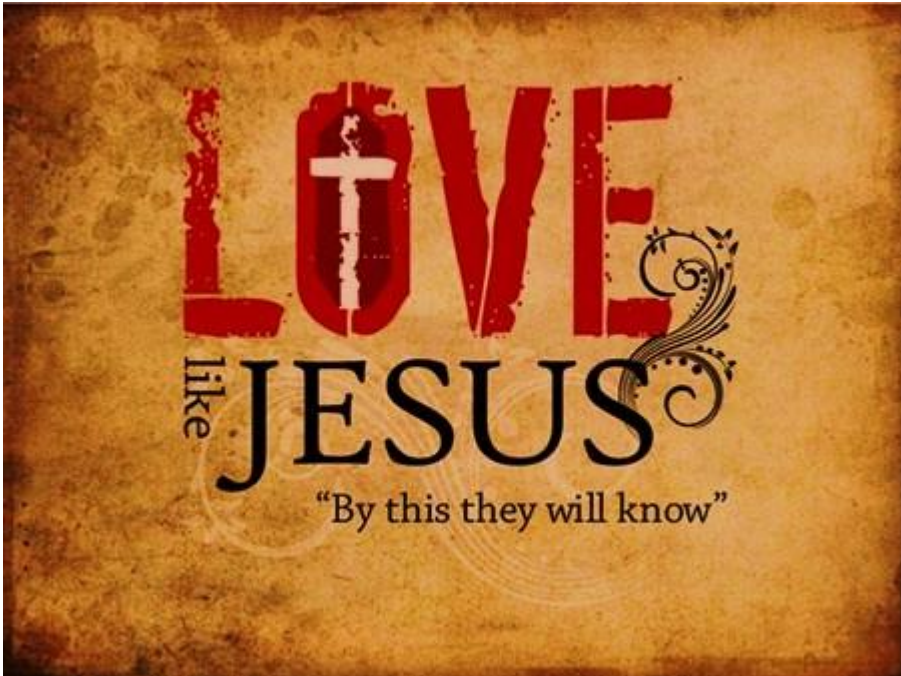


st. John's

Serving Christ & Community! Serving you!



Fifth Sunday Of Easter

May 17/18, 2025

As We Gather

The Fifth Sunday of Easter bears the traditional name of Cantate, from the Introit's "Oh sing to the Lord a new song." Not only people but all creation is urged to break out in song. Throughout our worship today we will do just that, for the resurrection news cannot be left to quiet contemplation. Though it was difficult for Peter to convince the others, when they realized Gentiles had received the Spirit, they rejoiced. The vision of heaven in Revelation has no more pain or sorrow; what can be left but joyful singing?

Jesus' telling the disciples to love one another seems an impossible command, but He was reminding them how greatly God has loved them. That realization can only call for singing! So much of today's worship includes familiar hymn stanzas to share the joy inside.

Chimes and Prelude

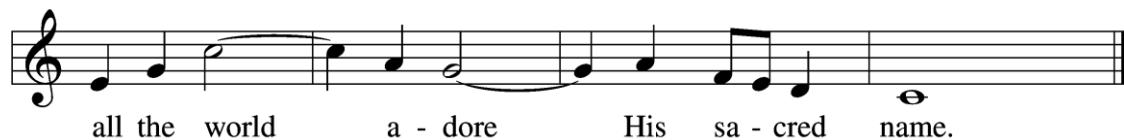
Please Stand

Opening Hymn

"Lift High The Cross"

LSB 837 (sts 1,2,4,6)

Refrain



1	Come,	Chris - tians,	fol - low	where	our	Cap - tain	trod,
2	Led	on their	way	this	tri - um - phant	sign,	
4	O	Lord, once	lift - ed	on	the glo - rious	tree,	
6	So	shall our	song	of	tri - umph ev - er	be:	



Our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 The hosts of God in con - qu'ring ranks com-bine.
 As Thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to Thee.
 Praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956, alt. Tune: Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947
 Text and tune: © 1974 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001315

Invocation and Call to Worship

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

C **Amen.**

P Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things!

C **His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.**

P The Lord has made known His salvation;

C **He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

P Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;

C **break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

Confession and Absolution

P We have come together to praise and thank God for His overwhelming grace and mercy. Singing and rejoicing are natural for us, but we cannot come to God with our sins and failures. Let us therefore confess our sins and ask for mercy for the sake of Christ.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P God has called you to life, He has given His Son to pay for your sins, and He has given you and all believers in Christ the faith to trust all His promises. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

First Reading

Acts 11:1-18

- 11** The apostles and the believers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. ² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him ³ and said, "You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them."
- ⁴ Starting from the beginning, Peter told them the whole story: ⁵ "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance, I saw a vision. I saw something like a large sheet being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to where I was. ⁶ I looked into it and saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, reptiles and birds. ⁷ Then I heard a voice telling me, 'Get up, Peter. Kill and eat.' ⁸ "I replied, 'Surely not, Lord! Nothing impure or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' ⁹ "The voice spoke from heaven a second time, 'Do not call anything impure that God has made clean.' ¹⁰ This happened three times, and then it was all pulled up to heaven again.
- ¹¹ "Right then three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea stopped at the house where I was staying. ¹² The Spirit told me to have no hesitation about going with them. These six brothers also went with me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³ He told us how he had seen an angel appear in his house and say, 'Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. ¹⁴ He will bring you a message through which you and all your household will be saved.'
- ¹⁵ "As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the beginning. ¹⁶ Then I remembered what the Lord had said: 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷ So if God gave them the same gift he gave us who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to think that I could stand in God's way?"
- ¹⁸ When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, "So then, even to Gentiles God has granted repentance that leads to life."

Epistle

Revelation 21:1-7

21 Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ² I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the

throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴ 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

⁵ He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

⁶ He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. ⁷ Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God, and they will be my children.



Choir

"Sorrow to Joy"

by Joseph M Martin

Please Stand

Holy Gospel

John 13:31-35

³¹ When he was gone, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man is glorified and God is glorified in him. ³² If God is glorified in him, ^[a] God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once.

³³ "My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come.

³⁴ "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

The Third Article of the Apostles' Creed with Meaning

P *Sanctification*

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.

What does this mean?

C I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.

In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.

On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

This is most certainly true.

Please Be Seated

Sermon Hymn

“My Jesus I Love Thee”

Verse 1

My Jesus, I love Thee, I know
Thou art mine;
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign;
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior
art Thou;
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

Verse 2

I love thee, because Thou hast
first loved me,
And purchased my pardon on
Calvary's tree;
I love Thee for wearing the
thorns on Thy brow;
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

Verse 3

I'll love Thee in life, I will love
Thee in death,
And praise Thee as long as Thou
lendest me breath;
And say when the death dew lies
cold on my brow;
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

Verse 4

In mansions of glory and
endless delight,
I'll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright;
I'll sing with the glittering crown
on my brow;
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus,
'tis now.

- 1) We must love by ... being OPEN
- 2) Living our Lord's love means ... we SACRIFICE
- 3) Love is not invisible; it tells the world ... WHO YOU ARE and ...
- 4) DEMONSTRATES the Master's Death

Responsive Hymn**"I Love You Lord and I Lift My Voice"****Chorus**

I love You Lord, And I lift my voice
To worship You, O my soul rejoice
Take joy my King, In what You hear
May it be a sweet sweet sound, In Your ear

CCLI Song # 25266 Laurie Klein © 1978, 1980 House Of Mercy Music. For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use.
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Offering (Please place in the Box located in the Narthex)

Blessing of our 2025 High School Graduates – 10:30 a.m.



KATIE COBINE & SYLVIA SCHNOOR

**Prayers of the Church**

- [P]** Let us pray for ourselves, the church around the world, and all people in their various conditions.

For ourselves, that the faith within us be evident to the people around us,
that they will want to find out more about our risen Savior.

- [C]** **In thanksgiving may they sing a new song with us!**

- [P]** For those who call out to God for relief from poverty, discrimination,
and injustice, that God provide relief so that they live peaceful and fruitful lives.

- [C]** **In unbounded joy may they sing a new song with us!**

P For those who are ill and those who care for them, *[including . . .]*, that God would restore them to health and provide the strength they need.

C **In their relief may they sing a new song with us!**

P For all who carry the Gospel in far-flung lands, that God open doors of opportunity for the spread of the Gospel.

C **In all corners of the earth may they sing a new song with us!**

P These and any other things God would have us ask of Him, that He grant them for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things! Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

LSB 179

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.**



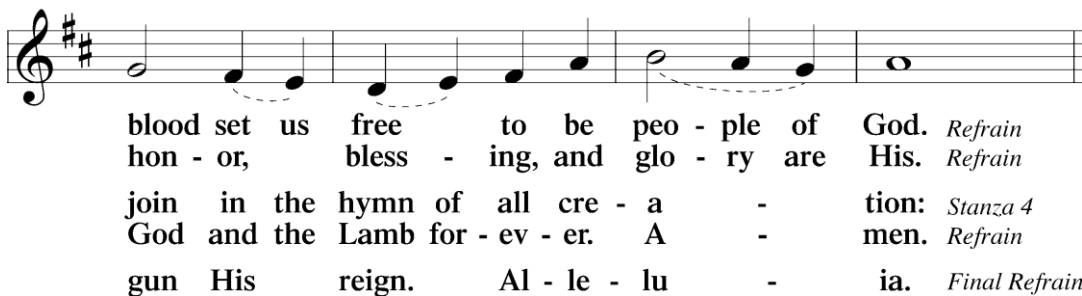
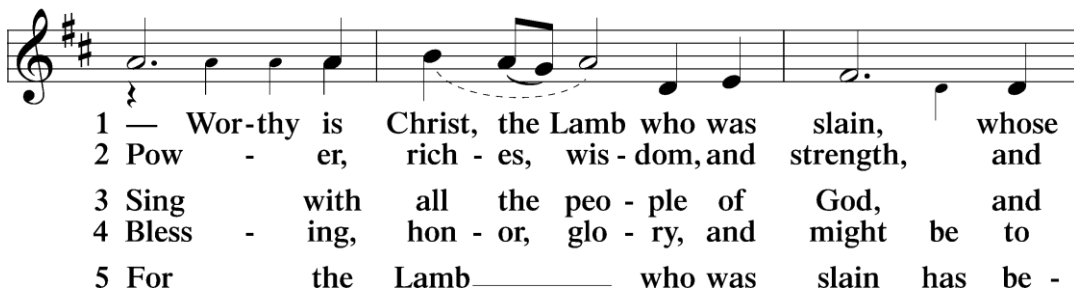
Service of the Sacrament



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."

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25





1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New
 2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band Up -
 3 To them the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why
 4 "You see Him now, as - cend - ing high Up



hymns through - out the world shall ring: Al - le - lu - ia,
 on the Mount of Ol - ives stand. Al - le - lu - ia,
 stand and gaze up - on the sky?" Al - le - lu - ia,
 to the por - tals of the sky." Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -
 al - le - lu - ia! And with His faith - ful fol - l'wers
 al - le - lu - ia! "This is the Sav - ior," thus they
 al - le - lu - ia! "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall



trod, As - cends un - to the throne of
 see Their Lord as - cend in maj - es -
 say; "This is His glo - rious tri - umph
 see Re - turn - ing in great maj - es -



God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 ty. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 day!" Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 ty." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

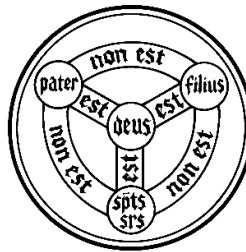
Verse 5

Be now our joy on earth, O Lord,
And be our future great reward.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Then, throned with You forever, we
Shall praise Your name eternally.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Verse 6

O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
All praise to You let earth accord:
Alleluia, alleluia!
You are, while endless ages run,
With Father and with Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Bede, 673–735; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt. Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623, Köln
Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001315 Tune: Public domain.



Closing Hymn "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" LSB 805

△ Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly
host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711 Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois
Text and tune: Public domain

Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

Silent Prayer: Dear Lord, It's not about me ... it's about You, Jesus. Amen.

Announcements

Postlude

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