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.

People: Amen.

Pastor: As you believe, so let it be. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

☩ **WORD** ☩

KYRIE

Pastor: Lord, have mercy on us.

People: Lord, have mercy on us.

Pastor: Christ, have mercy on us.

People: Christ, have mercy on us.

Pastor: Lord, have mercy on us and grant us Your peace.

**People: Lord, have mercy on us and grant us Your peace.
Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE *pew hymnal 204*

♪ To God on high be glory; And peace to all the earth;
Good-will from God in heaven; Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name, we sing;
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly King.

To You, O sole-be-gotten, The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior; You take our sins a-way.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heart-felt cry,
Where You in Pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high.

For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever; Be worshipped and adored.
You with the Holy Spirit; A-lone are Lord Most High;
In God the Father's glory; "A-men"! our glad re-ply.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Almighty God, Your Son, Jesus Christ, is the way, and the truth, and the life. We bless You for His saving work and for the comfort that He brings to troubled hearts. Help us to be faithful to Him to death and so to receive life eternal. He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60

(Stephen is stoned and becomes a martyr for Christ.)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE 1 Peter 2:2-10 *(A exhortation to live lives of Christian love.)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

VERSE *Romans 6:9; John 14:23*

People: Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia. If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL John 14:1-14

(Jesus says that He is the way, and the truth, and the life.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 14th chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

The Gospel is read.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE NICENE CREED *Found on the last page of your pew hymnal.*

Please be seated.

HYMN "Renew Me, O Eternal Light" #704

SERMON "Questions, Answers and Promises" Pastor Fran Lieb
1 Peter 2 & John 14

OFFERING and OFFERTORY

"When Peace Like a River," arranged by Douglas E. Wagner

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us. God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world

through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend Liz, Betty, Karla, Dan, Ian and Luetta and, all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and proper that we should give thanks to You, Lord our God, for You have shown mercy to all in Christ our Redeemer, who gives peace to troubled hearts. Receive our thanks that He has a place waiting for us in heaven. Unite our praises with those of all the faithful who are around the eternal throne of Christ. United in faith and hope, grant that we join with them in the unending praise of the Lamb with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven.

SANCTUS

pew hymnal #208

♪ **Ho-ly; ho-ly, ho-ly Lord God of Sab-a-oth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name
Sing hosanna in the highest sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord, our God, King of all creation, for You graciously invite us to call upon You with all boldness and confidence, knowing that You always have our best interest at heart. Gathered at Your Table, grant that we receive the body and blood of our sacrificed Savior, fully trusting in Your promises that are fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Grant that we may be united in Christ, living in harmony with one another and finally grant us a place in the heavenly chorus forevermore.

People: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

*Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24;
Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and Passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment.

So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

AGNUS DEI *pew hymnal #210*

♪ **O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

"Eat This Bread/Let Us Break Bread Together," arranged by Ann Krentz Organ

Please stand as you are able.

NUNC DIMITTIS *pew hymnal #211*

♪ **O Lord, now let Your servant, depart in heav'nly peace.
For I have seen the glory of Your redeeming grace;
A light to lead the Gentiles unto Your holy hill;
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.**

**All glory to the Father, all glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit, forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning, is now shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding through all eternity.**

POST COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank You for having fed us with Your life-giving food. Strengthen us through the same and help us to rejoice in Your mercies that we may know comfort when our hearts are troubled and our days know challenges. Finally, in Your mercy, grant us a portion with the saints in light eternal. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with You and the Holy Spirit are one God, world without end.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

HYMN "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" #465

POSTLUDE *"Recessional," by Douglas E. Wagner*

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THE MESSENGER

May 3, 2026

WELCOME! Dear guest, we pray that your worship with us is as spiritually enriching for you as your presence is encouraging to us. We invite you to sign our guest book in the foyer. Please leave your email address if you would like periodic updates from Immanuel. Most importantly, come back and worship with us again next Sunday.

SERVING US TODAY: Rev. Fran Lieb
Linda Rayburn, Organist

IN OUR PRAYERS: Liz Kraft, Betty Peuster, Karla Kass, Dan and Ian Henggeler and Luetta Buchholz

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY: 19 Total: 3 guests

THE LUTHERAN HOUR theme for next Sunday, May 10th is "**The King Who Reigns**" Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Jason Broge If Easter tells us that Jesus the King has won, then Ascension tells us the King is reigning, and His reign is good. Luke 24:36-53 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 Listen online at <https://www.lutheranhour.org>.