



## Fifth Sunday in Easter

*Eucharist*

Sunday, May 3, 2026, 8:30 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

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.**

### HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
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.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

The musical notation consists of five staves of music in G major (one sharp). The first three staves are for the main hymn, and the last two are for a refrain. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: "This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia, 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." The second staff continues the lyrics: "al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and". The third staff is a repeat of the first staff. The fourth and fifth staves are a refrain, identical to the first and second staves respectively.

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, al - le - lu - ia. 3 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.

*Refrain*  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

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

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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Risen Christ, you prepare a place for us, in the home of the Parent of us all. Draw us more deeply into yourself, through scripture read, water splashed, bread broken, wine poured, so that when our hearts are troubled, we will know you more completely as the way, the truth, and the life. **Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

## Word

### FIRST READING

Acts 7:55-60

<sup>55</sup> Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup> “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” <sup>57</sup> But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup> 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. <sup>59</sup> While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” <sup>60</sup> 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.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand)*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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



*God speaks to us in  
scripture reading,  
preaching, and song.*



## 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)*

HYMN OF THE DAY

Hymn 816

“Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life”

## APOSTLES' CREED

**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 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

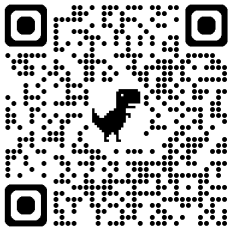
The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*(Please be seated)*

## MUSICAL OFFERING

"For the Lord Will Lead"

Felix Mendelssohn



*Scan to make a  
financial offering.*



*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## 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.

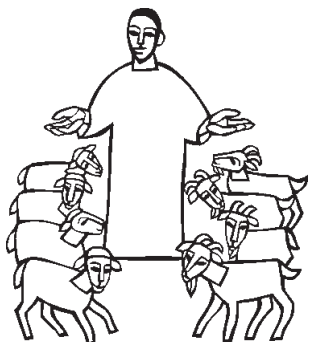
You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God...we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**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.**

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

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



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

## 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)*

## COMMUNION

"Rejoice, O My Spirit"

Johann Ludwig Bach

*(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

“Sing with All the Saints in Glory”

1. Sing with all the saints in glo - ry, sing the res - ur - rec - tion song!  
 2. Oh, what glo - ry, far ex - ceed - ing all that eye has yet per - ceived!  
 3. Live e - ter - nal! heav'n re - joic - es: Je - sus lives who once was dead.

Death and sor - row, earth's dark sto - ry, to the for - mer days be - long.  
 Ho - liest hearts for a - ges plead - ing nev - er that full joy con - ceived.  
 Shout with joy, O death - less voic - es! Child of God, lift up your head!

All a - round the clouds are break - ing, soon the storms of time shall cease;  
 God has prom - ised, Christ pre - pares it, there on high our wel - come waits.  
 Life e - ter - nal! Oh, what won - ders crowd on faith; what joy un - known,

in God's like - ness we a - wa - ken, know - ing ev - er - last - ing peace.  
 Ev - 'ry hum - ble spir - it shares it, Christ has passed the e - ter - nal gates.  
 when, a - mid earth's clos - ing thun - ders, saints shall stand be - fore the throne!

Text: William J. Irons, 1812-1883, alt.  
 Music: *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985

BEACH SPRING  
 8787D

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DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

“Grand Chœur Dialogué”

Eugène Gigout

# Serving Today

Pastor Stephanie Friesen	<i>preacher</i>
Pastor Melissa Pohlman	<i>presider</i>
Pastor Peter Nycklemoe	<i>hospitality</i>
Jack Friesen	<i>assisting/reading</i>
Michael Acuña Dee	<i>crucifer</i>
David Gindra	<i>soloist</i>
Rebecca Corson	<i>trumpet</i>
Isaac Drewes	<i>organist</i>
Mark Kieffer	<i>video/sound</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.

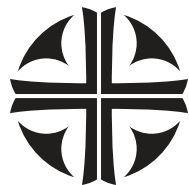
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