



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE

YOU ONCE WERE NOT A PEOPLE
BUT NOW YOU ARE THE
PEOPLE OF GOD

1 PETER 2:10

Knowing-Jesus.com

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 3, 2026

WELCOME! TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S HOLY COMMUNION



For baptized Christians (Matthew 28:19) who have been instructed in the faith (Galatians 6:6), The Lord's Supper is our participation in the body and blood of Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 10:16), as the one body of Christ (1 Corinthians 10:17), to receive forgiveness of sin (Matthew 26:28) and to proclaim the Lord's death until He comes (1 Corinthians 11:26).

So that those who partake of the Lord's Supper do so in a worthy manner (1 Corinthians 11:27) and not to their harm (1 Corinthians 11:29), let us each examine ourselves (1 Corinthians 11:28):

- Do you believe that you are a sinner? That you have sinned in thought, word and deed?
- Are you sorry for your sin?
- Do you trust that Jesus Christ gives forgiveness of sin through His Supper?
- Do you believe that the body and blood of Jesus are present in, with and under the bread and wine?
- Do you seek to lead godly lives by the power of the Holy Spirit?

Please speak to a pastor or usher if you have questions. Gluten-free wafers are provided upon request. Non-alcoholic grape juice is provided in the center of each communion tray. Those who are not communing may come forward for a blessing from the pastor.

AS WE GATHER



Since 1986, voice actor Tom Bodett has had his career defined with a one-line promotion for the Motel 6 hotel chain. He always ends his commercials for the company with a simple line stating "we'll leave the light on for you." Having an assured place to be going to can be encouraging and comforting. As Jesus speaks with His disciples, we hear Him reassure them and us that He will be in His Father's house, the heavenly place where lights are not even necessary. In the Revelation to John, we have this insight about our God's eternal city: "And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb" (Revelation 21:23). In "Jerusalem the Golden," medieval monk Bernard of Cluny writes of the "radiancy of glory" and the "bliss beyond compare" that are in store for God's redeemed people there (*LSB* 672:1). As we share in the foretaste of the feast to come through our worship, we can only imagine what joys still await us.

THE PRELUDE

THE TOLLING OF THE BELL & WELCOME

INVOCATION HYMN

645 Built on the Rock



1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand E - ven when
2 Sure - ly in tem - ples made with hands God, the Most
3 We are God's house of liv - ing stones, Built for His



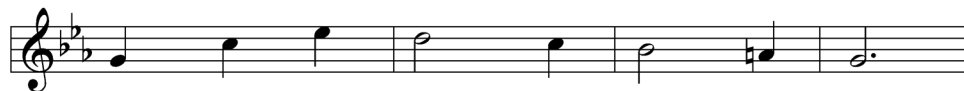
stee - ples are fall - ing. Crum - bled have spires in
High, is not dwell - ing; High a - bove earth His
own hab - i - ta - tion. He through bap - tis - mal



ev - 'ry land; Bells still are chim - ing and call -
tem - ple stands, All earth - ly tem - ples ex - cel -
grace us owns Heirs of His won - drous sal - va -



ing, Call - ing the young and old to rest,
ling. Yet He who dwells in heav'n a - bove
tion. Were we but two His name to tell,



But a - bove all the souls dis - tressed,
Choos - es to live with us in love,
Yet He would deign with us to dwell



Long - ing for rest ev - er - last - ing.
Mak - ing our bod - ies His tem - ple.
With all His grace and His fa - vor.

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Ghost.

C Amen.

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward

men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,

we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;

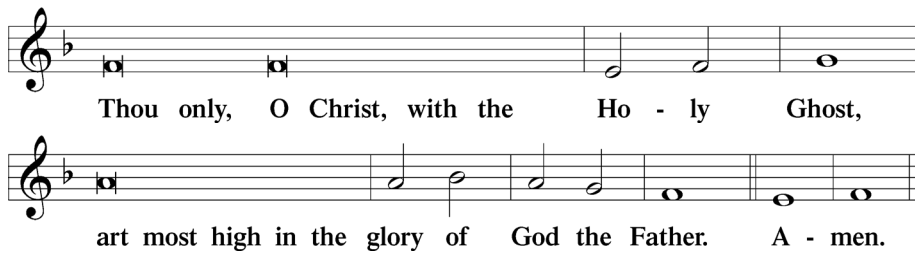
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.



Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

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 A - men.

Sit

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.**

PSALM

Psalm 146

A Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!
I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

C **Put not your trust in princes,
in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.
When his breath departs he returns to the earth;
on that very day his plans perish.**

A Blessèd is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD his God,
who made heaven and earth,

the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever;
who executes justice for the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry.

C The LORD sets the prisoners free;
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.

A The LORD watches over the sojourners;
he upholds the widow and the fatherless,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

C The LORD will reign forever,
your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!

EPISTLE

1 Peter 2:2–10

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.



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 14:1-14

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



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹[Jesus 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.



1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
 2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.
 3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.



I want to fol - low Je - sus.
 I want to look at Je - sus.
 I want to be with Je - sus.



God set the stars to give light to the world.
 Clear Sun of Righ - teous - ness, shine on my path,
 When we have run with pa - tience the race,



The star of my life is Je - sus.
 And show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 We shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In Him there is no dark - ness at all.



The night and the day are both a - like.



The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.



Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text and tune: Kathleen Thomerson, 1934–2025

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Stand

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
Being of one substance with the Father,
By whom all things were made;
Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried;
and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost,
The Lord and Giver of Life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spake by the Prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and Apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life **✝** of the world to come. Amen.

Kneel

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray to God on behalf of the Church and all people in their various needs. You told Peter, "What God has made clean, do not call common." Remember those people on the margins of society, O Lord; provide caring people and

institutions, open doors of opportunity, and free them from the results of their past poor decisions. Bridegroom of the Church, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Peter and the others recognized that they could not “stand in God’s way.” Guide the Church’s clergy and lay leaders here and around the world to seek Your will, Lord Jesus, working together creatively to find new ways to spread the Gospel in accord with Your will. Bridegroom of the Church, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Holy Lord, in John’s vision You proclaimed, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Graciously work through the talents and knowledge of meteorologists, naturalists, engineers, and visionaries as they seek to find ways to renew the health of this planet. Grant that seedtime and harvest, sun and rain produce bountiful harvests that we all rejoice in Your many blessings. Bridegroom of the Church, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Lord over all, as You foretold, often we “will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice,” so we see injustice, oppression, constant warfare, and unrest in many nations. Raise up wise leaders intent on serving their citizens, police and first responders focused on maintaining the peace, and armed forces determined to reestablish calm. Bridegroom of the Church, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.




P Gracious Savior, by the faith given us by the Holy Spirit, we look forward to the wedding feast of the Lamb, who will end mourning, crying, and pain. Before we enter that time of rejoicing, we bring the petitions of people near and dear to us as they call out in sorrow, through tears and enduring pain, [*especially...*]. As fits Your gracious plans, give them peace, joy, and relief. Bridegroom of the Church, in Your mercy.

C hear our prayer.

P Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting that You have heard us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

OFFERING

Ways to Give	IN-PERSON	MAIL	ONLINE VANCO		Zelle directpay@stjohnslagrange.org	
		505 S Park Road La Grange IL 60525				

Stand

OFFERTORY

Psalm 51:10-12




C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

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



C It is meet and right so to do.

PROPER PREFACE

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

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C 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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He brake it and gave it to His disciples saying "Take eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

After the same manner also, He took the cup when He had supped, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the New Testament in My Blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. This do, as oft ye drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

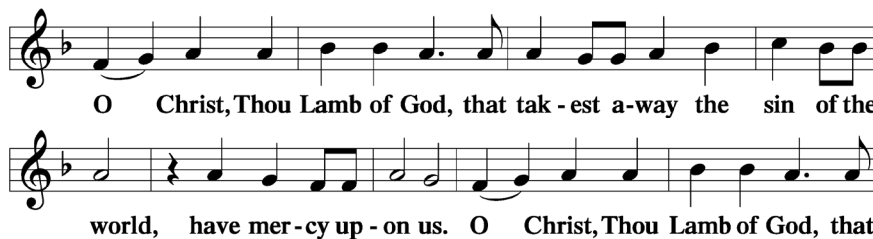


C A - - - - - men.

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 (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).

AGNUS DEI

John 1:29



tak - est a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.
 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the
 world, grant us Thy peace. A - - - men.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

846 Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old

1 Your hand, O Lord, in days of old
 2 Your touch then, Lord, brought life and health,
 3 O be our great de - liv - 'er still,
 Was strong to heal and save; It tri - umphed o - ver
 Gave speech and strength and sight; And youth re - newed and
 The Lord of life and death; Re - store and quick - en,
 ills and death, O'er dark - ness and the grave.
 fren - zy calmed Re - vealed You, Lord of light.
 soothe and bless, With Your life - giv - ing breath.
 To You they came, the blind, the mute,
 And now, O Lord, be near to bless,
 To hands that work and eyes that see
 The pal - sied and the lame, The lep - ers in their
 Al - might - y as be - fore, In crowd - ed street, by
 Give wis - dom's heal - ing pow'r That whole and sick and



mis - er - y, The sick with fe - vered frame.
 beds of pain, As by Gen - nes - 'ret's shore.
 weak and strong May praise You ev - er - more.

722 Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me



1 Lord, take my hand and lead me Up - on life's way;
 2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear,
 3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en And night has come,



Di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me From day to day.
 For You, the Rock of A - ges, Are al - ways near.
 I know that You will strength - en My steps toward home.



With - out Your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;
 Close by Your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,
 Then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend;



So take my hand, O Sav - ior, And lead the way.
 For when Your hand is guid - ing, In peace I go.
 So take my hand and lead me Un - to the end.

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 Tune: P. Friedrich Silcher, 1789–1860
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Stand

THE DISMISSAL

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
 cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
 which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
 a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
 peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

THANKSGIVING

Psalm 107:1

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another;

through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

BENEDICAMUS

P Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

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 A-men, a-men, a - men.



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
 2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
 3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
 sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
 an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um-phant go
 vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE



SERVING IN WORSHIP

Rev. Ron Weidler, Homilist

Rev. Mark Stapleton, Liturgist

Dr. Marc Brunelle, Director of Music/Organist

Sue Kunz, Lector | 8:00am

Bonnie Kane, Lector | 10:45am

ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving honor of Pastor Mark's birthday on May 7, by his mom, LaVerna Stapleton.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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