

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2026; 9 a.m.



St John's
Lutheran Church

(An usher rings the church bell at 8:55 a.m.)

Prelude

(Acolytes light the candles)

Linda Ranney

Processional Hymn *(please stand and face procession)*

ACS #979; *Making Their Way*

- 1 Making their way down through the ages,
sinners and saints have heard God's call:
wealthy and poor, powerful, lowly,
Jesus' disciples, one and all.
Gathered for worship, offering thanks,
the greatest with the least
have come to share this feast.

- 2 Making their way all the world over,
Christians assemble on this day,
hearing the Word, sharing the Banquet,
learning to walk in Jesus' way.
Members of Christ, united in love,
they seek our God to know,
and so together grow.

- 3 Making our way season by season,
pilgrims, we journey till life's end,
traveling light, sharing the riches,
caring for stranger as for friend,
till in the joy of longing fulfilled,
together we will come
to our eternal home.

Apostolic 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.

Canticle of Praise

ACS Setting 12 – Glory to You vs. 1, 3



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.
Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;
ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.
Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;
yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Almighty God, **your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

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 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.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Time

Gospel Acclamation *(please stand)*

ACS Setting 12

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

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Gospel: John 14:1-14

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 14th Chapter.

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. ² In 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? ³ And 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. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹ Jesus 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’? ¹⁰ 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, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe 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. ¹² Very 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. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon *(please sit)*

Pastor Christine Emerson

Hymn of the Day *(please stand)*

ELW #528; *Come and Fill Our Hearts*

(Choir sings, then assembly, and as each confirmand is called forward)

The image shows two systems of musical notation for the hymn "Come and Fill Our Hearts". Each system consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps). The first system of music is followed by the lyrics: "Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus. Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho - ly." The second system of music is followed by the lyrics: "Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no. Al - le - lu - ia! Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al - le - lu - ia!"

Affirmation of Baptism

I ask those who are prepared to Affirm their Baptism to stand.

Dear friends, we rejoice that you now desire to make public profession of your faith and assume greater responsibility in the life of our Christian community and its mission in the world.

Siblings in Christ: In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you members of his Church. In the community of God's people, you have learned from the Word God's loving purpose for you and all of creation. You have been nourished at Christ's holy table and called to be witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Now, therefore, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

Do you renounce all the forces of the devil and all the forces that defy God?
Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?
Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Confirmands: “I renounce them”.

I ask that these young Siblings to confess their faith: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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 again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism: to live among God’s faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord’s supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ Jesus through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth? If so, answer at home “I will, and I ask God to help me.”

Confirmand: “I will, and I ask God to help me.”

And to family, godparents and mentors, to this assembly, to publically witness and encourage these young persons who are affirming their faith today, will you support these Siblings and pray for them in their life in Christ? If so, answer “we will, and we ask God to help us.”

Assembly: We will, and we ask God to help us.

Let us pray. Gracious Lord, through water and the Spirit you have made these young men and women your own. You forgave them all their sins and brought them to newness of life. Continue to strengthen them with the Holy Spirit, and daily increase in them your gifts of grace.

Assembly: Amen.

Laying on of Hands of Confirmands

Eric Dahl

Jean Jirovec (Council President) – Let us pray for **Eric Dahl**, whose favorite Bible verse is Matthew 4:19 -- And Jesus said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.”

(hymn is sung)

Mentor Prayer – Ben Hanson

Affirmation Blessing Led by Pastor Christine

Father in heaven, for Jesus’ sake, stir up within Eric the gift of your Holy Spirit; the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of council and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

Claire Ernster

Jean Jirovec (Council President) – Let us pray for **Claire Ernster**, whose favorite Bible verse is Exodus 14:14 -- The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.

(hymn is sung)

Mentor Prayer- Ruth Lundblad

Affirmation Blessing Led by Pastor Christine

Father in heaven, for Jesus’ sake, stir up within Claire the gift of your Holy Spirit; the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of council and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

Norah Kelly

Jean Jirovec (Council President) – Let us pray for **Norah Kelly**, whose favorite Bible verse is Philippians 4:13 -- I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

(hymn is sung)

Mentor Prayer – Kathy Freitag

Affirmation Blessing Led by Pastor Christine

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up within Norah the gift of your Holy Spirit; the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of council and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

Matthew Kording

Jean Jirovec (Council President) – Let us pray for **Matthew Kording**, whose favorite Bible verse is Matthew 4:3-4 -- The tempter came and said to Jesus, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread. " But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

(hymn is sung)

Mentor Prayer- Andy Olson

Affirmation Blessing Led by Pastor Christine

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up within Matthew the gift of your Holy Spirit; the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of council and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

Xavier Olson

Jean Jirovec (Council President) – Let us pray for **Xavier Olson**, whose favorite Bible verse is Luke 1:37 -- For nothing will be impossible with God.

(hymn is sung)

Mentor Prayer – Jon Kording

Affirmation Blessing Led by Pastor Christine

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up within Xavier the gift of your Holy Spirit; the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of council and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

Jack Schank

Jean Jirovec (Council President) – Let us pray for **Jack Schank**, whose favorite Bible verse is Galatians 6:9 -- So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up.

(hymn is sung)

Mentor Prayer – Jim Boulter

Affirmation Blessing Led by Pastor Christine

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up within Jack the gift of your Holy Spirit; the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of council and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

Elise Wallin

Jean Jirovec (Council President) – Let us pray for **Elise Wallin**, whose favorite Bible verse is Colossians 3:12 -- Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

(hymn is sung)

Mentor Prayer – Stacy Kelly

Affirmation Blessing Led by Pastor Christine

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up within Elise the gift of your Holy Spirit; the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of council and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

Pastor: I ask our Confirmands again to stand.

Let us rejoice with these Siblings in Christ.

Assembly: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

Prayers of the People

Petition:

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always!
And also with you.

Offering *(please sit)*

(Ushers take up the collection)
Send Me Rains by Daniel Kantor
Eric Nielsen, soloist
St. John's Choir

Offertory *(please stand)*

(Ushers bring collection forward for acolytes to receive)

ELW #207; Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise

Thankful hearts and voices raise;
tell ev'ryone what God has done.
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice
and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your promises
and lead your people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Offertory Prayer

Merciful God,
**accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.
You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day
when we will hunger and thirst no more.**

**Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,
that goodness and mercy may follow us
and bless the world you love.
In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Invitation to the Table

(Acolytes prepare for communion distribution; ushers come forward to invite assembly by pew. Greeters will guide those wishing to receive at the altar: stop at credence table for a cup, then walk up side steps into the chancel)

Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

Lamb of God



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.

Communion Hymn

ELW #484; *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart*

Refrain

You satisfy the hungry heart
with gift of finest wheat.

Come give to us, O saving Lord,
the bread of life to eat.

1 As when the shepherd calls his sheep,
they know and heed his voice;

so when you call your fam'ly, Lord,
we follow and rejoice. Refrain

2 With joyful lips we sing to you
our praise and gratitude
that you should count us worthy, Lord,
to share this heav'nly food. Refrain

3 Is not the cup we bless and share
the blood of Christ outpoured?
Do not one cup, one loaf, declare
our oneness in the Lord? Refrain

4 The myst'ry of your presence, Lord,
no mortal tongue can tell:
whom all the world cannot contain
comes in our hearts to dwell. Refrain

5 You give yourself to us, O Lord;
then selfless let us be,
to serve each other in your name
in truth and charity. Refrain

Post-Communion Blessing & Prayer *(please stand)*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Let us pray. 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.**

Benediction

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,

and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

(Acolytes extinguish the candles)

ELW #389; *Christ is Alive*, vs. 1, 4, 5

1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

4 Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

Sending

Go in peace. Praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Linda Ranney

Altar Flowers

In Memory of our Little Charlie by parents Bryan & Ramona Sedlander & in
memory of a dear friend, Scott Webb, by Bryan & Ramona Sedlander

Chancel Flowers

In Honor of Norah Kelly's Confirmation by Paulette Carlson

Serving at Worship Today

Presider	Pastor Christine Emerson
Assistant	Sam Kording
Lector	Madeline Lee
Acolytes	Sophie Ziegler, Wesley Ziegler
Ushers	Larry Schaefer, Doug Hayes
Greeters	Lynn Yolitz, Bryan Wagner
Communion Servers	Cheryl Stage, Jenna Boeckmann, Cheryl Mattison, Julie Kersten, Pam Sorebo
Media & Streaming	Lydia Elko
Screen Operator	Maxx Christopherson
Musicians	Linda Ranney, piano/organ; Mark Lundin, Director of Music, St. John's Choir

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