

5th Sunday of Easter

May 3rd, 2026

Liturgy: TLH p. 5

Organist: Lana Strike



**ST. JOHN'S**

Lutheran Church & School

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## ✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: TLH #29

"Through All the Changing Scenes"

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

**C** ♪ **Amen.**

**P** Pastor

### **Confession of Our Sins**

**C** **Congregation**

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*We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.*

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**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** ♪ **Who made heaven and earth.**

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

**C** ♪ **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**

**P** Almighty God our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto Thee that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against Thee by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Thine infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Thy grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C** **O most merciful God, who hast given Thine only begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **Absolution from Our God**

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*"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)*

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**P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, hath had mercy upon us and hath given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He giveth power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord unto us all.

**C** ♪ **Amen.**

## The Introit

Ps. 30:1-5; 149:1

*A collection of passages that set the tone for the service.*

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- P** Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of the godly!
- C** **I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up and have not let my foes rejoice over me.**
- P** O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.
- C** **O Lord, you have brought up my soul from Sheol; you stored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.**
- P** Sing praises to the Lord, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name.
- C** **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.**

## The Gloria Patri

TLH #218:6

*Latin for "Glory be to the Father."*

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- C** ♪ **Glory be to God the Father;  
Glory be to God the Son,  
Dying, risen, ascending for us,  
Who the heavenly realm hath won.**

**Glory to the Holy Spirit! To One God in Persons Three  
Glory both in earth and heaven, Glory, endless glory, be.**

## The Salutation

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- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** ♪ **And with thy spirit.**

## The Collect Prayer of the Day

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- P** 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.
- C** ♪ **Amen.**



## **Acts 6:1-9; 7:2, 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.



## 1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into 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.

## Confession of Faith

*The Apostles' Creed*

### **☐ I BELIEVE...**

**in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit; the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Hymn: TLH #465**

*"Christ Is Our Corner-Stone"*



### **John 14:1-14**

"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.

**Changes? Turn and Face the Son**

## The Offertory

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- C** ♪ *Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right spirit within me Cast me not away from Thy presence; And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; And uphold me with thy free spirit. Amen.*

✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

Hymn: TLH #355

*"Thou Art the Way; To Thee Alone"*

✠ The General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer ✠

## The Benediction

*Numbers 6:24-26*

*The blessing given by God for His people.*

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- P** The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.
- C** ♪ *Amen, amen, a – men.*

Hymn: WS #736

*"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"*

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**Thank you** to Board of Missions member Jeff Radichel for his presentation during Bible Class!

**Delegate Needed** – We are looking for one delegate to represent St. John's at the MN Delegate Conference on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at Berea in Inver Grove Heights, as well as at the CLC Convention, Thursday through Sunday, June 25-28. If you are a voting member of St. John's and are interested in volunteering as a delegate, please speak with Pastor, an elder, or Chairman Strike.

**Streaming Bible Class** – It has been suggested that we should stream Bible Class. Anyone who has been involved with streaming services, or who has suggestions, please meet after church with Pastor.

**"Pre-School" Interest?** – Interest in a Pre-School program at St. John's has been expressed. After researching the strict state requirements for early childhood education, the school board has decided that a once-a-week art program during

the school year for four and five-year-olds would be our best option. If you would be interested in such a program or want more information, talk to Mary Albrecht or Ruth Eigenberg.

**St. John's Softball Team** – If you are interested in playing coed softball this summer (Sundays in Windom), please speak with Christian Kazemba. There are no age or skill-level restrictions!

**Saints Gone Home** –

**Pastor Tim Wheaton** had retired from the ministry last year due to an ongoing battle with cancer. He was called to His eternal rest this past Monday, with a funeral service being held this past Thursday.

**Carol Ahrens**, wife of Dennis Ahrens and relative to many St. John's members, passed away unexpectedly late this past week and was called to her eternal home in her Father's house. Her funeral will be held on Saturday, April 9, in Valentine.

Keep both the Wheaton family and Ahrens family in your prayers, asking the Lord to comfort them through His promises.

**CLC Call News** – Pastor Jonah Albrecht of Redemption Ev. Lutheran Church, Lynnwood, WA, and Ascension Lutheran Church, Tacoma, WA, has **returned** the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI.

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<b>Ushers</b>	5/3	Kendall B, Larry B.
	5/10	Phil S, Nathan V, Anthony F, Daniel R.
	5/17	Trevor B, Tim Z, Josh E, Christian K, David R.
<b>Cleaning</b>		This Week – The Strikes (wk. 1)
		Up Next – Ling, Rovere, Sumey