



# SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday Morning Worship  
May 3, 2026  
9:00 a.m.

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

## **Prelude**

### **Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne  
and to the Lamb!

**Amen.**

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.

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

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.

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

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.

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

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

(please rise in body or spirit)

**Opening Hymn** *Evening and Morning* ELW 761

**Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

**Kyrie**

(ELW p. 138)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, 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 unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mer - cy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

## Hymn Of Praise

*Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!* ELW 380 vv. 1, 3, 5

## Prayer Of The Day

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.

**Amen.**

(you may be seated)

## Reading

*Reader:* The Reading today is from Acts 7:55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. 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. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." 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.

*Congregation:* **Thanks be to God!**

## Psalm

The Psalm today is from Psalm 31



In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be | put to shame;  
deliver me | in your righteousness.

**Incline your | ear to me;**  
**make haste to de- | liver me.**

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag | and my stronghold;  
for the sake of your name, lead | me and guide me.

**Take me out of the net that  
they have secretly | set for me,  
for you are my tow- | er of strength.**

Into your hands I com- | mend my spirit,  
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, | God of truth.

**My times are | in your hand;  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,  
and from those who | persecute me.**

Let your face shine up- | on your servant;  
save me in your | steadfast love.”

(please rise in body or spirit)

## Gospel Acclamation

(ELW p. 142)

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Gospel: John 14:1-14

*Preacher:* The Gospel according to  
John the 14th chapter.

*Congregation:* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the disciples:] “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. 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? 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. And you know the way to the place 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 know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” 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’? 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. 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. 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. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

Preacher: The Gospel of the Lord.

*Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ.*

(you may be seated)

## **The Message**

Pastor Mark Boster

(please rise in body or spirit)

## **Hymn of the Day**

O Jesus, I Have Promised ELW 810

## **The Nicene Creed**

## **Prayers of the Church**

Trusting in the power of Christ’s resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

*A brief silence.*

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,  
**receive our prayer.**

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,  
**receive our prayer.**

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,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of well-being, you soothe those in distress, console all who grieve, provide for any in need, and comfort those who are sick especially those we name aloud or in the quietness of our hearts (*pause...*). Instill caregivers with a sense of purpose to be your healing hands in this world. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

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,  
**receive our prayer.**

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,  
**receive our prayer.**

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. **Amen.**

# Sharing the Peace of Christ

*Presiding Minister:*

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

*Congregation:* **And also with you.**

Greet one another: **“Peace be with you.”**

(you may be seated)

## Offering

(please rise in body or spirit)

## Offering Prayer

*Assisting Minister:* Let us pray together. **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, Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

(ELW p. 144)

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Presiding Minister:* It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
 san-na. 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.

## Words Of Institution

### The Lord's Prayer

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.

(you may be seated)

### Invitation to Communion

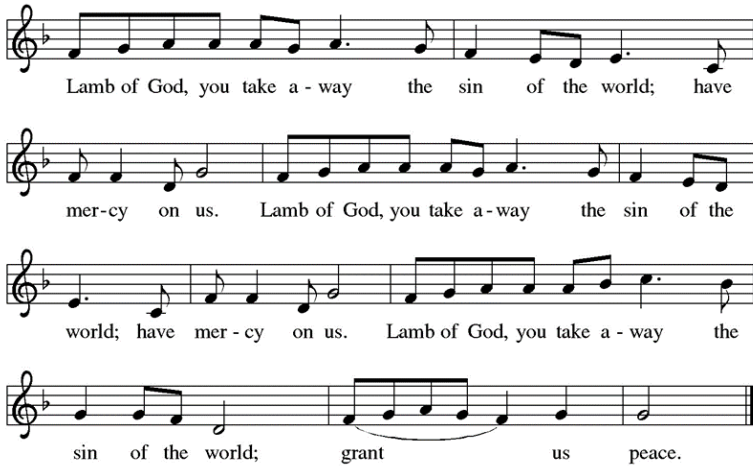
Come to the table of new life.  
 Receive the risen Lord.

### Communion Distribution

## Distribution Music

“Lamb of God”

(ELW p. 146)



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.

*Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!* ELW 377

*This Joyful Eastertide* ELW 391

(please rise in body or spirit)

## Post-Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ,  
strengthen you and keep you in God’s grace.

**Amen.**

## Prayer

*Assisting Minister:* Let us pray together. **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,**  
**Amen.**

## Benediction

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.

**Amen.**

## **Sending Hymn**

*Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing* ELW 389

## **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## **Postlude**