



## Fifth Sunday in Easter

*Eucharist | Confirmation*  
Sunday, May 3, 2026, 10:30 a.m.

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
*Exploring the promise of God for all*

# You are welcome. No exceptions.

Central Lutheran Church experiences God's expansive love and strives to share it abundantly. We affirm all people without regard to age, race, biological sex, housing status, ethnicity, sexual orientation, immigration, refugee or migration status, gender identity or expression, socioeconomic status, and physical or mental health or ability. All are a part of God's family, created in God's image.

We strive to practice radical hospitality with all people and work toward racial equity. Everyone is invited to immerse themselves in the life of this community of faith as we explore the promise of God for all.

## Worship



**Bold print** indicates responses spoken by all.



Congregational hymns are found printed in this bulletin or in the red hymnal, Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW).



You are encouraged to listen to your body and stand or remain seated at any point in the service.



Masks are welcome, but not required.



Children are welcome and celebrated in worship. Each Sunday there are Children's Bags at each of the ushers' tables at the entrances to the sanctuary. Inside each bag is a worship activity and snack. Many families sit near the children's tables next to the baptismal font, but you are welcome to sit anywhere in the sanctuary that is comfortable to you.



All are welcome to receive communion at Central. At the ushers' invitation, you will proceed toward the altar where there are regular and gluten-free wafers served with wine or grape juice. Your server will offer bread and wine for all, including children. If you prefer to receive a blessing rather than communion, please let your server know.



Offering can be made online using the QR code in the bulletin or left in the offering plates just outside the sanctuary doors.

MEMBERS OF:

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America | [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)

Align Minneapolis | [www.alignmpls.org](http://www.alignmpls.org)

ReconcilingWorks | [www.reconcilingworks.org](http://www.reconcilingworks.org)

MNIPL Climate Justice Congregation | [www.mnipl.org](http://www.mnipl.org)



Welcome to worship at Central Lutheran Church. As you arrive for worship, you are invited to prepare your hearts and minds while listening to the prelude before the service begins today.



*The Holy Spirit gathers us in unity on this first day of the week.*

## PRELUDE

“First Sonata”

Giovanni Buonaventura Viviani

*(At the sound of the bell, please stand and face the font.)*

## Gathering

### OPENING SENTENCES

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,

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

We thank you for making us a new creation.

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

We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### GATHERING HYMN

Hymn 530

“Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather”

### GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

Let us pray.

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your home, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*



*(Please stand)*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

John 14:1-14

The Holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>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? <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to the place 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 know me, you will know 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 we will be satisfied.” <sup>9</sup> 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’? <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, 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, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(Please be seated)*

SERMON

*(Please stand)*

“Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life”



*You belong to Christ,  
in whom you have been  
baptized. Alleluia!*

## AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

These persons have been instructed in the Christian faith and desire to make public affirmation of their baptism:

Lucia Louise Blechert  
Rosebeth Eve DeVries Smith  
Clementine Joy Grahn  
Natalia Theresa Heruy  
Melanie Rose Holst  
Elsa Dorothy Paleen  
Benjamin Joseph Surla  
Caroline Ann Montgomery Weiblen

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God,  
the powers of this world that rebel against God,  
and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:  
to live among God's faithful people,

to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,  
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,  
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,  
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

*Each confirmand responds:*

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support these siblings and pray for  
them in their life in Christ?


**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you  
give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

### INDIVIDUAL AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

*After each has been affirmed and blessed, join in singing:*



The image shows two staves of musical notation in 2/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

You - be - long to Christ, in whom you have been bap - tized.  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Galatians 3:27, alt.  
Music: Howard Hughes, b. 1930

Let us rejoice with these siblings in Christ.

**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.**

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God  
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

### 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.

*Each petition concludes:*

God in your mercy,

**Hear 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.**

### PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*(Please be seated)*



Scan to make a financial offering.

\*Many African American spirituals and hymns were never credited to their creators or were claimed by other individuals. On weekends when Central uses music or music texts created by people who were kept in chattel slavery, a donation will be made to a Historical Black College and University (HBCU) as a reparation to their descendants. For 2026, Central will be sending donations to Texas Southern University in Houston, Texas.



God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

### MUSICAL OFFERING

“Come By Here”

\*African American Spiritual,  
Arr. Kyle Pederson

*Come by here, my Lord, come by here.  
O Lord, come by here.  
Someone’s praying, Lord, come by here.  
Someone’s crying, Lord, come by here.*

*In the morning, Lord, you are here.  
In the evening, Lord, you are here.  
In my waking, Lord, you are here.  
In my sleeping, Lord, you are here.*

*In my pleading, waiting, caring, loving,  
blessing, grieving, hoping, longing, falling,  
hiding, rising, healing, aching, laughing,  
praising, seeking, finding, breathing, dying,  
Lord, you are here. O Lord, you are here.*

### Meal

*(Please stand)*

### PRESENTATION HYMN

“O Blessed Spring”

Hymn 447  
Stanzas 1 and 4

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.  
**And also 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.**

It is indeed right...and join in their unending hymn:

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. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God...we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.**

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

### LORD'S PRAYER

As Easter people, at home in God's new life, we pray together the prayer Jesus taught:

**Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

*All are invited to receive these  
gifts of God.*

*Children are welcome to  
come forward and receive  
communion or a blessing.*

### COMMUNION

"Lamb of God"

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.

“Calling My Children Home”

Arr. Joseph Jennings

*Those lives were mine to love and  
cherish  
To guard and guide along life's way  
Oh God forbid that one should perish  
That one alas should go astray  
  
Back in the years with all together  
Around the place we'd romp and play  
So lonely now and oft' times wonder  
Oh will they come back home some  
day  
  
I'm lonesome for my precious  
children  
They live so far away  
Oh may they hear my calling and  
come back home some day*

*I gave my all for my dear children  
Their problems still with love I  
share  
I'd brave life's storm, defy the  
tempest  
To bring them home from anywhere  
I lived my life my love  
I gave them, to guide them through  
this world of strife  
I hope and pray we'll live together  
In that great glad here after life  
  
I'm lonesome for my precious  
children  
They live so far away  
Oh may they hear my calling and  
come back home some day.*

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”

Hymn 810

*(Please stand)*

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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, **Amen.**

## Sending

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

Hymn 426

“Sing with All the Saints in Glory”

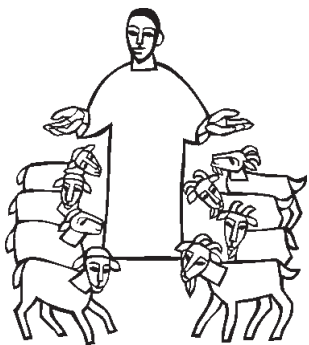
DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is alive! Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

“Grand Chœur Dialogué”

Eugène Gigout



*God blesses us and sends  
us for shared mission in  
our shared world.*

# Serving Today

|                          |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Pastor Stephanie Friesen | <i>preacher</i>       |
| Pastor Melissa Pohlman   | <i>presider</i>       |
| Pastor Peter Nycklemoe   | <i>hospitality</i>    |
| Jack Friesen             | <i>assisting</i>      |
| Sara Gunsch              | <i>reading</i>        |
| Michael Acuña Dee        | <i>crucifer</i>       |
| Central Choir            | <i>ensemble</i>       |
| Joe Osowski              | <i>choir director</i> |
| Rebecca Corson           | <i>trumpet</i>        |
| Isaac Drewes             | <i>organist</i>       |
| Mark Kieffer             | <i>video/sound</i>    |
| Jim Hart                 | <i>host</i>           |

## *Thanks to:*

Sacristans, Usher, Hospitality, and Décor Ministry Teams.

Chancel flowers for this week are given by Glenn Steinke and family  
in loving memory of Mary.

Chancel flowers are given in honor of the confirmands by their parents.

If you wish to donate flowers, please contact Judy Korogi  
at 612-788-1288 or [receptionist@centralmpls.org](mailto:receptionist@centralmpls.org).

This weekend we celebrate these eight students as they are confirmed:  
Lucy Blechert, Rosebeth DeVries Smith, Clementine Grahn, Natalia Heruy, Melanie Holst,  
Elsa Paleen, Ben Surla, and Caroline Weiblen.

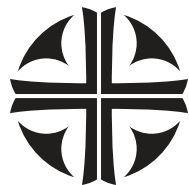
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