

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 3, 2026

RINGING OF THE BELLS

633 *AT THE LAMB'S HIGH FEAST WE SING* sts. 1–4

1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing
Praise to our victorious King,
Who has washed us in the tide
Flowing from His pierced side.

Alleluia!

2 Praise we Him, whose love divine
Gives His sacred blood for wine,
Gives His body for the feast—
Christ the victim, Christ the priest.

Alleluia!

3 Where the paschal blood is poured,
Death's dread angel sheathes the sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go

Through the wave that drowns the foe.

Alleluia!

4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,
Paschal victim, paschal bread;
With sincerity and love
Eat we manna from above.

Alleluia!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–68, alt.

Text: Public domain

(The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.)

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

C Amen.

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 You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

633 *AT THE LAMB'S HIGH FEAST WE SING* sts. 5–8

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!

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!

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!

△ 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.

Text: Public domain

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray.

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.

FIRST READING

Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60

A The First Reading is from Acts, chapter 6.

¹Now 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. ²And 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. ³Therefore, 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. ⁴But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” ⁵And 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. ⁶These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷And 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.

⁸And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹Then 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. . . .

²And Stephen said:

“Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . .

⁵¹You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. ⁵²Which 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,
⁵³you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.”

⁵⁴Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. ⁵⁵But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” ⁵⁷But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. ⁵⁸Then 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. ⁵⁹And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰And 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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

A The Epistle is from 1 Peter, chapter 2.

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you 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. ⁶For 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.”

⁷So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”

⁸and

“A stone of stumbling,
and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But 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. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

ALLELUIA

LSB 190

C Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

¹Jesus said: “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In 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? ³And 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. ⁴And you know the way to 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 had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” ⁹Jesus 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'? 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 authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

¹²"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.

¹³Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

526 YOU ARE THE WAY; THROUGH YOU ALONE

1 You are the way; through You alone
Can we the Father find;
In You, O Christ, has God revealed
His heart and will and mind.

2 You are the truth; Your Word alone
True wisdom can impart;
You only can inform the mind
And purify the heart.

3 You are the life; the empty tomb
Proclaims Your conqu'ring arm,
And those who put their trust in You
Not death nor hell shall harm.

4 You are the way, the truth, the life;
Grant us that way to know,
That truth to keep, that life to win
Whose joys eternal flow.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt.

Text: Public domain

SERMON

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

OFFERTORY

LSB 192

C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

C Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

C Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up unto the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C **It is meet and right so to do.**

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 195

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that
cometh in the name of the Lord.**

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 196

P 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.

C **For Thine is the kingdom and the power and
the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LSB 197

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was
betrayed, took bread, and when He had given
thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and

said: “Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PAX DOMINI

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

739 PRECIOUS LORD, TAKE MY HAND

1 Precious Lord, take my hand,

Lead me on, let me stand;

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.

Through the storm, through the night,

Lead me on to the light.

Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.

2 When my way grows drear,
Precious Lord, linger near,
 When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call;
Hold my hand lest I fall.
 Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.

3 When the darkness appears
And the night draws near
 And the day is almost gone,
At the river I stand;
Guide my feet, hold my hand,
 Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.

Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899–1993

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645 BUILT ON THE ROCK

1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand
 Even when steeples are falling.
Crumbled have spires in ev'ry land;
 Bells still are chiming and calling,
Calling the young and old to rest,

But above all the souls distressed,
Longing for rest everlasting.

2 Surely in temples made with hands
God, the Most High, is not dwelling;
High above earth His temple stands,
All earthly temples excelling.
Yet He who dwells in heav'n above
Chooses to live with us in love,
Making our bodies His temple.

3 We are God's house of living stones,
Built for His own habitation.
He through baptismal grace us owns
Heirs of His wondrous salvation.
Were we but two His name to tell,
Yet He would deign with us to dwell
With all His grace and His favor.

4 Here stands the font before our eyes,
Telling how God has received us.
The altar recalls Christ's sacrifice

And what His Supper here gives us.
Here sound the Scriptures that proclaim
Christ yesterday, today, the same,
And evermore, our Redeemer.

5 Grant, then, O God, Your will be done,
That, when the church bells are ringing,
Many in saving faith may come
Where Christ His message is bringing:
“I know My own; My own know Me.
You, not the world, My face shall see.
My peace I leave with you. Amen.”

Text: Nikolai Fredrik Severin Grundtvig, 1783–1872, abr.; tr. Carl Döving, 1867–1937, alt.
Text: Public domain

NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 199

**☐ Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in
peace according to Thy word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which
Thou hast prepared before the face of all
people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of
Thy people Israel.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

LSB 202

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 peace.

C **Amen, amen, amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

721 LEAD ME, GUIDE ME

ref Lead me, guide me, along the way;

For if You lead me, I cannot stray.

Lord, let me walk each day with Thee.

Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

- 1 I am weak and I need Thy strength and pow'r
To help me over my weakest hour.
Help me through the darkness Thy face to see.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me. Refrain

- 2 Help me tread in the paths of righteousness,
Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.
I am putting all my trust in Thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me. Refrain

- 3 I am lost if You take Your hand from me,
I am blind without Thy light to see.
Lord, always let me Thy servant be.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me. Refrain

Text: Doris M. Akers, 1922–95

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