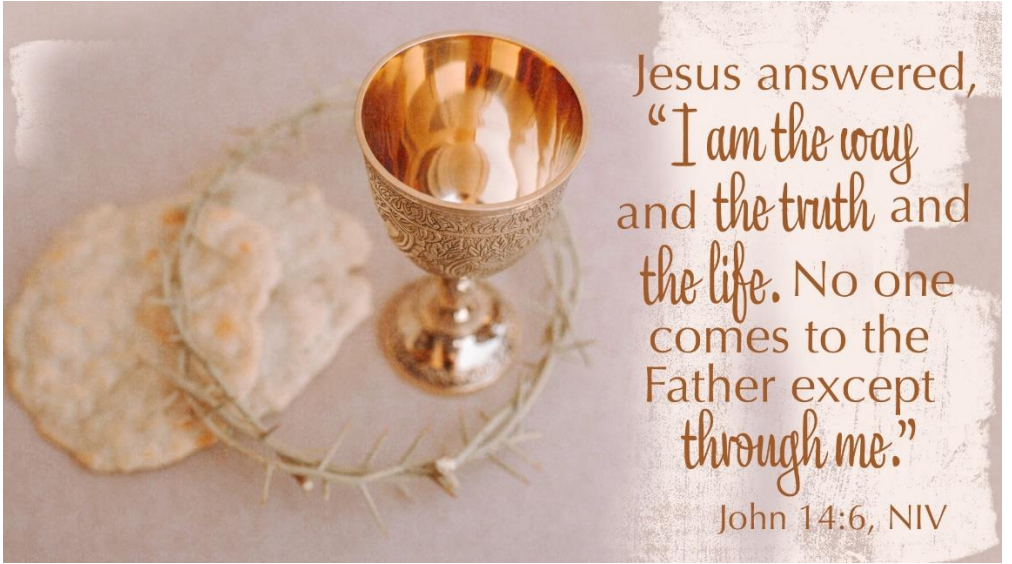


**Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
**May 3, 2026**  
**10:30 a.m.**



Jesus answered,  
“I am the way  
and the truth and  
the life. No one  
comes to the  
Father except  
through me.”

John 14:6, NIV



*“Christ- Students- Community Coming Together”*

444 Abbot Road | East Lansing, MI 48823 | (517) 332-0778  
[www.martinlutherchapel.org](http://www.martinlutherchapel.org)

*The gospel readings for the last Sundays of Easter shift the focus from Christ's presence among the disciples to his care for those who will continue his mission in the world. While the scriptural context is obvious, Christ addresses his contemporary disciples as well. To the community that bears his name he says, You will also do the works that I do. The church keeps Easter's fifty days in order to discern anew its baptismal witness in the world. In our community, at this time, with these gifts, what witness can we offer to the one who is our way, our truth, and our life?*

## WELCOME

## PRELUDE

## INVOCATION

*Stand*

**P** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** 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. **C** Amen.

## WORDS OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Kneel/ Remain Standing*

**P** Most merciful God,

**C** We confess that we are in bondage 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.

**P** Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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.

**C Amen.**

**GREETING OF PEACE** *Share a greeting of peace with those around you.*

### SERVICE OF THE WORD

**HYMN** “At The Lamb’s High Feast” LSB 633

1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to  
our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide  
Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,  
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;  
You have conquered in the fight,  
You have brought us life and light.  
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
This alone can sin destroy;  
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,  
Newborn souls in You to be.  
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,  
Now no more the grave enthrall;  
You have opened paradise,  
And Your saints in You shall rise.  
Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,  
Savior, by whose death we live,  
Spirit, guide through all our days:  
Three in One, Your name we praise.  
Alleluia!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–68, alt.  
Tune: Kirchengesang, Ivancice, 1566; setting: Jan O. Bender, 1909–94

Text and tune: Public domain  
Setting: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House

SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT  
77 77 4

Ex. 12:22; Matt. 26:26–28; John 6:32–35; 1 Cor. 15:54–57

# KYRIE

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

**P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, — have mer - cy.

**P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



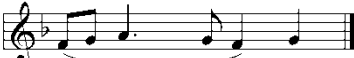
**C** Lord, — have — mer - cy.

**P** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, — have mer - cy.

**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



**C** A - - - men.

# HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*



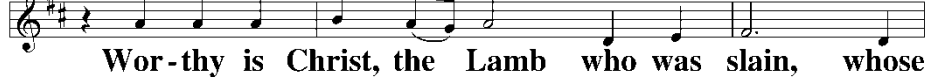
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

**C**



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

*Verse 1*



Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose



blood set us free — to be peo - ple of God.

*Verse 2*

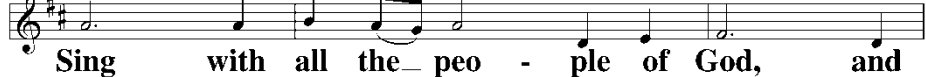


Pow - er, rich - es, — wis - dom, and strength, and



hon - or, — bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

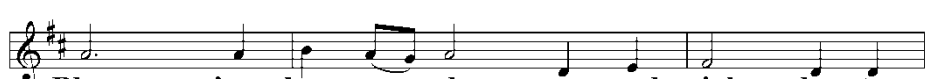
*Verse 3*



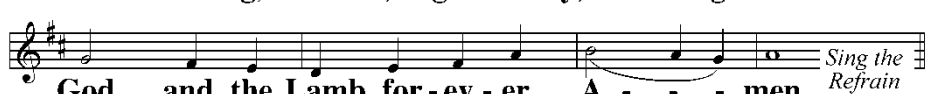
Sing with all the — peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - - - tion:

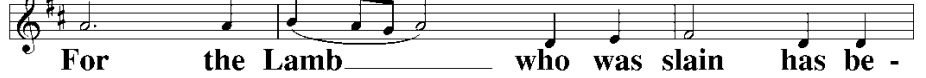


Bless - ing, hon-or, — glo - ry, and might be to



God and the Lamb for-ev - er. A - - - men.

*Verse 4*



For the Lamb — who was slain has be -



gun his — reign. — Al - le - lu - - - ia.

*Final Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And also with you.

**P** O God, form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C** Amen.

*Sit*

*Children are invited to the Fireside Lounge for the Children's Lesson.*

## FIRST LESSON Acts 7:55-60

*Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, Stephen becomes the first martyr of the faith.*

**R** Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. 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. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." 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.

**R** This is the Word of the Lord **C** Thanks be to God.

## SECOND LESSON 1 Peter 2:2-10

*The First Letter of Peter has spoken of Christians as people reborn through the resurrection of Christ. Now, those who have experienced this new birth in baptism are encouraged to seek the nourishment of scripture that provides spiritual growth.*

**R** Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation--if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and 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. 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."

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,  
"The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the very head of the corner,"

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.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

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.

**R** This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

*intro: one chord*

**C** 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.

**GOSPEL** **P** The Gospel is written in John chapter 14 beginning at verse 1.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

*John's gospel records here some of Jesus' final words to his disciples before his departure. As the one through whom God is known, he promises always to go before them and to continue to act on their behalf.*

**P** Jesus said to the disciples: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. 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? 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. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." 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'? 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. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. 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. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

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

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven,**

**And sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From thence He will come again 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.**

## **MESSAGE**

Stand

## HYMN “Yours Forever, God of Love”

1 Yours for - ev - er, God of love! Hear us from your throne a - bove.  
2 Yours for - ev - er! Oh, how blest They who find in you their rest!  
3 Yours for - ev - er! Lord of life, Shield us through our earth - ly strife.  
4 Yours for - ev - er! Shep - herd, save This your flock that you for - gave.

Yours for - ev - er may we be Here and in e - ter - ni - ty.  
Sav - ior, Guard - ian, heav'n - ly friend, Oh, de - fend us to the end.  
You, the life, the truth, the way, Guide us to the realms of day.  
Keep us safe with - in your care, Let us all your good - ness share.

5 Yours forever! You our guide,  
All our wants by you supplied,  
All our sins by you forgiven,  
Lead us, Lord, from earth to heaven.

*Text: Mary F. Maude, 1819–1913, alt.  
Tune and bass line: Orlando Gibbons, 1583–1625*

SONG 13  
77 77

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

*Other prayers are inserted here. Each petition ends with “Lord, in your mercy,” to which the congregation responds, “hear our prayer.” The prayers conclude:*

**P** Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen.

Sit

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SERVICE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER



### OFFERING

You may contribute online using the QR code or place a gift in the offering plate at the door along with the interest sheet.

### OFFERTORY SONG AND PRAYER

*introduction*

**C** Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, ' and fill to the  
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the  
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the  
bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of  
all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer  
now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and give  
us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

**P** Let us pray. Giver of life,

**C** we bring to your table what we have, gifts from you, the one who makes all things new. With these signs we bring ourselves, that we may carry to the world the victorious life of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## THE PREFACE

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.



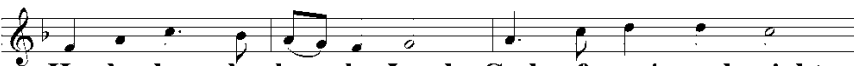
**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

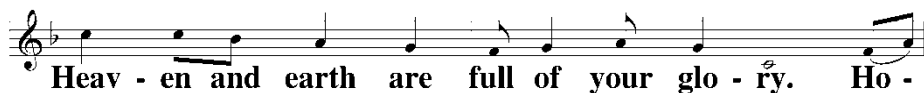


**C** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

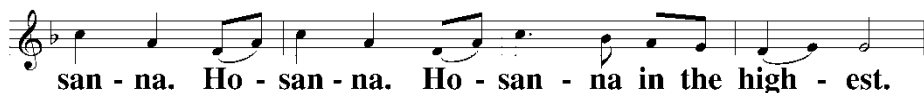
**P** It is indeed right and salutary that we should ... and so we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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



Heav - en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**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.

**P** 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.



way as gives us breath; Such a truth as ends all  
 light as shows a feast; Such a feast as mends in  
 joy as none can move; Such a love as none can

strife; Such a life as con - quers death.  
 length; Such a strength as makes his guest.  
 part; Such a heart as joys in love.

Text: George Herbert, 1593-1633  
 © Tune: R. Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

THE CALL  
 77 77

**HYMN "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" LSB 739**

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me stand;  
 2 When my way grows drear, Pre - cious Lord, lin - ger near,  
 3 When the dark - ness ap - pears And the night draws near

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.  
 When my life is al - most gone,  
 And the day is al - most gone,

continued on next page

Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light.  
 Hear my cry, hear my call; Hold my hand lest I fall.  
 At the riv - er I stand; Guide my feet, hold my hand,

Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.  
 Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.  
 Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.

Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899–1993  
 Music: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899–1993

PRECIOUS LORD  
 6 6 9 D

Text and music: © 1938 Unichappell Music Inc. (renewed). Assigned to Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp.  
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Is. 42:6; John 10:1–3, 27–28; Ps. 121:8

*Stand*

## THE BLESSING

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

## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE AND PRAYER

*intro: one chord*

**C** Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'-ry-one what  
 he has done. Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and  
 proud-ly bear his name. He re-calls his prom-is - es  
 and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with shouts  
 of thanks-giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**P** Let us pray. In this meal, O God, you have strengthened us by the risen life of your Son. Send us by your Spirit to live in peace with one another and to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C** Amen.

## BENEDICTION

**P** 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. **C** Amen.

**P** Go in peace; serve the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

## CLOSING HYMN “Christ, Be My Leader”

1 Christ be my Lead-er by night as by day; Safe through the  
 2 Christ be my Teach-er in age as in youth, Drift-ing or  
 3 Christ be my Sav-ior in calm as in strife; Death can-not

dark-ness, for He is the way. Glad-ly I fol-low, my  
 doubt-ing, for He is the truth. Grant me to trust Him; though  
 hold me, for He is the life. Nor dark-ness nor doubt-ing nor

fu-ture His care, Dark-ness is day-light when Je-sus is there.  
 shift-ing as sand, Doubt can-not daunt me; in Je-sus I stand.  
 sin and its stain Can touch my sal-va-tion: with Je-sus I reign.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926  
 Tune: Irish; setting: *Lutheran Service Book*, 2006

Text: © 1964, renewed 1992 Hope Publishing Co.  
 Tune: Public domain; setting: © 2006 Concordia Publishing House

SLANE  
 Irregular meter

*John 8:12; John 1:4, 14, 17; 14:6*

## POSTLUDE

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### Our Confession about Communion

1. Holy Communion is a divinely instituted act in which Jesus Christ gives His true (real) body and blood under the forms of bread and wine. We thus hold that the bread and wine are not mere symbols of Jesus' body and blood. When we receive the bread and wine, we receive in fact the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins.

2. We believe that Communion is a celebration of this forgiveness which comes to us through faith as we eat and drink. In communion we remember our Lord's passion and death, His resurrection and ascension, and the promise of His coming again. Communion is truly the Gospel made visible and is offered for those who "hunger and thirst after righteousness."

3. We believe that as we eat and drink this Supper we are strengthened in our faith in Jesus Christ and in our love for one another.

Therefore, we invite to the Lord's Table all who:

a. has been instructed in the meaning of Communion; have been baptized in the name of the Triune God; have received Jesus Christ as their own personal and living Savior and Lord and concur in our confession.

b. is not living in open rebellion against the Word of God, and do not hold willful and persistent form of hatred, resentment or anger against any other person.

Those who have questions about communion are welcome to talk to one of the Pastors.

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