

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

Holstein, IA

May 3, 2026

9:00 A.M.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ - our way, our truth, our life.

GATHER

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

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 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. 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 your 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 saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

Amen.

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.

Prayer of the Day

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.

Sunday School Teacher Appreciation

WORD

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

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

² Incline your ear to me;
make haste to deliver me.

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.

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

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

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

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

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Gospel Acclamation

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. El Se - ñor re - su - ci - tó.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ is ris - en, ris' n in - deed.

John 14:1-14

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 10th 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. ²In 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? ³And 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. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” ⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus 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?’ ¹⁰Do 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. ¹¹Believe 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. ¹²Very 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. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Message Vicar Millie Anderson

Hymn of the Day ***Build Us Up, Lord*** #670

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 the People

Sharing the Peace

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

MEAL

Children's Offering / Offering

Musical Offering

Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho

Offering 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.

The 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.

Preface

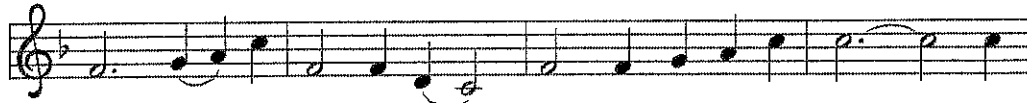
It is indeed...join in their unending praise:



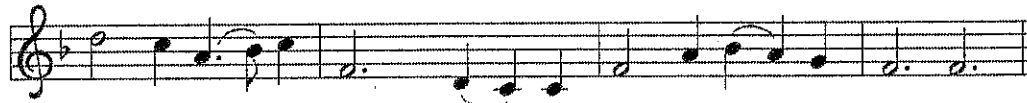
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

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.**

Invitation to Communion

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

Distribution

****Distribution of the Sacrament****

*All who trust in Christ's word are welcome to the table of this holy supper,
where our Lord is truly present, offering his gifts of forgiveness and eternal life.
Please tell the server if you desire grape juice as an alternative to wine,
or if you require a gluten-free wafer.*

ALL ARE WELCOME

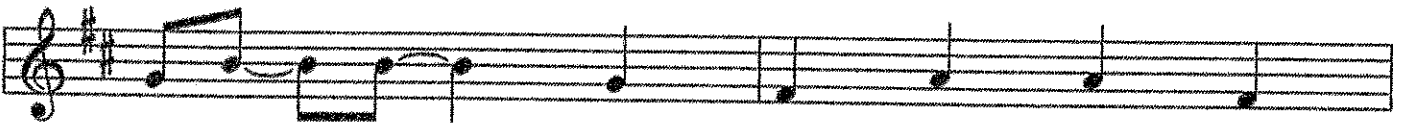
Hans Peterson
Larry Olson



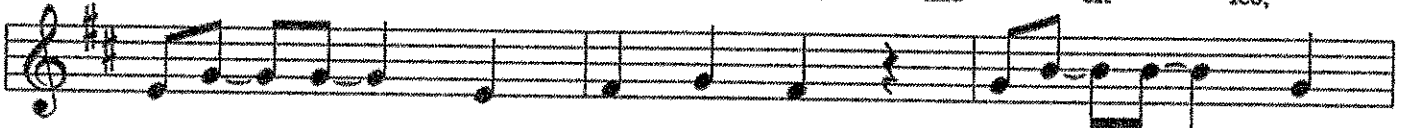
All are wel - come, friend and stran-ger at the ban - quet of the Sav-ior.



All are wel - come. All are wel-come here.



From the wo - man who comes cry - ing,
From the ones - man who feel for - got - ten,
Go in - to the streets and got - cit - ies,



leav-ing tears at Je - sus' feet, to the man who
those who sense their place is gone, to the ones who
to the farms and fam - i - lies, tell a - bout the



knows the right way but can - not see.
live in hun - ger, here you be - long.
splen - did ta - ble, God's mer - cy.

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Prayer After Communion

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 healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,

Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

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.

Closing Song

Be Thou My Vision

#793

Dismissal

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Worship Participants

Ministers:	All the members
Vicar:	Emily Anderson
DYME:	Jim & Kris Kistenmacher
Organist:	Sharen Borchers
Pianist:	Kris Kistenmacher
Lector:	Kathy Sindt
Deacons:	Marcin Todd and Susan Endrulat
Greeter:	Audrey Dittmer
Acolytes:	Graham Boling and Emmett Modrell
Special Music:	Sounds of Celebration Bell Choir
Sound & Video:	Randy & Kathy Vollmar
Coffee Hour:	Dana & Kyle Meyer, Lori & Lane Volkert

St. Paul Church Calendar

SUNDAY, May 3 ~ Fifth Sunday of Easter

9:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion/Sunday School Staff Appreciation
10:00 AM	Final Sunday School Session for the academic year
10:00 AM	Coffee & Fellowship

WEDNESDAY, May 6

7:00 PM	Piano Recital
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SUNDAY, May 10 ~ Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:00 AM	Worship
10:00 AM	Coffee & Fellowship

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