

# St. Paul Lutheran Church, LCMS

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Rev. Richard Boshoven, Interim Pastor

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 3, 2026, 11:00 AM | May 6, 2026, 7:00 PM

Divine Service Setting 4 Abbreviated



### AS WE GATHER

Since 1986, voice actor Tom Bodett has had his career defined with a one-line promotion for the Motel 6 hotel chain. He always ends his commercials for the company with a simple line stating “we’ll leave the light on for you.” Having an assured place to be going to can be encouraging and comforting. As Jesus speaks with His disciples, we hear Him reassure them and us that He will be in His Father’s house, the heavenly place where lights are not even necessary. In the

Revelation to John, we have this insight about our God’s eternal city: “And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb” (Revelation 21:23). In “Jerusalem the Golden,” medieval monk Bernard of Cluny writes of the “radiancy of glory” and the “bliss beyond compare” that are in store for God’s redeemed people there (LSB 672:1). As we share in the foretaste of the feast to come through our worship, we can only imagine what joys still await us.

### FOR THOSE DESIRING HOLY COMMUNION



*The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table*

*those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor. For further study, see Matthew 5:23ff; 10:32ff; 18:15-35; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.)*

## PRESERVICE MUSIC

## WELCOME

### HYMN OF INVOCATION:

**“Christ Is Our Cornerstone” LSB 912**

(Please stand for stanza 3)

### INVOCATION *(Spoken responses)*

*Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

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

**Amen.**

### EXHORTATION

*Psalm 124:8; Psalm 130:3–4; Luke 18:13*

Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**who made heaven and earth.**

If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

### CONFESSION OF SINS

**Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

### ABSOLUTION

*[John 20:19–23]*

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.

**Amen.**

### INTROIT

*Psalm 30:1–5; antiphon: Psalm 149:1*

Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song,  
his praise in the assembly of the godly!

**I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up  
and have not let my foes rejoice over me.**

O LORD my God, I cried to you for help,  
and you have healed me.

**O LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol;**

**you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.**

Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints,  
and give thanks to his holy name.

**For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime.**

**Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son**

**and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning,**

**is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song,  
his praise in the assembly of the godly!

### **KYRIE** ♪

*Mark 10:47*

**Lord, have mercy;**

**Christ, have mercy;**

**Lord, have mercy.**

### **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS** ♪

*Luke 2:14; John 1:29*

**1 To God on high be glory**

**And peace to all the earth;**

**Goodwill 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.**

**2 To You, O sole-begotten,**

**The Father's Son, we pray;**

**O Lamb of God, our Savior,**

**You take our sins away.**

**Have mercy on us, Jesus;**

**Receive our heartfelt cry,**

**Where You in pow'r are seated**

**At God's right hand on high—**  
3

**3 For You alone are holy;  
You only are the Lord.  
Forever and forever,  
Be worshiped and adored;  
You with the Holy Spirit  
Alone are Lord Most High,  
In God the Father's glory.  
"Amen!" our glad reply.**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

## **SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY: Easter 5**

*(Spoken responses)*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

### **FIRST READING: Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60**

<sup>1</sup>Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. <sup>2</sup>And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. <sup>3</sup>Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. <sup>4</sup>But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." <sup>5</sup>And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. <sup>6</sup>These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

<sup>7</sup>And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

<sup>8</sup>And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. <sup>9</sup>Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. . . .

<sup>2</sup>And Stephen said:

“Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . .

<sup>51</sup>You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. <sup>52</sup>Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, <sup>53</sup>you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.”

<sup>54</sup>Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. <sup>55</sup>But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” <sup>57</sup>But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. <sup>58</sup>Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup>And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” <sup>60</sup>And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **EPISTLE: 1 Peter 2:2–10**

<sup>2</sup>Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— <sup>3</sup>if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

<sup>4</sup>As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, <sup>5</sup>you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For it stands in Scripture:

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

<sup>7</sup>So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone,”

<sup>8</sup>and

“A stone of stumbling,  
and a rock of offense.”

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

<sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. <sup>10</sup>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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **VOCAL CHOIR “Shepherd Me, Oh Gentle Lamb” (Sunday only)**

*(Please stand)*

### **ALLELUIA AND VERSE (Wednesday only)**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the  
Christ, the Son of God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

### **HOLY GOSPEL: John 14:1–14**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

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

<sup>8</sup>Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” <sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say,

‘Show us the Father’? <sup>10</sup>Do 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 authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup>Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

<sup>12</sup>“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup>Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

### **NICENE CREED**

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

**CHILDREN’S SONG OF THE MONTH:**

**“The Fruit of the Spirit”**

*(Refrain, verse, refrain, verse, refrain, verse, refrain)*

Refrain:

**For the fruit of the Spirit is Love, joy, peace,  
Patience, kindness, goodness,  
Faithfulness, gentleness, self-control;  
For such there is no law.**

**Have you seen my Lord on the cross so high?  
Do you know His name? Do you hear his cry?  
“Father, here’s my love, Father, take my love,  
As the tree bears fruit for You.”** (refrain)

**Have you seen His face and the look He gave  
To the dying man He alone would save?  
“Sinner, here’s my love, Sinner, take my love  
As the tree bears fruit for You.”** (refrain)

**Can we answer Him? Can the heart reply?  
How to follow Him as we live and die!  
“Jesus, here’s our love. Jesus take our love,  
As the tree bears fruit for You.”** (refrain)

**CHILDREN’S SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY:**           **“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”** LSB 633  
(Please stand for stanza 8)

*(Please be seated)*

**SERMON**

**THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION:** *(hymnal page 272)*

**CONFIRMATION**

*Our 2026 Youth confirmands are Dara Del Real, Parker Gaudett, and Olivia Creutz*

**Dara Del Real**

1 Peter 5:10

“And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.”

**Parker Gaudett**

Isaiah 58:11

“And the Lord will guide you continually and satisfy your desire in scorched places and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.”

**Olivia Creutz**

Colossians 3:23

“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men,”

**OFFERING** *(Please fill out the fellowship pad in the pew.)*

*(Please stand)*

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**PREFACE** *(Spoken responses)*

*2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

**SANCTUS** ♪

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth 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!**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

## **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

### **PAX DOMINI** *(Spoken response)*

**The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
Amen.**

### **AGNUS DEI**

*John 1:29*

**1 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.**

**2 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.**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

*(Please be seated)*

### **DISTRIBUTION HYMN:**

**“The Church’s One Foundation” LSB 644**

### **DISTRIBUTION HYMN:**

**“Jerusalem the Golden” LSB 672**

*(Please stand for stanza 4)*

### **NUNC DIMITTIS**

*Luke 2:29–32*

**1. 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.**

2. 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 COLLECT** *(Spoken responses)*

**Amen**

**BENEDICAMUS**

*Psalm 103:1*

Let us bless the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**BENEDICTION**

**Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

**HYMN TO DEPART:**      **“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” LSB 411**

**LEAVING**

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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