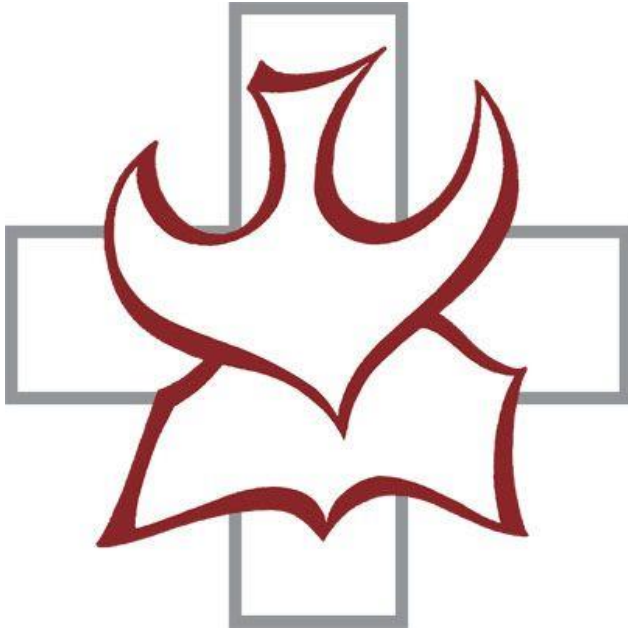


**Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
**May 3, 2026**  
**8:00 am**



Zion Lutheran Church  
1400 S Duluth Ave  
Sioux Falls, SD 57105  
605-338-5226  
[www.zlcsf.org](http://www.zlcsf.org)

## **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

### **AS WE GATHER**

The Rite of Confirmation, while not commanded in Scripture, is a special custom in the church. Confirmation is not a “graduation” or “completion,” rather it is a day that celebrates God’s gift and work in the life of the student publicly confessing his faith. This day looks back to the promise made in Baptism and looks ahead to a whole life lived in faith. “We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and have been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun this good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.” (LSB Agenda, p. 30).

### **WELCOME | ATTENDANCE | PRAYER CARDS**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **GREET ONE ANOTHER**

### **OPENING HYMN:** LSB 594 “God’s Own Child, I Gladly Say It”

- 1 God’s own child, I gladly say it: I am baptized into Christ!  
He, because I could not pay it,  
Gave my full redemption price.  
Do I need earth’s treasures many?  
I have one worth more than any  
That brought me salvation free Lasting to eternity!
- 2 Sin, disturb my soul no longer: I am baptized into Christ!  
I have comfort even stronger: Jesus’ cleansing sacrifice.  
Should a guilty conscience seize me  
Since my Baptism did release me  
In a dear forgiving flood, Sprinkling me with Jesus’ blood?

- 3 Satan, hear this proclamation: I am baptized into Christ!  
Drop your ugly accusation, I am not so soon enticed.  
Now that to the font I've traveled,  
All your might has come unraveled,  
And, against your tyranny, God, my Lord, unites with me!
- 4 Death, you cannot end my gladness:  
I am baptized into Christ!  
When I die, I leave all sadness To inherit paradise!  
Though I lie in dust and ashes  
Faith's assurance brightly flashes:  
Baptism has the strength divine  
To make life immortal mine.
- 5 There is nothing worth comparing  
To this lifelong comfort sure!  
Open-eyed my grave is staring: Even there I'll sleep secure.  
Though my flesh awaits its raising,  
Still my soul continues praising:  
I am baptized into Christ; I'm a child of paradise!

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## **INVOCATION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

## **CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION**

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us and lead us so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God, in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.

**People: Amen.**

**INTROIT:** Psalm 30:1-5; Antiphon: Psalm 149:1

Pastor: Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song.

**People: His praise in the assembly of the godly!**

Pastor: I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up

**People: And you have not let my foes rejoice over me.**

Pastor: O Lord, my God, I cried to you for help,

**People: And you have healed me.**

Pastor: O Lord, you have brought up my soul from Sheol,

**People: You restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.**

Pastor: Sing praised to the Lord, O you his saints,

**People: And give thanks to his holy name.**

Pastor: For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime

**People: Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.**

Pastor: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

**People: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Pastor: Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song,

**People: His praise in the assembly of the godly!**

### **KYRIE**

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**People (sing): Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**People (sing): Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: 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.

**People (sing): Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**People (sing): Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**People (sing): Amen.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE:** This is the Feast

**This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:**

**Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## **SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**Pastor:** Let us pray together.

**People:** 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 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. Amen.

## **TIME IN THE WORD**

**Children's Bible Reading:** Page 370

## **The First Reading:** Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60

In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, “It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.”

This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

Now Stephen, a man full of God’s grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people. Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called)—Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia—who began to argue with Stephen. To this he replied: “Brothers and fathers, listen to me! “You stiff-necked people! Your hearts and ears are still uncircumcised. You are just like your ancestors: You always resist the Holy Spirit! Was there ever a prophet your ancestors did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him— you who have received the law that was given through angels but have not obeyed it.” When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. “Look,” he said, “I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” Then he fell on his knees and cried out, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he fell asleep.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**The Epistle Reading:** 1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For in Scripture it says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” and, “A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for. But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Please rise out of respect for the words and ministry of Jesus Christ.

## **RESPONSE**

**People (Sing): Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**The Holy Gospel:** John 14:1-14

**People (sing): Glory to You, O Lord.**

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?” Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.” Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.” Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People (sing): Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **SERMON HYMN**: LSB 602 The Gifts Christ Freely Gives

- 1 The gifts Christ freely gives He gives to you and me  
To be His Church, His bride, His chosen, saved and free!  
Saints blest with these rich gifts Are children who proclaim  
That they were won by Christ And cling to His strong name.
- 2 The gifts flow from the font Where He calls us His own;  
New life He gives that makes Us His and His alone.  
Here He forgives our sins With water and His Word;  
The triune God Himself Gives pow'r to call Him Lord.
- 3 The gifts of grace and peace From absolution flow;  
The pastor's words are Christ's For us to trust and know.  
Forgiveness that we need Is granted to us there;  
The Lord of mercy sends Us forth in His blest care.
- 4 The gifts are there each day The holy Word is read;  
God's children listen, hear, Receive, and they are fed.  
Christ fills them with Himself, Blest words that give them life,  
Restoring and refreshing Them for this world's strife.
- 5 The gifts are in the feast, Gifts far more than we see;  
Beneath the bread and wine Is food from Calvary.  
The body and the blood Remove our ev'ry sin;  
We leave His presence in His peace, renewed again.
- 6 All glory to the One Who lavishes such love;  
The triune God in love Assures our life above.  
His means of grace for us Are gifts He loves to give;  
All thanks and praise for His Great love by which we live!

## **THE SERMON**

### **NICENE CREED**

**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 Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And on the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke 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.**

### **OFFERING | TREASURE BOX**

#### **OFFERING HYMN: LSB 772 In Holy Conversation**

- 1 In holy conversation We speak to God in prayer,  
And at His invitation Our deepest thoughts we share.  
We come, His will obeying, As children bringing needs;  
And to support our praying, His Spirit intercedes.

- 2 These holy conversations Begin in childlike ways;  
We bring our supplications And words of thanks and praise.  
With care our Father listens To ev'ry thought expressed,  
Then answers our petitions In ways He knows are best.
  
- 3 As holy conversation, In silence or by word,  
In ev'ry situation Through Jesus, we are heard.  
So let us pray securely, Expressing hopes and fears  
With confidence that surely Our Father ever hears.

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## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

### **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary.....evermore praising you and singing:

**People (sing): Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna.  
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**All: 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**

### **PAX DOMINI**

**Pastor:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People:** Amen.

### **AGNUS DEI**

**People (sing):** Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

### **COMMUNION**

#### **COMMUNION HYMN:** LSB 623

Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray

- 1 Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray  
That we may feast on You today;  
Beneath these forms of bread and wine  
Enrich us with Your grace divine.
- 2 Give us, who share this wondrous food,  
Your body broken and Your blood,  
The grateful peace of sins forgiv'n,  
The certain joys of heirs of heav'n.
- 3 By faith Your Word has made us bold  
To seize the gift of love retold;  
All that You are we here receive,  
And all we are to You we give.
- 4 One bread, one cup, one body, we,  
Rejoicing in our unity,  
Proclaim Your love until You come  
To bring Your scattered loved ones home.

- 5 Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray:  
O keep us steadfast till that day  
When each will be Your welcomed guest  
In heaven's high and holy feast.

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**COMMUNION HYMN**: LSB 739 Precious Lord, Take My Hand

- 1 Precious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me stand;  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.  
Through the storm, through the night,  
Lead me on to the light.  
Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.
- 2 When my way grows drear, Precious Lord, linger near,  
When my life is almost gone,  
Hear my cry, hear my call; Hold my hand lest I fall.  
Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.
- 3 When the darkness appears And the night draws near  
And the day is almost gone,  
At the river I stand; Guide my feet, hold my hand,  
Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.

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**COMMUNION HYMN**: LSB 645 Built on the Rock

- 1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand  
Even when steeples are falling.  
Crumbled have spires in ev'ry land;  
Bells still are chiming and calling,  
Calling the young and old to rest,  
But above all the souls distressed,  
Longing for rest everlasting.

- 2 Surely in temples made with hands  
God, the Most High, is not dwelling;  
High above earth His temple stands,  
All earthly temples excelling.  
Yet He who dwells in heav'n above  
Chooses to live with us in love,  
Making our bodies His temple.
- 3 We are God's house of living stones,  
Built for His own habitation.  
He through baptismal grace us owns  
Heirs of His wondrous salvation.  
Were we but two His name to tell,  
Yet He would deign with us to dwell  
With all His grace and His favor.
- 4 Here stands the font before our eyes,  
Telling how God has received us.  
The altar recalls Christ's sacrifice  
And what His Supper here gives us.  
Here sound the Scriptures that proclaim  
Christ yesterday, today, the same,  
And evermore, our Redeemer.
- 5 Grant, then, O God, Your will be done,  
That, when the church bells are ringing,  
Many in saving faith may come  
Where Christ His message is bringing:  
"I know My own; My own know Me.  
You, not the world, My face shall see.  
My peace I leave with you. Amen."

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## **DISMISSAL and PRAYER**

## **BENEDICTION**

**CLOSING HYMN:** LSB 861 Christ Be My Leader

- 1 Christ be my Leader by night as by day;  
Safe through the darkness, for He is the way.  
Gladly I follow, my future His care,  
Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.
  
- 2 Christ be my Teacher in age as in youth,  
Drifting or doubting, for He is the truth.  
Grant me to trust Him; though shifting as sand,  
Doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.
  
- 3 Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife;  
Death cannot hold me, for He is the life.  
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain  
Can touch my salvation: with Jesus I reign.

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**SEND OFF**

Pastor: At Zion we are committed to reaching out, strengthening the saved,

**All: and serving Jesus Christ by serving others!**