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**Sunday, May 3, 2026**

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

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Service Theme

**HE LIVES TO BE THE ONLY WAY TO HEAVEN**

Without the resurrection of Jesus, we would have to wonder if he wasn't just a human being. If our last view of him is a criminal crucified on a cross, he would look like someone to be rejected. He couldn't even help himself, much less anyone else! But he lives, and it makes a difference. He is the only way to heaven. This gospel message is the most inclusive in the world because the benefits of Jesus' resurrection are meant for every man, woman, and child who has ever lived. And it's the most exclusive message in the world, because salvation is received only through faith in Him.

# 521 Christ the Eternal Lord

CW 521



1 Christ the e - ter - nal Lord, whose prom - ise here we claim,  
 2 Christ the un - chang - ing Word to ev - 'ry pass - ing age,  
 3 Christ the re - deem - ing Son who shares our hu - man birth,  
 4 Christ the un - fad - ing Light of ev - er - last - ing day,  
 5 Christ the as - cend - ed King ex - alt - ed high a - bove,



whose gifts of grace are free - ly poured on all who name your name;  
 whose time - less teach - ings still are heard set forth on Scrip - ture's page;  
 and by his death sal - va - tion won for ev - 'ry child of earth;  
 our Morn - ing Star in splen - dor bright, the Life, the Truth, the Way;  
 whose praise un - end - ing a - ges sing, whom yet un - seen we love;



with thank - ful - ness and praise we stand be - fore your throne,  
 trans - form our thought and mind, en - light - en all who read,  
 in - spire our hearts, we pray, to tell your love a - broad,  
 that light of truth you give to ser - vants as to friends,  
 when mor - tal life is past your voice from heav - en's throne



in - tent to serve you all our days and make your glo - ry known.  
 with - in your Word by faith to find the bread of life in - deed.  
 that all may hon - or Christ to - day and fol - low him as Lord.  
 your way to walk, your life to live, till earth's brief jour - ney ends.  
 shall call your chil - dren home at last to know as we are known.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926. Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816-1893

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## The Service - Setting Seven

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### **Confession**

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just  
and will forgive us our sins  
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,**

**I am sinful by nature  
and have sinned against you in my thoughts,  
words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins**

**with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a  
sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **Lord, Have Mercy**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

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.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Amen.**

# 1022 Gloria (Brit) - GALILEAN

CW 1022

Tune: GALILEAN



1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en, peace to those he  
2 On - ly Son of God the Fa - ther, Lamb who takes our



loves so well. On the earth let all his peo - ple speak his  
sin a - way, now with him in tri - umph seat - ed— for your



grace, his won - ders tell: Lord, we praise you for your glo - ry,  
mer - cy, Lord, we pray: Je - sus Christ, most high and ho - ly,



might - y Fa - ther, heav - en's King; hear our joy - ful  
Sav - ior, you are God a - lone in the glo - ry



ad - o - ra - tion and ac - cept the thanks we bring.  
of the Fa - ther with the Spir - it, Three in One!

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## The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **First Reading**

*Acts 4:8–12*

*St. Peter explains that Jesus is the only person in whom salvation is found.*

<sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders of Israel, <sup>9</sup>if we are being questioned today for a kind act that was done for the lame man, as to how this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead! By him this man stands before you healed. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you builders, which has become the cornerstone.

<sup>12</sup>“There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to people by which we must be saved.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# 118A This is the Day the LORD Has Made

Psalm 118A

## Refrain



This is the day the LORD has made, let us re-joice and be glad!



This is the day the LORD has made, let us re-joice and be glad!

## Tone



The LORD is my strength and / my defense;  
he has become my sal- / vation.

The LORD's right hand is / lifted high;  
the LORD's right hand has done / mighty things!

I will not / die but live,  
and will proclaim what the / LORD has done. *Refrain*

I will give you thanks, for you / answered me;  
you have become my sal- / vation.

The stone the builders re- / jected  
has become the / cornerstone;

the LORD has / done this,  
and it is marvelous / in our eyes.

**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 forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

Text: Lectionary for Mass. Tune: Marty Haugen. Setting: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

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## Second Reading

1 Peter 2:4–10

*People stumble over the claim that Jesus is the only way to heaven. But that truth is the cornerstone on which Christ builds his Church.*

<sup>4</sup>As you come to him, the Living Stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious, <sup>5</sup>you also, like living stones, are being built as a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, in order to bring spiritual sacrifices that are acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For it says in Scripture:

See, I lay a stone in Zion,  
a chosen and precious cornerstone,  
and the one who believes in him will certainly not be  
put to shame.

<sup>7</sup>Therefore, for you who believe, this is an honor. But for those who do not believe:

The stone which the builders rejected has become the  
cornerstone,  
<sup>8</sup>and,  
a stone over which they stumble  
and a rock over which they fall.

Because they continue to disobey the word, they stumble over it. And that is the consequence appointed for them.

<sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, the people who are God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. <sup>10</sup>At one time you were not a people, but now you are the people of God. At one time you were not shown mercy, but now you have been shown mercy.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# Gospel Acclamation

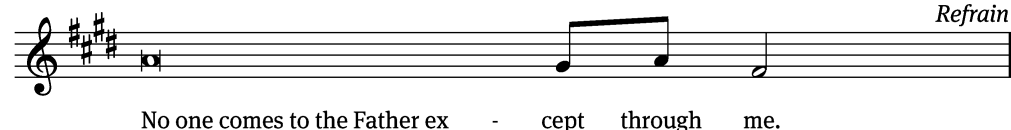
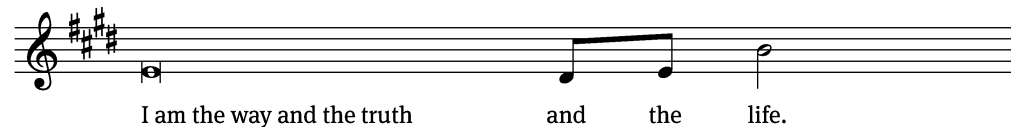
John 14:6



## Refrain



## Tone



# Gospel

John 14:1-6

*Jesus teaches that the only way to draw near to God the Father is through God the Son.*

<sup>1</sup>“Do not let your heart be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father's house are many mansions. If it were not so, I would have told you. I am going to prepare a place for you. <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and take you to be with me, so that you may also be where I am. <sup>4</sup>You know where I am going, and you know the way.”

<sup>5</sup>“Lord, we don't know where you are going,” Thomas replied, “so 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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

# 514 You Are the Way; through You Alone

CW 514



- 1 You are the way; thro' you a - lone can we the Fa - ther find;
- 2 You are the truth; your Word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
- 3 You are the life; the emp - ty tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm,
- 4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,



in you, O Christ, has God re - vealed his heart and will and mind.  
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.  
and those who put their trust in you nor death nor hell shall harm.  
that truth to keep, that life to win whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt. Tune: The CL Psalms of David, Edinburgh, 1615. Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

*John 14:1–6*

### Trust replaces trouble when you know:

- 1) Who God is,
- 2) What Jesus is doing,
- 3) And how Jesus alone brings you to the Father.

### Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of  
God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from  
true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,**

**was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Offertory Prayer**

## Prayer of the Church

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

**Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.**

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

**Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.**

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

**Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.**

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

**Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.**

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

**Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.**

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, [*especially* . . .]. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

**Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.**

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

*Silent prayer*

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

**Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.**

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

**Amen.**

The Sacrament

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

# 1025 Sanctus (Brit) - AURELIA

CW 1025

Tune: AURELIA



1 Sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts on high,  
2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How blest is Christ our King,



your ev - er - last - ing glo - ry fills earth and sea and sky."  
who died as our Re - deem - er, e - ter - nal life to bring!



Our voic - es cry, "Ho - san - na!" Lord, hear our hum - ble plea:  
How blest are you, Lord Je - sus, now com - ing in God's name!



in mer - cy, come and save us; in love, come set us free.  
"Ho - san - na in the high - est!" our grate - ful hearts pro - claim.

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## Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

## Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my † body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my † blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

### 1031 Agnus (Brit) - ST. CRISPIN

CW 1031

*Tune: ST. CRISPIN*

1 O Lamb of God, once lift - ed high up - on a  
2 O Lamb of God, your sac - ri - fice has can - celled  
cross to bleed and die, in per - fect love you  
sin, has paid its price; your per - fect love will  
took our place— be - stow on us your sav - ing grace.  
nev - er cease— have mer - cy, Lord, and grant us peace.

Text: Michael D. Schultz. Tune: George J. Elvey.

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## Distribution

## Thanksgiving

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

**his mercy endures forever.**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

**Amen.**

## 924 Abide, O Dearest Jesus

CW 924



- 1 A - bide, O dear - est Je - sus, a - mong us with your grace
- 2 A - bide, O dear Re - deem - er, a - mong us with your Word
- 3 A - bide with heav'n-ly bright - ness a - mong us, pre - cious Light;
- 4 A - bide with rich - est bless - ings a - mong us, boun-teous Lord;



that Sa - tan may not harm us nor we to sin give place.  
and thus now and here - af - ter true peace and joy af - ford.  
your truth di - rect and keep us from er - ror's gloom - y night.  
let us in grace and wis - dom grow dai - ly through your Word.

- 5 Abide with your protection  
among us, Lord, our strength,  
lest world and Satan fell us  
and overcome at length.
- 6 Abide, O faithful Savior,  
among us with your love;  
grant steadfastness and help us  
to reach our home above.

# Announcements

## *Church Cleaners*

May 10 – Thomas / May 17 – John

### DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

- Su (3) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Study**  
**10:30 am Worship** (with Communion)  
11:45 am First Fellowship  
12:00 pm Divine Sisters  
**3:00 pm Worship in Poltimore**  
4:00 pm Youth Confirmation in Poltimore
- We (6) 7:00 pm Communicating Christ
- Th (7) 10:30 am Longfield Manor Devotion
- Fr (8) 3:00 pm Women's Bible Study  
6:00 pm Friday Fellowship
- Su (10) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Study**  
**10:30 am Worship**  
11:45 am Coffee Hour
- We (13) 7:00 pm Communicating Christ
- Fr (15) 3:00 pm Women's Bible Study
- Su (17) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Study**  
**10:30 am Worship** (with Communion)  
11:45 am Coffee Hour  
12:00 pm Evangelism Meeting  
**3:00 pm Worship in Poltimore**  
4:00 pm Youth Confirmation in Poltimore

## Acknowledgments

Setting Seven (British) from Christian Worship

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**Divine Word**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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