

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 3, 2026

As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

Weekly Update



1090 Sterling Road, Herndon, VA 20170
www.HolyCrossHerndon.org

Sunday, May 3, 2026

VISITORS: It is a joy to have you with us this morning. If you are looking for a church family, we hope you will consider Holy Cross. For more information, you can fill out a visitor form in the narthex, speak to an usher, or scan the QR code to the right.



FAMILIES: Children are always welcome at our worship services! There's also a small play area in the Narthex where you can hear the broadcasted service.

WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

For additions or updates, email Admin@HolyCrossHerndon.org
Names are removed after one month unless advised otherwise.

OUR CONGREGATION

Juliana Roe Beck | Bonnie Burton | Terry & Linda Butler | Joy Caveney
Joel Flegal | Roy Geiger | Otto Jacobson | Reed Morgan | Mike Muller
Craig Reichow | Jeremy Shoop | Tuula Toney | Cherie Weatherhead

THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Riley Morgan | Thomas Newcomb | Collin Reichow
Friends of Thomas Newcomb currently serving in Iran

RELATIVES AND FRIENDS OF THE CONGREGATION

Erin Barden (sister of Andrew Barden)
Jane Campbell (friend of Cheryl Smith)
Gianna Carter (granddaughter of Sam & Sharon Carter)
Don and Liz Gober (friends of Craig Reichow)
Madilyn Gross (cousin of Desirae Peral)
Uwe Gutschmidt (nephew of Ellen Atwell)
Matt Kim (friend of John & Tammy Breene)
Michael Levrini (friend of Jared Lem)
Georgia Kirby and Cain Mason (friends of Cherie Weatherhead)
Phyllis Krapf (wife of Dick Krapf)
Don Kress (friend of Helen and Gary Wolfe)
Dale, John, and Jeff MacPherson (friends of Jared Lem)
Sue Mason (sister of Pam Darby)
Sharon Massen & Dorie Miller (friends of Craig Reichow)
Lisa Nolf (friend of Jared Lem)
Jim Pollock (godfather of Andrew Barden)
Anne Marie Berardi Rabinowitz (friend of Tonya Elliott)
Tracy Radican (daughter of former HCLC pastor, Pastor Harper)
Dylan Roe (nephew of Mark & Jo Roe)
John Smith (brother-in-law of Cheryl Smith)
Joseph Strada (father of daughter-in-law of Sam & Sharon Carter)
Nancy and Steven Swancutt (sister and brother of Lynn Russo)
Diana Todd (friend of the Russos)
Bernadette Stevenson Williams (friend of the Roe family)

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Supply Pastor: Rev. Pam Mitcham
Director of Music and Liturgy: Jeremy Shoop
Sound Technician: Bob Thompson
Video Technician: Sylvia Moran

Serving May 3rd: Fifth Sunday of Easter

Assisting Minister: Matthew Andersen
Reader: Kristin Andersen
Acolyte: Sarah Moran
Greeter: Cheryl Smith

Serving May 10th: Sixth Sunday of Easter

Assisting Minister: TBD
Reader: TBD
Acolyte: TBD
Greeter: TBD

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE: MAY 3 – MAY 10

SU 3	9:00 am	Kingdom Kids & Kingdom Angels ~ Choir Stall
	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School ~ Conference Rm
	10:00 am	Worship – Fifth Sunday of Easter
	11:00 am	Fellowship & Coffee ~ FH
	1:00 pm	Bldg. Use: Christian Missionary ~ FH
TU 5	6:30 pm	Fiber Arts Group ~ Conference Rm
	6:30 pm	Bldg. Use: Boy Scouts Troop 12
W 6	11:30 am	Lunch for the Soul ~ FH
	7:00 pm	ELL ~ Education Wing
TH 7	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal ~ Sanctuary
	8:00 pm	Bell Rehearsal ~ Sanctuary
SA 9	8:00 am	Bldg. Use: Herndon's Women AA ~ Rm 204
	11:00 am	Bldg. Use: Called2Be 7 th Day Adventist ~ FH
SU 10	9:00 am	Kingdom Kids & Kingdom Angels ~ Choir Stall
	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School ~ Conference Rm
	10:00 am	Worship – Sixth Sunday of Easter
	11:00 am	Fellowship & Coffee ~ FH
	11:30 am	HUGS Group ~ Conference Rm
	1:00 pm	Bldg. Use: Christian Missionary ~ FH

JULY 4TH – WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Over the past few years, our July 4 block party has grown into something truly special. What started as a simple gathering has become a vibrant evening of music, food, laughter, and community—culminating in one of the best views of the town fireworks right from our own property.

With that growth has come a wonderful opportunity... and a real need.

This event now takes more hands, more ideas, and more coordination than a small group can realistically carry on their own. To continue offering the kind of welcoming, joyful experience our community has come to expect, we're looking to form a **planning team** to help shape and support this year's celebration.

There are so many ways to be involved:

- Helping coordinate food and ice cream trucks
- Organizing lawn games and activities
- Assisting with setup and hospitality
- Supporting music and logistics
- Thinking creatively about how we welcome our neighbors

Whether you love planning, organizing, or just want to pitch in where needed, your presence makes a difference. If you've ever enjoyed this event—or thought, "This is such a great thing our church does"—this is your invitation to help bring it to life.

Please reach out (MusicDir@HolyCrossHerndon.org) if you're willing to be part of the planning team. We'll gather soon to start shaping this year's celebration together.

FINANCE REPORT – MARCH 2026

<u>March 2026</u>	<u>Year to Date – 2026</u>
<u>Operating Fund</u>	<u>Operating Fund</u>
Income: \$ 40,861.78	Income: \$ 106,750.29
Expenses: \$ 27,065.06	Expenses: \$ 85,309.80
Net Balance: +\$ 13,796.72	Net Balance: + \$ 21,440.49



Lunch for the Soul

Next HCLC Host Date: Wednesday, May 6th



Breakfast for lunch? Lunch for the Soul will be serving up breakfast at our next host day on Wednesday, May 6! Sign up to come early (9:30 am) to help prepare pancakes, sausage, and more. We'll also need regular items like water, fruit, and toppings. Join us for a fun time in the kitchen!



Sign up: perfectpotluck.com/YEEI1717

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

As the Easter season continues, so does the celebration of flowers in the sanctuary, reminding us of God's enduring faithfulness.

There are slots available to dedicate flowers in the coming weeks. Up to two vases can be dedicated each Sunday. Scan the QR code and sign up to celebrate a life event or remember a loved one.



NOTARY SERVICES



Marie (one of our Church Administrators) is available to provide notary services for members of the congregation. If you need a document notarized, please contact the office to make arrangements (Admin@HolyCrossHerndon.org or 703-437-1883). She is happy to assist!

HOME COMMUNION

If you or a loved one is unable to attend worship due to illness, age, or mobility issues, and would like to receive Communion, you can schedule a visit by contacting the office at Admin@HolyCrossHerndon.org or 703-437-1883.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church Welcomes ALL!

Holy Cross Lutheran Church joyfully affirms and celebrates that every person is a beloved child of God. We welcome all who are seeking God's boundless love and sustaining grace into full community with us at Holy Cross. As disciples of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves to breaking down barriers and systems that divide God's children working to be a space committed to racial equality for God's people and to building a community where all are recognized as part of Christ's new creation.



We welcome you, and you are safe with us...
 Whatever your race, ethnicity, or heritage;
 Whatever your relationship status;
 We welcome you, and you are safe with us...

Whatever your sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, or gender expression;
 Whatever your socio-economic status;
 We welcome you, and you are safe with us...

Whatever your age and life circumstance;
 Whatever your physical and mental ability.
 You are a beloved child of God, you are valued, and you are welcome here.

What to Expect in Worship

Worship services can be intimidating for newcomers. While we try to make worship as accessible as possible for everyone, we know that some aspects can be confusing. Feel free to ask an usher or someone near you for help if you have any questions today. We are happy to help and want all voices to be included in praise to God.

Our worship style is traditional at Holy Cross. A full liturgy is used to focus our praise and prayers to God. Notes are included in the side gutter of the bulletin to explain why we use the various liturgical elements. Communion is celebrated every Sunday at Holy Cross. The table (altar) is not our table, but Christ's table. Just as Christ welcomes all, all are welcome to receive communion at Holy Cross. Pastor will give instructions on how we celebrate communion at that part of the service. Written instructions are also included at that point in the bulletin.

Throughout the year we emphasize each liturgical season differently to mark the passage of time. Liturgical texts change to reflect aspects of that season, some elements are removed or added to reflect the mood of that season, and colors used to decorate the chancel are changed to provide visual reminders of the current season.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Transforming the world & ourselves, together in community, fellowship, and faith.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2026 | 10:00 AM



WE GATHER



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Please stand as you are able.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen
 Assembly: **Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

Pastor: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb! Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

Assembly: **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Pastor: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

Assembly: **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

We gather for worship with one of Easter's great hymns of proclamation, first published by Charles Wesley in 1739. Its repeated "Alleluia" gives the assembly a voice of resurrection joy, even as today's readings remind us that Easter faith is not escape from suffering but confidence in Christ's victory within it. Like Stephen in Acts, we sing with our eyes fixed on the risen Christ.

Pastor: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

Assembly: **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Pastor: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. To you be all honor and praise, now and forever.

Assembly: **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!

1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 Christ, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Chris - tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!

Chris - tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!
 God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!
 all your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!

of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!
 when con - tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!

at the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!
 now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!
 met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!
 now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: attr. Wipo of Burgundy, d. c. 1050; tr. Jane E. Leeson, 1807–1882, alt.
 Music: LLANFAIR, Robert Williams, 1781–1821

GREETING

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Assembly: **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Assembly: **And also with you.**

KYRIE

(Setting 9)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

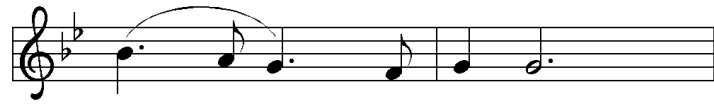
Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of

God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



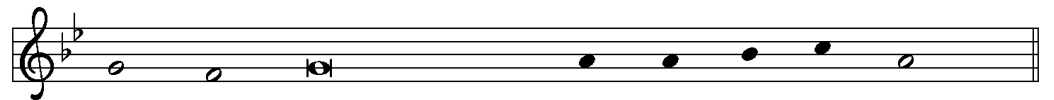
For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and



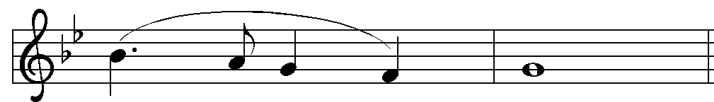
praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

(Setting 9)



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and join in the hymn of

all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to

God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,

for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The prayer of the day, based on the prayer for the sixth Sunday of Easter in the 1985 Book of Alternative Services of the Anglican Church of Canada, expands on "way, truth, and life" as the presence of Christ in the lives of believers.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Assembly: Amen.

Please sit.



WE HEAR GOD'S WORD



ANTHEM

Passacaglia in c minor
Joyful Ringers

by Fred Gramman

LISTENING WITH CHILDREN'S EARS

FIRST READING

Acts 7:55-60

Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.

Reader: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

⁵⁵ Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

Reader: Word of God, word of life.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

1 Peter 2:2-10

Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.

Reader: A reading from the first letter of Peter:

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

⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual

The Acts readings in Year A now skip to the narrative of the martyrdom of Stephen. The resurrection opens the church to share in both the Holy Spirit and the sufferings of Christ. Since the fourth century, the church has commemorated the martyrdom of Stephen on the day after Christmas, for the coming of Christ may bring about the death of his servants. Expressing Luke's Christology, Stephen addresses the same prayer to the Lord Jesus that on the cross Jesus had addressed to God; the risen Christ is God for us.

Year A now backtracks in 1 Peter to hear a richly metaphoric description of the Christian community. Now we, the community of the resurrection, are the

infants fed on God's milk, the building erected on the cornerstone of Christ, a nation of priests invited to approach the Almighty, a people enjoying divine light.

sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,”

⁸ and

“A stone that makes them stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.”

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

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

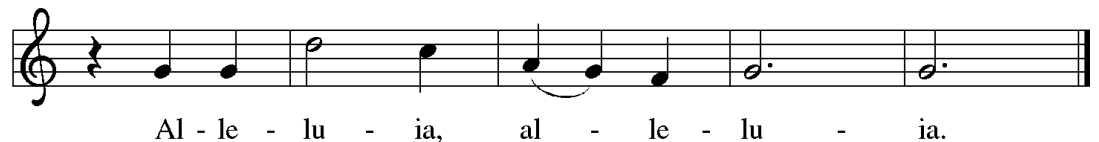
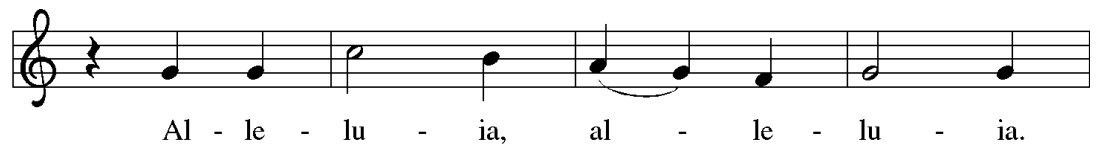
¹⁰ Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

Reader: Word of God, word of life.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Repeat alleluia

Placed in John's gospel as a commentary on the crucifixion as constituting Jesus' glorification, John 14 is appointed during the Easter season as if the discourse applies also to the ascension, which is not recorded in John. On Sunday we see the Son in his body, and so we are seeing also the Father.

GOSPEL

John 14:1-14

On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.

Pastor: The Gospel according to John the 14th chapter.
Assembly: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰ 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, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.
Assembly: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please sit.

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

George W. Doane's hymn draws directly from Jesus' words in John 14: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life." The text unfolds each of these titles, inviting us to trust Christ not only as a teacher or guide, but as the very path by which we come to the Father. In a world of uncertainty, this hymn gives sturdy, theological language to Jesus' promise: "Do not let your hearts be troubled."

HYMN OF THE DAY

You Are the Way

1 You are the way; to you a - lone from sin and death we flee;
 2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
 3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;
 4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,

all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.
 you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
 and those who put their trust in you not 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.
 Music: DUNDEE, *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1615

APOSTLES' CREED

Assisting Minister: With the whole church let us profess our faith,
 Assembly: **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the
 dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

	Assisting Minister:	Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.
<i>We pray for the greater church.</i>	Assisting Minister:	God of glory, you have built your church on Christ the cornerstone. Inspire lay leaders, deacons, pastors, and bishops to proclaim forgiveness and your steadfast love to all whom they encounter. Merciful God,
	Assembly:	receive our prayer.
<i>We pray for creation.</i>	Assisting Minister:	God of majesty, you bring forth plants and animals, skies and seas, mountains and valleys. Protect all you have made from the ravages of pollution and climate disaster. Merciful God,
	Assembly:	receive our prayer.
<i>We pray for justice.</i>	Assisting Minister:	God of mercy, you intend governments and social service agencies to be instruments of peace and justice. Guide political leaders and organizations to be agents of compassion, and raise up advocates for those who seek refuge and assistance. Merciful God,
	Assembly:	receive our prayer.
<i>We pray for those in need.</i>	Assisting Minister:	God of well-being, you soothe those in distress, console all who grieve, provide for any in need, and comfort those who are sick (<i>the assembly offers names</i>). Instill caregivers with a sense of purpose to be your healing hands in this world. Merciful God,
	Assembly:	receive our prayer.
<i>We pray for this congregation.</i>	Assisting Minister:	God of community, you call us together as your people for mutual support and to witness to your love in the world. Make your presence known among those unable to attend worship today. Merciful God,
	Assembly:	receive our prayer.

We remember the saints.

Assisting Minister: God of eternal life, you have prepared dwelling places for your people, so that we are never separated from you. We give you thanks for the faithful departed who witnessed to your mighty acts in word and deed. Merciful God,
Assembly: **receive our prayer.**

Pastor: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Assembly: **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Assembly: **And also with you.**

Please sit.

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

On Earth Has Dawned This Day of Days
 Sanctuary Choir

arr. Hal Hopson

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY

(Stanza 4)

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

The sharing of The Peace is an ancient ritual that puts us right with our neighbors before we offer our gifts to God.

praise him, all you heav'n-ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4
 Music: EASTER HYMN, J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus,

Assembly: **Amen.**



WE COME TO GOD'S TABLE



GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Assembly: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Assembly: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

Pastor: It is our duty and delight... and join their unending hymn.

SANCTUS

(Setting 9)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
 might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION**LORD'S PRAYER**

Assembly: **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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Pastor: Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

Please sit.

DISTRIBUTION

*This is Christ's table of welcome. Jesus invites **all** who are hungry and thirsty for unconditional love and acceptance to come to God's banquet. The ushers will direct you forward at the appropriate time. Communion will be by station. The pastor will be in the center with the bread. All the bread we use here is gluten free. On either side will be someone with a tray of red wine and white grape juice. Empty cups can be placed in the basket on either side of the aisle. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of communion, cross your arms on your chest.*

AGNUS DEI

(Setting 9)

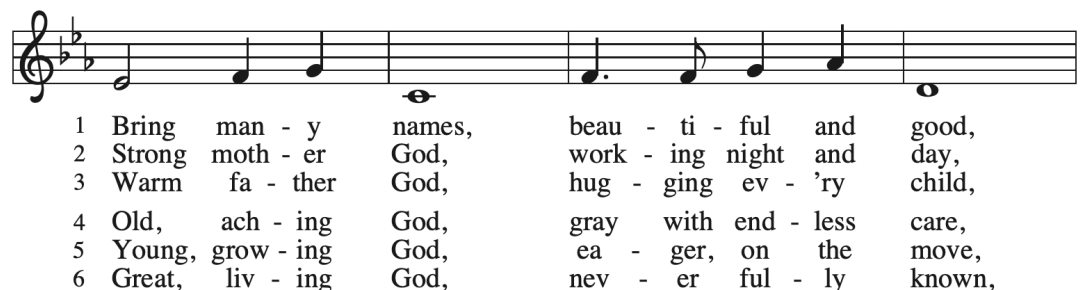


Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Brian Wren's text expands our imagination for God through a series of vivid, relational images. Paired with today's reading from 1 Peter, which describes the church as "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation," this hymn

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Bring Many Names



1	Bring	man - y	names,	beau - ti - ful	and	good,
2	Strong	moth - er	God,	work - ing	night	and
3	Warm	fa - ther	God,	hug - ging	ev - 'ry	child,
4	Old,	ach - ing	God,	gray	with	end - less
5	Young,	grow - ing	God,	ea - ger,	on	the
6	Great,	liv - ing	God,	nev - er	ful - ly	known,

reminds us that God's people are gathered from many stories, names, and experiences into one living spiritual house. Its language invites wonder at the God who is beyond any single image, yet intimately known in Christ.



cel - e - brate, in par - a - ble and sto - ry, ho - li - ness in
plan - ning all the won - ders of cre - a - tion, set - ting each e -
feel - ing all the strains of hu - man liv - ing, car - ing and for -
calm - ly pierc - ing e - vil's new dis - guis - es, glad of good sur -
say - ing no to false - hood and un - kind - ness, cry - ing out for
joy - ful dark - ness far be - yond our see - ing, clos - er yet than



glo - ry, liv - ing, lov - ing God. Hail and ho -
qua - tion, gen - i - us at play: Hail and ho -
giv - ing till we're rec - on - ciled: Hail and ho -
pris - es, wis - er than de - spair: Hail and ho -
jus - tice, giv - ing all you have: Hail and ho -
breath - ing, ev - er - last - ing home: Hail and ho -



san - na! Bring man - y names!
san - na, strong moth - er God!
san - na, warm fa - ther God!
san - na, old, ach - ing God!
san - na, young, grow - ing God!
san - na, 6 great, liv - ing God!

Text: Brian Wren, b. 1936
Music: WESTCHASE, Carlton R. Young, b. 1926
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This communion hymn continues the Easter refrain, centering our praise on the risen Christ who is present with us now. Its simple, repeated structure makes the assembly's song feel almost like prayer: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. As we come to the table, we give thanks that the risen Christ still feeds, gathers, and sends us.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks



Al le lu ia, al le lu ia, give thanks to the ris en Lord; al le



lu ia, al le lu ia give praise to his name.



Jes us is Lord of all the earth;
Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
We have been cru ci fied with Christ;
God has pro claimed the just re ward:
Come, let us praise the liv ing God,



he is the king of cre a tion.
Jes us has died and has ris en.
now we shall live for ev er.
life for all peo ple, for al le lu ia.
joy ful ly sing to our Sav ior.

Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Assembly: **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,

Assembly: **Amen.**

SENDING OF COMMUNION

Pastor: Gracious God, you took the form of a servant, offering yourself as food, comfort, and strength to a sick and hurting world. Anoint with a servant heart those who take your word and sacrament to our siblings in their homes and in hospitals. Grant grace, mercy, healing, and hope to those who feast on your body and blood and receive your words of new life. May we all recognize that we have a place and a home in the body of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Assembly: **Amen.**





WE ARE SENT FORTH TO SERVE



Brian Wren wrote this hymn in 1968 after the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., offering an Easter proclamation in the face of grief, violence, and injustice. That history resonates deeply with Stephen's martyrdom in Acts: resurrection faith does not deny suffering, but insists that Christ is alive and at work within the wounded world. We are sent out singing not only that Christ was raised, but that Christ is alive now.

SENDING HYMN

Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and

prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789

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BENEDICTION

Pastor: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, † bless you now and forever.

Assembly: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Assisting Minister: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

Assembly: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

As part of our continuous efforts to make worship more inclusive and sensory friendly, we ask that you refrain from applauding during worship and after the postlude.

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THIS WEEK'S COMMEMORATIONS

Monica, mother of Augustine, died 387

Monday, May 4, 2026

Monica was married to a pagan husband who was ill-tempered and unfaithful, but whom she helped bring into the Christian faith. She repeated the influence on her son Augustine, who went on to become one of the greatest church teachers.

Julian of Norwich, renewer of the church, died around 1416

Friday, May 8, 2026

When she was about thirty years old, Julian (or Juliana) reported visions that she later compiled into a book, *Sixteen Revelations of Divine Love*, now a classic of medieval mysticism. The visions declared that love was the meaning of religious experience, provided by Christ who is love, for the purpose of love.

Victor the Moor, martyr, died 303

Friday, May 8, 2026

Also known as Victor Maurus, this native of the northwest African nation of Mauritania was a soldier in the Roman Praetorian Guard. Under the persecution of Maximian, Victor died for his faith at Milan.

**Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, renewer of the church,
hymnwriter, died 1760**

Saturday, May 9, 2026

When he was 22, a group of Moravians asked permission to live on Zinzendorf's land. He agreed, and eventually worldwide Moravian missions emanated from this community. Zinzendorf participated in these missions, and is also remembered for writing hymns characteristic of his Pietistic faith.

FROM THE CLOUD OF WITNESSES

In today's first reading Luke describes the martyrdom of Stephen, a first-century deacon, whose tasks for the church included assistance for the poor (see Acts 6:1-6). The great Rembrandt is one of many artists who painted this narrative. In 1625 Rembrandt depicted Stephen attired as a seventeenth-century deacon, vested for his assistant's role at the altar.



There is a hearing-assistance system (induction loop) in the Sanctuary for those with hearing impairments. Please ask an usher for instructions.

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