

## First Reading

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>11</sup>"You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. <sup>12</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>13</sup>you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it."

<sup>14</sup>Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. <sup>15</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>16</sup>And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." <sup>17</sup>But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. <sup>18</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>19</sup>And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>20</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.

## Epistle

1 Peter 2:2-10

<sup>2</sup>Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to 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.

## Holy Gospel

John 14:1-14

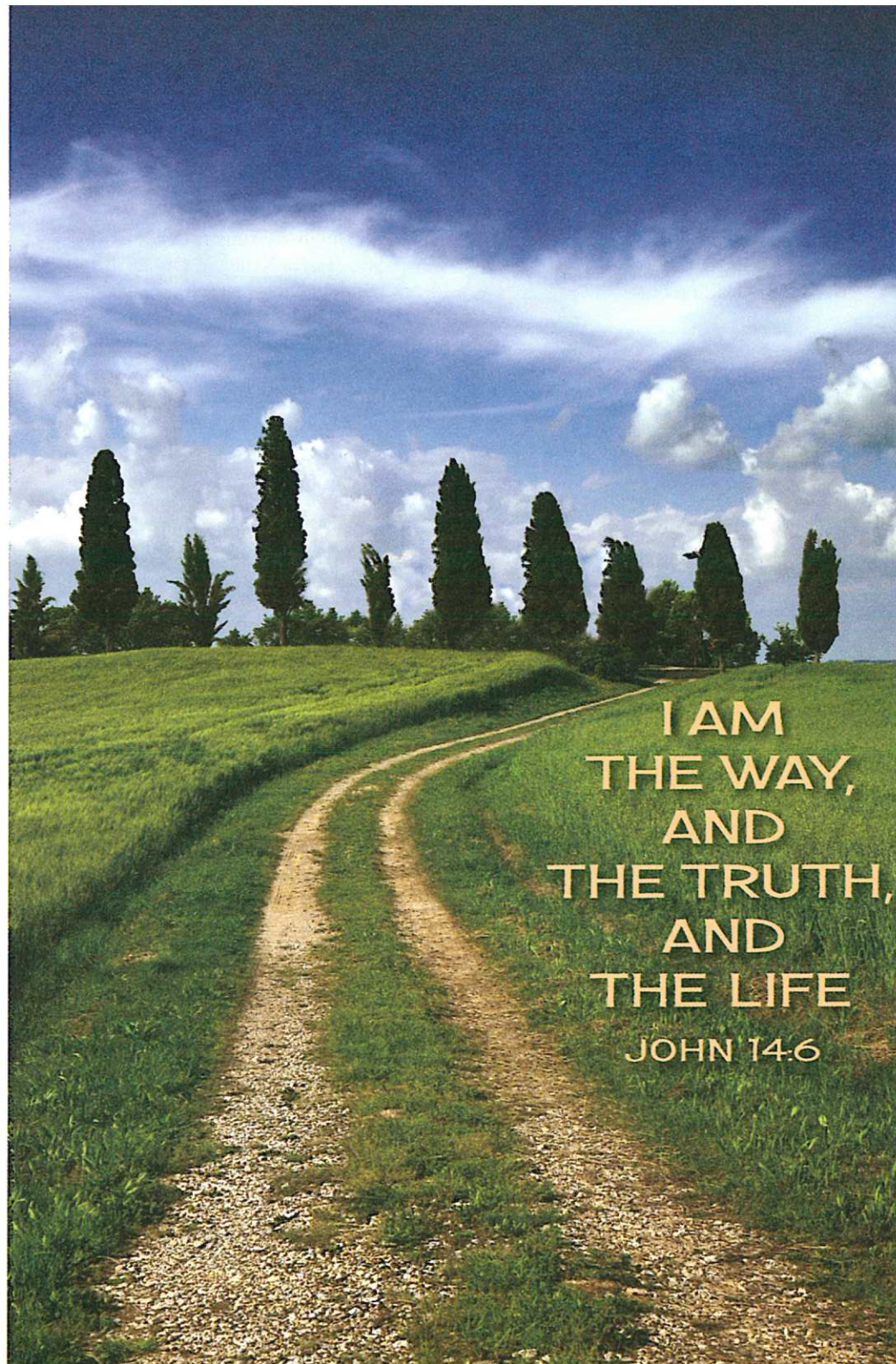
<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will 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.



**About the Cover:** We don't always make the best decisions when we're stressed. We panic and sometimes jump to conclusions. Sometimes, we are so afraid, we don't know what to think. Jesus tells the disciples that they know the way to where He is going. When Thomas doubts that, Jesus says, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life." Therefore, we are to have no doubt. We can depend on Jesus in everything and for everything.





# FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 10 & 14, 2017

Sharing, Believing, Living, Caring

St. Bartholomew Lutheran Church  
105 Horn St., Brillion, WI  
(920) 756-3031  
www.stbartbrillion.org

Rev. Mark L. Krueger, Pastor  
Wednesday: Devin Zahringer, Organist  
Sunday: Jessica Krueger, Organist  
Pastor Email: sblcpastor@gmail.com  
Secretary Email: sblcbrillion@gmail.com

Liturgy: Divine Service Setting One p. 151

Hymns: 633 vs. 1, 5-6, 8, 526, 805, "Stand Up, Stand Up for Mothers" (Tune: 660), 722

Sermon: "Our Way Home" John 14:1-6

## THE MEASURE OF OUR LOVE

Attendance 5/03 (Wed.): 39	Comm.: 38	Offering: \$1,410.00
Attendance 5/07 (Sun): 96	Comm.: 73	Offering: \$2,291.00
S.S. - 19	Staff - 8	B.C. - 6
Budget Needs: \$3,330.00	Scrip Profit 5/07: \$130.00	

## KINGDOM WORK THIS WEEK

WEDS (5/17) 7:00 p.m. Worship with Communion  
SUN (5/21) Youth Sunday  
8:00 a.m. S.S/ B.C. (Last day)  
9:00 a.m. Worship with Communion  
Graduate Sunday  
6:30 p.m. Youth Group

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given in God's glory by John Moede in memory of his son, Josh.

**TODAY'S BULLETINS** are sponsored by Jim & Florence Behnke in honor of their anniversary.

**NEW SCRIP AVAILABLE:** Looking for the perfect graduation gift. The following scrip cards are now available - \$5 & \$10 Barnes & Noble, \$5 Starbucks, \$10 Walmart.

**SUMMER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE** is May 22<sup>nd</sup>. This newsletter will cover the months of June-July-August, so please look ahead to any announcements you would like included in this issue.

**ROSE SALE** – For those who ordered roses for today (Sunday), you can pick them up from Janet Kalies.

**PASTOR SERVING VACANCY** at St. Peter, Hilbert. His duties will include preaching on Sundays, funerals, weddings, shut-ins, hospital calls, confirmation, and some meetings. He does not know how long the vacancy will last. During this time, Pastor Krueger will not have much time to talk with you after church. If you need to speak with him, give him a call, send an email, or stop in the office.

**IN THE CARD ROOM** are Mother's Day, Confirmation, & Graduation cards.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** will be June 7-9 from 9-11:30 a.m. – Register your children. Volunteer to help. Go to [www.vbsmate.com/stbartholomewbrillionwi](http://www.vbsmate.com/stbartholomewbrillionwi) or find the link on the church website. Register today!

**SAVE THE DATE: FAMILY WEEKEND AUGUST 11-23, 2017** – Join us for a weekend of family, food, fellowship, fun, and festivities! Family Weekend is an annual event to celebrate camp and what God is doing and has done at LuWiSoMo. This year we will be celebrating once again with the chicken BBQ, ping pong ball drop, cook out, and incredible fireworks. We will also have live entertainment and speaker Bob Lenz! Call today to book your lodging or visit [www.luwisomo.org](http://www.luwisomo.org) for more information or to register.

## **OUR STEWARDSHIP LIFE**

*1 Peter 2:9 "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 life." God has called us to be His own. He has chosen us out of love, out of mercy, out of sheer, diving joy. The Apostle says that God has done this that we may share in His glory and joy, that we may "proclaim the excellencies of Him" who has made us His own. And truly, this is our delight! His joy brings joy in our hearts as well.*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON:** Today in Sunday school, we studied "Jesus Appears in Galilee." We are all like Peter in our words and actions, denying our Lord and weeping bitterly over what we have done. We are in need of the same comfort that Peter received- The comfort of sins forgiven and the assurance that even though we are faithless, Jesus will remain faithful. You might discuss, "How did Peter express his sorrow and repentance? What specific directions did Jesus give to Peter?"