


**Sunday, May 3, 2026**

**9:30 AM**<sup>1</sup>

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

---

*Gathered to Worship!*



**Believe on the Lord Jesus  
Christ, and you will be saved,  
you and your household.**

**Acts 16:31 NKJV**

**To join worship on YouTube,  
use the link below:**

**<https://www.youtube.com/live/NIFccVFvNrI>**

First Evangelical Lutheran Church  
142 North Date Street,  
Mesa, AZ 85201  
480-969-7221 felc@firstevlutheran.com

Pastor Luis Ochoa  
480-969-7221  
PastorLuis@firstevlutheran.com

---

## GATHERING

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OPENING PRAYER

### CHILDREN DISMISSED FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*The assembly stands.*





1. Come! Live in the light! \_\_\_\_\_ Shine with the  
 2. Come! O - pen your heart! \_\_\_\_\_ Show your  
 3. Sing! Sing a new song! \_\_\_\_\_ Sing of that



joy and the love of the Lord! We are called \_\_\_\_\_ to be  
 mer - cy to all those in fear! We are called \_\_\_\_\_ to be  
 great day when all will be one! God will reign, \_\_\_\_\_ and we'll



light for the king-dom, to live in the free - dom of the  
 hope for the hope-less so all ha - tred and blind-ness will  
 walk with each oth - er as sis - ters and broth-ers u -



cit-y of God! \_\_\_\_\_  
 be no more! \_\_\_\_\_ We are called to act with  
 nit-ed in love! \_\_\_\_\_



jus-tice, \_\_\_\_\_ we are called to love ten - der - ly, \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_ we are called to serve one an - oth-er, \_\_\_\_\_ to



walk hum-bly with God! \_\_\_\_\_

**GREETING**

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

**C:** And also with you.

# CANTICLE OF PRAISE: THIS IS THE FEAST

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

*Refrain*



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of



vic - t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

God of the unknown,

Your mysteries are astounding. Give us knowledge where you see fit and let us sit comfortably with that which we can never understand. **Amen.**

*You may be seated.*

## WORD

### John 1:16-18

<sup>16</sup> And from his fulness have we all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup> For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God; the only Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, he has made him known.


The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW page 188

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

alleluia

**NARRATIVE PREACHING TEXT****Acts 17:16-31**

The scripture according to Acts.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>16</sup> Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. <sup>17</sup> So he argued in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the market place every day with those who chanced to be there. <sup>18</sup> Some also of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers met him. And some said, “What would this babblers say?” Others said, “He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities”—because he preached Jesus and the resurrection. <sup>19</sup> And they took hold of him and brought him to the Are-op’agus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is which you present? <sup>20</sup> For you bring some strange things to our ears; we wish to know therefore what these things mean.” <sup>21</sup> Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there spent their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

<sup>22</sup> So Paul, standing in the middle of the Are-op’agus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. <sup>23</sup> For as I passed along, and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup> The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by man, <sup>25</sup> nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all men life and breath and everything. <sup>26</sup> And he made from one every nation of men to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their habitation, <sup>27</sup> that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel after him and find him. Yet he is not far from each one of us, <sup>28</sup> for ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your poets have said, ‘For we are indeed his offspring.’

<sup>29</sup> Being then God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the Deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, a representation by the art and imagination of man. <sup>30</sup> The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all men everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup> because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all men by raising him from the dead.”

The Word of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**SERMON**

**Pastor Luis Ochoa**





1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no  
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and  
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -  
 stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in  
 pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
 hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

*Refrain*



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.

**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 INTERCESSION

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection.....

Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**Amen.**

A: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

A: Let us share a sign of God's peace.



## OFFERING

### THE DOXOLOGY

ELW 884

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all  
crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye  
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

### OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## MEAL GREAT THANKSGIVING

### DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you:

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts:

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Give thanks to the Lord our God:

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,  
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;  
who in dying has destroyed death,  
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,  
with earth and sea and all their creatures,  
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-



san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -



est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-



san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

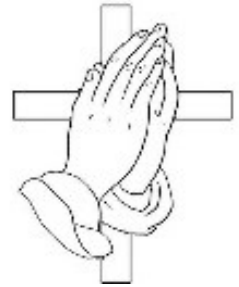
*P:* In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**



## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*P:* The Gifts of God for the people of God.

*C:* **Thanks be to God.**

## LAMB OF GOD

*The assembly sits. We receive communion by kneeling at the altar; after receiving communion you may return to your seat.*

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, Lamb of God.

## COMMUNION

**P:** The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

## COMMUNION SONG

### *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

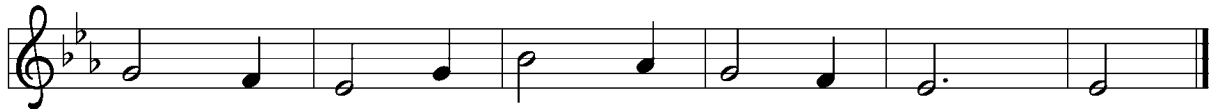
*ELW 502*



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness  
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed  
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in  
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant  
love he sought me, and on his shoul - der  
Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my



I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.  
pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.  
gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.  
com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;      6 And so, through all the length of days,  
thine unction grace bestoweth;            thy goodness faileth never.  
and, oh, what transport of delight      Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
from thy pure chalice floweth!            within thy house forever.

## BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

**P:** The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his peace.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

**A:** Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen**

## SENDING

## BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.  
Amen.

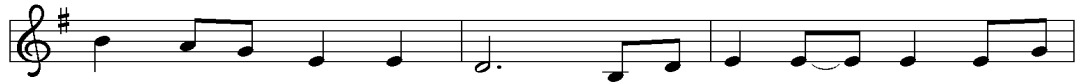
## SENDING SONG

*Canticle of the Turning*

ELW 723



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .  
3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a  
4 Though the na - tions rage from . . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
work great . . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.  
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
The hun - gry poor shall . . . weep no more, for the  
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry  
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



*Refrain*  
My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.  
Thanks be to God!



Altar Servers

**TODAY**

Opening Prayer: Marilyn Bloom  
 Assisting Minister: Sharon Shields  
 Lector: Elizabeth Orozco  
 Communion Asst: Traci Laasch  
 Altar Guild: Sharon Shields  
 Sunday School: Susan Potter

**May 10**

Opening Prayer: Laura O'Connell  
 Assisting Minister: Marilyn Bloom  
 Lector: Ellen Riske  
 Communion Asst: Rick & Barbie Luxem  
 Altar Guild: Sharon Shields  
 Sunday School: Sharon Shields

**K - 6th grade**

Children will be dismissed from the worship service after the Opening Prayer

**2nd Quarter Change for Change:**

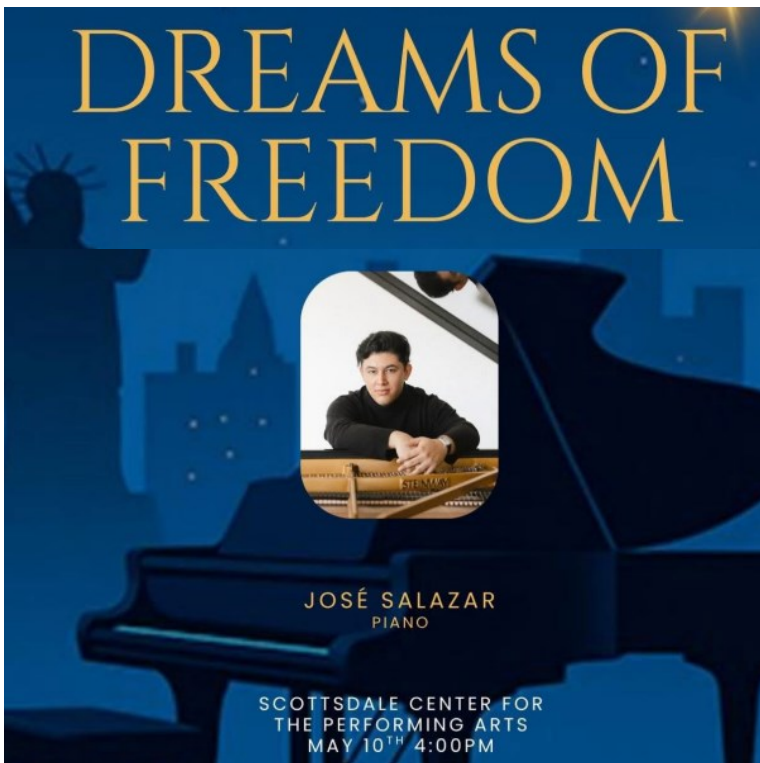
This quarter's Change for Change offering will go to Reconciling in Christ and the work they do to ensure intentional welcoming and advocacy for LGBTQIA+ individuals who usually face exclusion and marginalization in churches.



Please bring muffins!



# DREAMS OF FREEDOM



JOSÉ SALAZAR  
PIANO

SCOTTSDALE CENTER FOR  
THE PERFORMING ARTS  
MAY 10<sup>TH</sup> 4:00PM




1423 S. Country Club Dr.  
Mesa, AZ. 85210  
480-649-2541

*#Best Pupusas in Town in Mesa*

**Join the Out to Lunch Bunch!**  
Tuesday, May 12, 11:30 AM



**Get excited for VBS!**

Once again, Wednesday evenings  
in June will be the place to be!

Beginning at 6 PM  
June 3, 10, 17, 24

Dinner  
Crafts  
Music

Classes for children & adults

You may notice a difference to your bulletin. As a cost-saving measure, we will be printing the Sunday bulletins on the less expensive 8 ½ x 11" paper rather than 11 x 17".