

Fifth Sunday of Easter



Sunday, May 3, 2026

Lutheran Church of the Living Christ
2725 Concord Drive
Florissant, MO 63033

PRELUDE

“O Divine Redeemer”

arr. Robert W. Thygerson

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Details are on the slides and at the end of bulletin)*

GATHERING HYMN

“Thine Is the Glory”

ELW#376

Thanksgiving for Baptism

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne
and to the Lamb!

Amen.

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

(Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.)

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:

morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us *(local waters may be named)*.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness

who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,

and for making us a new creation.

We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,
now and forever.

Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

“This is the Feast”

ELW#149-150

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: 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. C: **Amen.**

FIRST READING Acts 7:55-60

⁵⁵ Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

L: ¹ In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

C: ² **Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.**

L: ³ Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

C: ⁴ **Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.**

L: ⁵ Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.

C: ¹⁵ **My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

L: ¹⁶ Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love."

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 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.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able to welcome the gospel

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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GOSPEL READING

P: The holy Gospel according to **John 14:1-14**

C: 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."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Following the reading the assembly is seated

SERMON – PMA Richard Schademann

Please stand as you are able

HYMN OF THE DAY

"You Are the Way"

ELW#758

PROFESSION OF FAITH – *The 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.**

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L: Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

God of glory, you have built your church on Christ the cornerstone. Inspire lay leaders, deacons, pastors, and bishops to proclaim forgiveness and your steadfast love to all whom they encounter. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of majesty, you bring forth plants and animals, skies and seas, mountains and valleys. Protect all you have made from the ravages of pollution and climate disaster. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of mercy, you intend governments and social service agencies to be instruments of peace and justice. Guide political leaders and organizations to be agents of compassion, and raise up advocates for those who seek refuge and assistance. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of well-being, you soothe those in distress, console all who grieve, provide for any in need, and comfort those who are sick (*especially*). Instill caregivers with a sense of purpose to be your healing hands in this world. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of community, you call us together as your people for mutual support and to witness to your love in the world. Make your presence known among those unable to attend worship today. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of eternal life, you have prepared dwelling places for your people, so that we are never separated from you. We give you thanks for the faithful departed who witnessed to your mighty acts in word and deed. (especially) Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

P: 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.

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT - Congratulations to Doris Stoechner for her 65 years of dedication to the nursing profession. Thank you Doris. We wish you good health and happiness in retirement.

SHARING OF THE PEACE *Please stand as you are able*

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

Share God's peace in whatever way you are comfortable. Following this please be seated.

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY HYMN

"As the Grains of Wheat"

ELW#465

OFFERING PRAYER

P: 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,

C: Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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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

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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.

CHRIST HAS DIED

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LORD'S PRAYER

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INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the table of new life.

Receive the risen Lord.

C: Amen

DISTRIBUTION *Time is given for the sharing of bread and wine.*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"

ELW#367

(Please stand as you are able)

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you in God's grace unto eternal life.

C: Amen.

PRAYER

L: Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray **C: Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P: The Spirit of the triune God ☩ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing"

ELW#389

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

A: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

"Stand Up for Jesus"

arr. Franklin Ritter

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday	(5-3)	9:15 AM Worship 11:00 AM True Vine
Tuesday	(5-5)	11:00 AM Exercise (LL) 11:00 AM Lunch & Learn (see below)
Thursday	(5-7)	11:00 AM Exercise (LL)

1. Lunch and Learn will continue on Tuesday, May 5 at 11:00 am. Bring your lunch and enjoy a topic of interest. First topic will be *Live to 100: Secrets of the Blue Zones* on Netflix (4 episodes, 1 episode each week). Please think about suggestions for other topics.

2. MAY LUNCH BUNCH Hola! May Lunch Bunch will meet on **May 14** at Si Senor Mexican Restaurant located at 7401 N Lindbergh Blvd., Hazelwood MO 63042 at 11:30 am. The restaurant has a varied menu, friendly atmosphere and pleasant staff! Please call Joyce Meyer at or 314-374-4135 or you can email me at jameyer46@charter.net to reserve a spot. Anyone is welcome to join us!

3. 50+ May Activity to St. Louis Area Foodbank on Thursday, May 21. Our packing shift is 9 am - noon. Lunch at Rookie's following. Sign up sheet and more information on the bulletin board. Marilyn is available to help with registration.

4. Feed My Starving Children is beginning the fund-raising events to prepare for the 2026 Food Pack on July 10 and 11 at Atonement. We are collecting items for baskets to raffle at Texas Hold 'em Poker Tournament on May 16. **Please see the sign on the tripod next to the FMSC table for the list of items needed and save the date for the Pack.**

5. Community Baby Shower Saturday, **May 16** 1:00pm to 3:00pm @ Unity Evangelical Lutheran Church, FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC! Registration required. Register by May 9th Call Cathie Lehr 314-809-4477 or email clljuly@gmail.com **PLEASE SEE THE WHITE BASKET IN THE GREATROOM. WE ARE ASKING FOR DONATIONS.**

<p>May 3, 2026 Preaching/Presiding: PMA Richard Schademann Assisting Minister: Bill Kaepffel Lector: Karen Haynes Live Stream: Gary & Laurie Musician: Greg Ott Ushers: Randy Henning & Dave Endorf Greeter: Judy Holmes Altar Guild: Karen Haynes & Sheila Smart</p>	<p>May 10, 2026 Preaching/Presiding: PMA Peggy Schaefer Assisting Minister: Randy Henning Lector: Bill Kaepffel Live Stream: Rod Wallace Musician: Greg Ott Ushers: Jim & Doris Stoechner Greeter: Jann Mueller Altar Guild: Joyce Wolf, Ann Schultz</p>
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