

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER-

TO OUR GUESTS: *Welcome to Immanuel. We pray that you will be blessed worshipping the Lord with His people. Please sign a guest attendance card and place it at the end of your row. Please join us often.*

THE LORD'S SUPPER is celebrated today. Here Jesus gives us His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. Scripture teaches that anyone who eats and drinks the body and blood of Christ without discerning the body and blood received a judgment rather than a blessing from God (1 Cor. 11:29). Therefore, out of Christian concern for souls, we require thorough instruction in the teaching of the Lutheran Church before coming to the sacrament. Communion is also a testimony of unity of faith with all others who partake (1 Cor. 10:27). Since unity at the altar means unity in doctrine and confession, we ask that only those who are in confessional fellowship with The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod attend the Lord's Supper.

If you would like come forward to receive a blessing, fold your hands across your chest before the pastor during the communion.

Dear Visitors: *We recognize this communion practice is a sensitive issue for many, therefore we have prepared a brochure to explain it more fully. These are available in the entry to the sanctuary. See Pastor for questions.*

Preservice Music, Ringing of the Bell, Welcome

INVOCATION and CALL TO WORSHIP

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

C Amen.

R 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.**

R 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 restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.**

R 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.**

R Weeping may remain for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

**C Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise
in the assembly of the godly!**

THE OPENING SONG

"Make Me a Servant"

**Make me a servant, humble and meek,
Lord, let me lift up those who are weak,
And may the prayer of my heart always be:
Make me a servant, make me a servant,
Make me a servant today. Repeat.**

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FIRST READING

Acts 6:1-9, 7:2a, 51-60

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. 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. 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. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." 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. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. 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. And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. 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. And Stephen said: "Brothers and fathers, hear me. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran, "You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. 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, you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it." Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. 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. And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right

hand of God.” But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. 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. And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” 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.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, 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. 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.” 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,” and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. 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. 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.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SONG *“He Who Began a Good Work in You”*

He who began a good work in you,

He who began a good work in you

will be faithful to complete it,

He’ll be faithful to complete it;

He who started the work

will be faithful to complete it in you.

Repeat.

*Philippians 1:6 ©1987 Birdwing Music Admin by Sparrow Corp. CCLI #187269
GMP 180*

HOLY GOSPEL John 14:1–14

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus said: "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. 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? 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. And you know the way to where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." 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'? 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. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves. "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. Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean.

We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment.

For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C Amen.**

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
And 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 sits at the right hand of
God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.**

CHILDREN'S TALK

HYMN OF THE DAY LSB 912 CHRIST IS OUR CORNERSTONE

- 1 Christ is our cornerstone,
On Him alone we build;
With His true saints alone
The courts of heav'n are filled.
On His great love
Our hopes we place
Of present grace
And joys above.**
- 2 Here may we gain from heav'n
The grace which we implore,
And may that grace, once giv'n,
Be with us evermore
Until that day
When all the blest
To endless rest
Are called away.**
- 3 Oh, then, with hymns of praise
These hallowed courts shall ring;
Our voices we will raise
The Three in One to sing
And thus proclaim
In joyful song,
Both loud and long,
That glorious name.**

Text: Latin, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, alt. Text: Public domain

SERMON “You Are God’s Newborn, Priestly, Chosen People”

1 Peter 2:2-10

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

SHARING OF THE PEACE

(Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matthew 5:22-24; Ephesians 4:1-3))

(Sit)

OFFERING

(Stand)

SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR

P The Lord be with you. *(2 Timothy 4:22)*

C And also with you. *(Colossians 3:1)*

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *(Psalm 136)*

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying: *(prayer by pastor)*.

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of power and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. *(Isaiah 6:3)*
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. *(John 1:29)*

LORD'S PRAYER *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION are said by the pastor. *(Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25)*

P Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, *(John 1:29)*

C Have mercy on us.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always. *(John 20:19)*

C And also with you.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Music during distribution of the Lord's Supper

"The Potter's Hand"

Beautiful Lord, wonderful Savior,
I know for sure all of my days are held in Your hand,
Crafted into Your perfect plan.

(Bridge)

You gently call me into Your presence,
Guiding me by Your Holy Spirit;
Teach me, dear Lord, to live all of my life
Through Your eyes.
I'm captured by Your holy calling.
Set me apart; I know You're drawing me to Yourself.
Lead me, Lord, I pray.

Chorus:

Take me, mold me, use me, fill me;
I give my life to the Potter's hand.
Call me, guide me, lead me, walk beside me;
I give my life to the Potter's hand. *Repeat from Bridge*

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"We Remember You"

In broken bread and the cup that we share,
We remember you.
In broken bread and the cup that we share,
We remember you.

We remember you, Jesus,
We remember your love for us,
We remember the blood you shed.
We remember you. *(Repeat All.)*

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"Only By Grace"

Chorus:

Only by grace can we enter; only by grace can we stand,
Not by our human endeavor, but by the blood of the Lamb.
Into your presence you call us; you call us to come.
Into your presence you draw us,
And now by your grace we come.
Ending: Now by your grace we come.

Verse:

**Lord, if you mark our transgressions, who would stand?
Thanks to your grace we are cleansed by the blood of the
Lamb.** *Repeat Verse. Then Sing Chorus.*

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POST COMMUNION PRAYER

C Amen.

BENEDICTION *(Numbers 6:24-26)*

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His favor upon you and give you peace.

C Amen.

THE CLOSING SONG *"Ancient Words"*

**Holy words long preserved for our walk in this world;
They resound with God's own heart,
O let the ancient words impart;
Words of life, words of hope,
Give us strength, help us cope;
In this world where'er we roam,
Ancient words will guide us home.**

Chorus:

**Ancient words, ever true,
Changing me and changing you;
We have come with open hearts,
O let the ancient words impart.**

**Holy words of our faith handed down to this age,
Came to us through sacrifice;
O, heed the faithful words of Christ;
Holy words long preserved for our walk in this world;
They resound with God's own heart;
O let the ancient words impart.**

Chorus:

**Ancient words ever true
Changing me and changing you;
We have come with open hearts,
O let the ancient words impart.**

Repeat Chorus.

O let the ancient words impart.

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