



Jesus said to her
I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me

THOUGH HE DIE YET SHALL HE LIVE

and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die.

DO YOU BELIEVE THIS?

JOHN 11:25-26

Sunday, March 22, 2026

The Fifth Sunday of Lent

Service Theme

EXACTLY WHAT I NEED: Life

When I think about my death, I am tempted to wonder: when my soul separates from my body, will I also be eternally separated from God in hell? I deserve that, but Jesus promises me life. One day I will be reunited with my believing loved ones, both soul and body. I will live with Jesus forever in eternity. Jesus raised people from the dead to prove his power over death. That's exactly the power I need.



Divine Word

Evangelical Lutheran Church

1081 Greenbank Rd.,

Ottawa, ON., K2B 5A8

613-825-1629

www.divinewordottawa.ca

571 O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth

CW 571



1 O God, O Lord of heav'n and earth, your liv - ing
 2 In blind re - volt we would not see that reb - el
 3 You came in - to our hall of death, O Christ, to
 4 O Spir - it, who did once re - store the church that



fin - ger nev - er wrote that life should be an aim - less
 wills wrought death and night. We seized and used in fear and
 breathe our poi - soned air, to drink for us the deep de -
 it might yet re - call the one who brings good news to



mote, a death - ward drift from fu - tile birth.
 spite your won - drous gift of lib - er - ty.
 spair that stran - gled our re - luc - tant breath.
 all: breathe on your clo - ven church once more



Your Word meant life tri - um - phant hurled in splen - dor
 We walled us in this house of doom, where death had
 How beau - ti - ful the feet that trod the road to
 that in these gray and lat - ter days there may be



through your bro - ken world; ere light a - woke and life be -
 roy - al scope and room, un - til your ser - vant, Prince of
 bring good news from God! How beau - ti - ful the feet that
 those whose life is praise, each life a high dox - ol - o -



gan, you made for us a ho - ly plan.
 Peace, broke down its walls for our re - lease.
 bring good ti - dings of our sav - ing King!
 gy un - to the ho - ly Trin - i - ty.

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–1976, alt. Tune: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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The Service

Service of Word and Prayer (page 266)

I rejoiced with those who said to me,

“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord Almighty!

Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you.

The Lord is near to all who call on him,

to all who call on him in truth.

Time of Easter

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us

so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Jesus was delivered over to death for our sins

and was raised to life for our justification.

Death has been swallowed up in victory!

Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading

2 Kings 4:17–37

God enables the prophet Elisha to prove to a grieving mother that God can and will raise people from the dead.

¹⁷But the woman conceived, and she gave birth to a son at that same time of year, just as Elisha said to her.

¹⁸The boy grew up, and one day he went out to his father, who was with the reapers. ¹⁹Then he said to his father, “My head! My head!”

His father said to his servant, “Carry him to his mother.” ²⁰So he picked him up and carried him to his mother, and the boy sat on her lap until noon. Then he died.

²¹Then she went up and laid him on the bed of the man of God. She shut the door behind her and went out. ²²Then she called to her husband and said, “Send one of the servants to me with one of the donkeys, so that I can run to the man of God and come back.”

²³He said, “Why are you going to him today? It's not the new moon, and it's not the Sabbath.”

But she said, “It's all right.”

²⁴Then she saddled the donkey and said to her servant, “Lead the way. Don't slow down for me unless I tell you.”

²⁵So she went to the man of God at Mount Carmel.

When the man of God saw her from a distance, he said to his servant Gehazi, “Look! That's the woman from Shunem! ²⁶Now run to meet her and say, ‘Are you all right? Is your husband all right? Is your son all right?’”

She answered, “We're all right.”

²⁷Then she came to the man of God at the mountain, and she grasped his feet. Gehazi stepped forward to push her away, but the man of God said, “Leave her alone, for her soul is in distress, but the LORD has hidden it from me. He has not told me.”

²⁸Then she said, “Did I ask my lord for a son? Didn't I say, ‘Don't give me false hope?’”

²⁹Then Elisha said to Gehazi, “Hike up your garments for travel, and take my staff in your hand and go! If you meet someone, do not greet him, and if someone greets you, do not answer. Put my staff on the boy's face.”

³⁰But the boy's mother said, “As surely as the LORD lives and your soul lives, I will not leave you.” So he got up and followed her. ³¹Gehazi went ahead of them and put the staff on the boy's face. But there was no sound, and there was no response. So he went back to Elisha and told him, “The boy did not wake up.”

³²When Elisha came to the house, there the boy was—dead, lying on his bed. ³³So he went in and he shut the door behind the two of them. Then he prayed to the LORD. ³⁴He got up and lay down on top of the boy. He put his mouth to the boy's mouth, his eyes to the boy's eyes, his palms to the boy's palms. Then he bent down over him, and the boy's flesh became warm. ³⁵He went back into the house and paced back and forth. Then he went up and bent down over him, and the boy sneezed seven times. Then the boy opened his eyes.

³⁶Then Elisha called Gehazi and said, “Call the woman of Shunem!” So he called her, and she came in. He said, “Pick up your son.” ³⁷So she came in and fell at Elisha's feet and bowed down to the ground. Then she picked up her son and went out.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

130A Out of the Depths

Psalm 130A

Refrain



Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD,



Lord, hear my voice.

Tone



Out / of the depths

I / cry to you, O LORD;

Lord, / hear my voice.

Listen closely as I / call on you for help.

LORD, if you kept / track of sins,

O / Lord, then who could stand?

But with you there is for- / giveness,

in order / that you may be feared. *Refrain*

I wait for the LORD, my / soul waits,

and in his / word I put my hope.

More than watchers wait for / morning

my / soul waits for the Lord.

Israel, put your hope / in the LORD,

for with the / LORD is faithful love;

with him is complete re- / demption.

He will redeem Israel from the / guilt of all their sins.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son

and to the / Holy Spirit,

as it was in the be- / ginning,

is now, and will be for- / ever. Amen. *Refrain*

Second Reading

Romans 8:11–19

The Father promises to raise me from the dead and make me an heir of everlasting glory.

¹¹And if the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will also make your mortal bodies alive through his Spirit, who is dwelling in you.

¹²So then, brothers, we do not owe it to the sinful flesh to live in harmony with it. ¹³For if you live in harmony with the sinful flesh, you are going to die. But if by the Spirit you put to death the actions of the body, you will live.

¹⁴Indeed, those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery so that you are afraid again, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we call out, “Abba, Father!” ¹⁶The Spirit himself joins our spirit in testifying that we are God’s children.

¹⁷Now if we are children, we are also heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, since we suffer with him, so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸For I conclude that our sufferings at the present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is going to be revealed to us. ¹⁹In fact, creation is waiting with eager longing for the sons of God to be revealed.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Verse of the Day

John 11:25

Glory, praise, and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

I am the resurrection and the life.

Those who believe in me will live, even though they die.

Glory, praise, and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel

John 11:17–27, 38–45

A corpse responds to the empowering command of Christ, proving that Jesus is the Lord of life.

¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.

¹⁸Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles away.

¹⁹Many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them concerning their brother.

²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him, while Mary was sitting in the house.

²¹Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.”

²³Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”

²⁴Martha replied, “I know that he will rise in the resurrection on the Last Day.”

²⁵Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live, even if he dies. ²⁶And whoever lives and believes in me will never perish. Do you believe this?”

²⁷“Yes, Lord,” she told him. “I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world.”

³⁸Jesus was deeply moved again as he came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹“Take away the stone,” he said.

Martha, the dead man's sister, told him, “Lord, by this time there will be an odor, because it has been four days.”

⁴⁰Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?” ⁴¹So they took away the stone.

Jesus looked up and said, “Father, I thank you that you heard me.

⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” ⁴³After he said this, he shouted with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”

⁴⁴The man who had died came out with his feet and his hands bound with strips of linen and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus told them, “Loose him and let him go.”

⁴⁵Therefore many of the Jews who came to Mary and saw what Jesus did believed in him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

846 I Know of a Sleep in Jesus' Name

CW 846



1 I know of a sleep in Je - sus' name, a rest from all
2 I know of a morn - ing, bright and fair when ti - dings of
3 God's Son to our graves then makes his way; his voice hear all
4 O Je - sus, draw near my dy - ing bed and take me in -



toil and sor - row; earth folds in her arms my wea - ry frame
joy shall wake us, when songs from on high shall fill the air
tribes and na - tions. The trum - pet of God will sound the day
to your keep - ing and say when my spir - it hence is fled,



and shel - ters it till the mor - row. My soul is at
and God to his glo - ry take us, when Je - sus shall
and shake all the earth's foun - da - tions. He calls out a -
“This child is not dead, but sleep - ing.” And leave me not,



home with God in heav'n; my sor - rows are past and o - ver.
bid us rise from sleep; how joy - ous that hour of wak - ing!
loud, “O dead, come forth!” In glo - ry we rise to meet him.
Sav - ior, till I rise to praise you in life e - ter - nal.

Sermon

John 11:17-27,38-45

Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life.

- 1) He comforts us in our grief
- 2) He calls us from death to life

Apostles' Creed

CW 268

**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.**

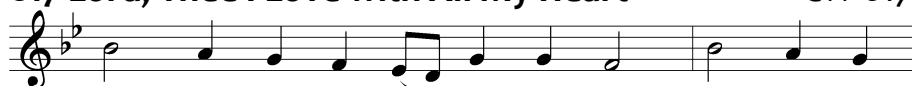
**The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty.**

**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.**

817 Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart

CW 817



1 Lord, thee I love with all my heart; I pray thee,
 2 Yea, Lord, 'twas thy rich boun - ty gave my bod - y,
 3 Lord, let at last thine an - gels come, to A-br'ham's



ne'er from me de - part, with ten - der mer - cy cheer me.
 soul, and all I have in this poor life of la - bor.
 bos - om bear me home that I may die un - fear - ing;



Earth has no plea - sure I would share; yea, heav'n it -
 Lord, grant that I in ev - 'ry place may glo - ri -
 and in its nar - row cham - ber keep my bod - y



self were void and bare if thou, Lord, wert not near me.
 fy thy lav - ish grace and help and serve my neigh - bor.
 safe in peace - ful sleep un - til thy re - ap - pear - ing.



And should my heart for sor - row break, my trust in thee can
 Let no false doc - trine me be - guile; let Sa - tan not my
 And then from death a - wak - en me that these mine eyes with



noth - ing shake. Thou art the por - tion I have sought; thy pre - cious
 soul de - file. Give strength and pa - tience un - to me to bear my
 joy may see, O Son of God, thy glo - rious face, my Sav - ior



blood my soul has bought. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
 cross and fol - low thee. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
 and my fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, my prayer at -



Lord, my God and Lord, for - sake me not! I trust thy Word.
 Lord, my God and Lord, in death thy com - fort still af - ford.
 tend, my prayer at - tend, and I will praise thee with - out end.

Offertory Prayer

Prayer

CW 268

Lord, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy;
in your faithfulness and righteousness, come to my relief.

Spare us, Lord, from the lies of the devil and the attacks of our conscience. Comfort and save us in your patient compassion.

Have mercy on us, Jesus.

Guide us, Lord, to the wisdom of your Word and the power of your promises. Take away our confusion and doubt.

Have mercy on us, Jesus.

Hear us, Lord, when we come to you in prayer. Make us confident to take you at your word and to follow you in faith.

Have mercy on us, Jesus.

Empower us, Lord, to walk in your ways and live in your truth. Fill us with your love, that we may love you and one another.

Have mercy on us, Jesus.

Prayer of the Day

Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation, that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive the forgiveness of sins, victory over the grave, and finally inherit eternal life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Time of Easter

CW 269

Almighty God, by the death of your Son you conquered sin, and by his resurrection you restored our innocence and gave us everlasting life. Fill our hearts with steadfast faith that we may daily serve you in your kingdom and praise and thank you always; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

CW 269

**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.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

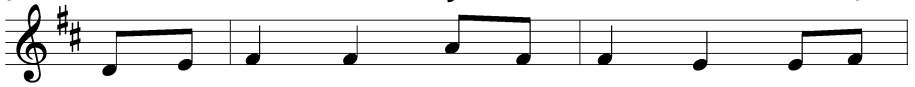
Blessing

The almighty and merciful Lord—the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit—bless us and keep us.

Amen.

502 Children of the Heavenly Father

CW 502



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther safe - ly
2 God his own doth tend and nour - ish; in his
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his



in his bos - om gath - er; nest - ling bird nor star in
ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things he
Lord his chil - dren sev - er; un - to them his grace he
chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; his the lov - ing pur - pose



heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
spares them; in his might - y arms he bears them.
show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903, abr.; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958. Tune: Lofsånger och andeliga visor, Sweden, 1873
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Announcements

Church Cleaners

March 29 – Andrew / April 5 – Peter

Easter Flower Donations

Anyone wishing to help beautify the Altar for Easter, please drop off the plant(s) of your choice (lilies, tulips, daffodils, hyacinth, etc.) to the church by Saturday, April 4th, at 9 am. You are welcome to take your plants home after the Easter Day worship services, or, if you wish, you may leave them at church to continue to beautify the altar for upcoming worship services.

DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

- Su (22) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Study**
10:30 am Worship
11:45 am Coffee Hour
12:00 pm Voters Meeting
- Tu (24) 5:00 pm Communicating Christ Class
- We (25) 10:00 am Bible Information Class Review
7:00 pm Midweek Lent Service
- Fr (27) 3:00 pm Women's Bible Study
6:00 pm Friday Fellowship
- Su (29) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Study**
10:30 am Worship
11:45 am Coffee Hour
- Th (2) 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday (with Communion)
- Fr (3) 10:30 am Good Friday Worship
- Su (5) 8:00 am Easter Sunrise (with Communion)**
9:00 am Easter Breakfast
10:30 am Easter Worship
3:00 pm Easter at Our Shepherd (Poltimore)

Acknowledgments

Service of Word and Prayer from Christian Worship

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