

The Divine Service

The Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 7, 2023

AS WE GATHER

We continue to focus our attention on Jesus' resurrection. We see that Jesus is the stone that was rejected by the religious leaders. He was crucified and killed by them. Yet God raised Jesus from the dead, making Him the cornerstone, the foundational stone upon which all the other stones in the building are aligned and built. As we build upon the foundation and cornerstone of Jesus, we are conformed and aligned to Him.

Prelude

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the (✠) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

People: **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Pastor: If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Pastor: Most merciful God,

People: **have mercy on us. We confess to you that 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 trusted you with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and in truth. In your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen.**

Pastor: With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all your sin and grants you newness of life in (✠) Jesus Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Processional Hymn

"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"

LSB 633, verses 1,7,8



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
 7 Eas - ter tri - umph, Eas - ter joy! This a -
 Δ 8 Fa - ther, who the crown shall give, Sav - ior,



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
 lone can sin de - stroy; From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
 by whose death we live, Spir - it, guide through all our days:



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
 New - born souls in You to be. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Three in One, Your name we praise. Al - le - lu - ia!

Greeting

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

People: **And also with you.**

Kyrie

Cantor: In peace, in peace...

Refrain

Assistant:

Congregation:



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



to Verses

Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

Cantor: For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all, let us pray to the ... Refrain

Cantor: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the ... Refrain

Assistant:



Help, save and de - fend us, O

Congregation:




God. A - - - men.


Hymn of Praise: "Now the Feast"

Refrain

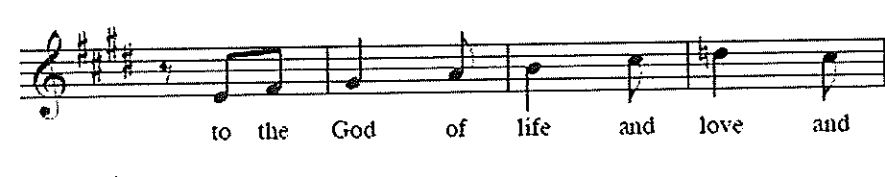
Congregation:



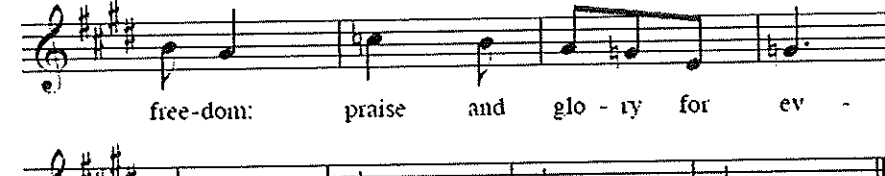
Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,



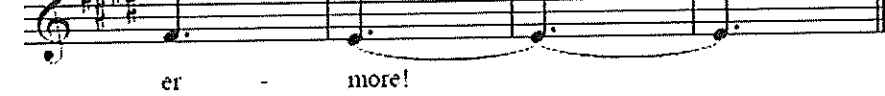
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy



to the God of life and love and



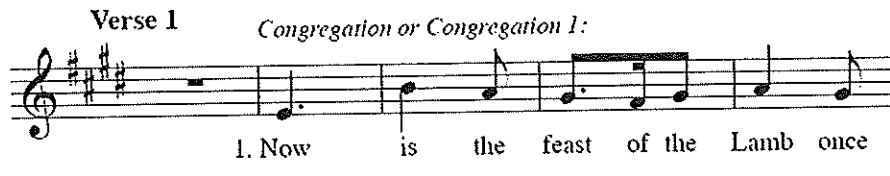
free-dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -



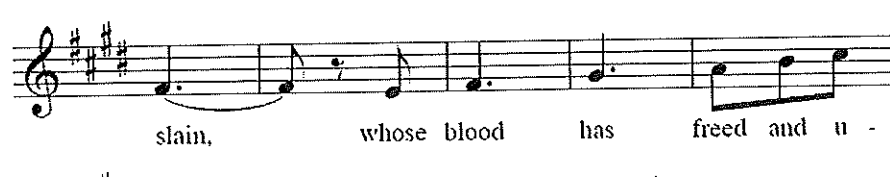
er - - more!

Verse 1

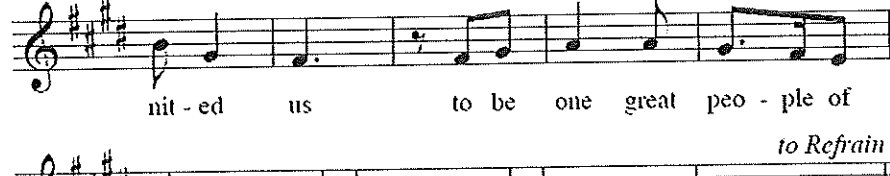
Congregation or Congregation 1:



1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once




slain, whose blood has freed and u -



nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of

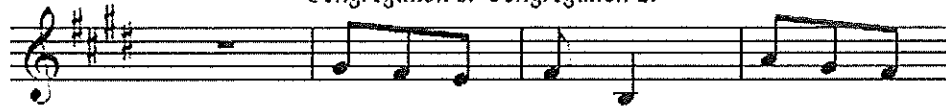
to Refrain



God.

Verse 2

Congregation or Congregation 2:



2. Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and



might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ



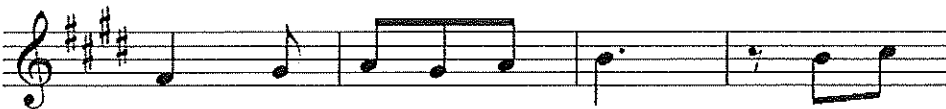
for ev - er.

Verse 3

Congregation:



3. For God has come to dwell with us, to



make us peo - ple of God; to make



all things new.

Salutation

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, You are the cornerstone and foundation upon which Your Church is built. Tear down all that we have built that was built apart from You, and tether us upon Yourself, our Rock and our Redeemer, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Today's Scripture Readings

The First Reading

Acts 6:1-9;7:2a, 51-60

¹Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. ²And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. ³Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. ⁴But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." ⁵And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. ⁶These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. ⁷And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith. ⁸And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Peter 2:2-10

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." ⁷So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," ⁸and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; 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.

Alleluia and Verse (Stand as you are able.)

Congregation:

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

Optional Repeat

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The first staff is labeled 'Congregation:' and contains the lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we'. The second staff continues with 'go? You have the words of e - ter - nal'. The third staff ends with 'life. Al - le - lu - ia!' and is marked 'Optional Repeat'.

Holy Gospel

John 14:1-14

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

People: **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

¹[Jesus said:] "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." ⁸Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." ⁹Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?" ¹⁰Do 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 authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves. ¹²"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. ¹³Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it."

6 **Pastor:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day "Christ Be My Leader"

LSB 861, verses 1,2,3



1 Christ be my Lead - er by night as by day; Safe through the
2 Christ be my Teach - er in age as in youth, Drift - ing or
3 Christ be my Sav - ior in calm as in strife; Death can - not



dark - ness, for He is the way. Glad - ly I fol - low, my
doubt - ing, for He is the truth. Grant me to trust Him; though
hold me, for He is the life. Nor dark - ness nor doubt - ing nor



fu - ture His care, Dark - ness is day - light when Je - sus is there.
shift - ing as sand, Doubt can - not daunt me; in Je - sus I stand.
sin and its stain Can touch my sal - va - tion: with Je - sus I reign.

Message "The Colors of Easter" Presented by the St. Paul Kid's Choir

Apostles' Creed

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. 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.

Prayer of the Church

Petitions end, "Lord, in your mercy..." Congregation responds, "Hear our prayer."

Offering "Love Beyond Degree"

Adult Choir, 8:30 AM

Offertory Prayer

Pastor: God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Receive now these gifts you have first given us and fill us with good things at your table, that we might joyfully and generously share all you have given us, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord. Amen. From *Sundays and Seasons*, © 2009 Augsburg Fortress.

A word about Holy Communion: *We are about to receive the Lord's Supper. Before you receive, you might consider the following questions: Do you believe you are a sinner? Do you believe Jesus Christ died for you and shed his blood for you on the cross for the forgiveness of your sins? Do you believe that in the Lord's Supper he gives you his true body and blood for the forgiveness of all your sins and strengthens your faith in him and your love for others? If you are a baptized Christian and share these Biblical truths, please come! Those who have not yet received instruction may come forward for a blessing, crossing their arms over their chest to indicate they are not receiving the elements.*

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

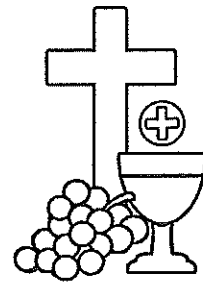
People: And also with you.

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.



Proper Preface

The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

People: 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.

Words of Institution

The Peace of the Lord

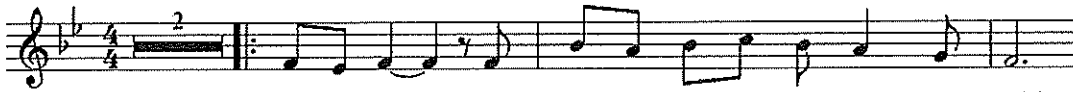
Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And also with you.

(The congregation and the minister may greet each other with the peace of the Lord).

Agnus Dei

(Congregation may be seated following the Agnus Dei)



1. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
2. Lamb of God, you break the chains of ha-tred and fear;
3. Lamb of God, you are the way of jus-tice and peace;
4. Lamb of God, you are the way of mer-cy and love:



have mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world:



grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

Hymns during Distribution:

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

LSB 739



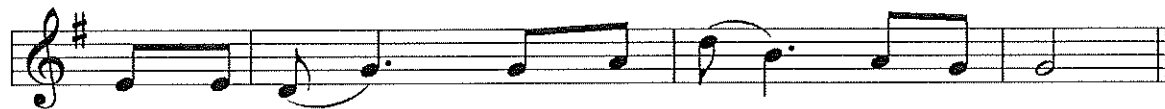
1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me stand;
2 When my way grows drear, Pre - cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears And the night draws near



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
When my life is al - most gone,
And the day is al - most gone,



Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light.
Hear my cry, hear my call; Hold my hand lest I fall.
At the riv - er I stand; Guide my feet, hold my hand,



Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.

"Thy Word is a Lamp"

LSB 973



Thy Word is a lamp un-to my feet And a light un-to my path.



1 When I feel a - fraid, think I've lost my way,
2 I will not for - get Your love for me, and yet My



Still You're there right be - side me. And
heart for - ev - er is wan - der - ing.



noth - ing will I fear as long as You are near.
Je - sus, be my guide and hold me to Your side; And



Please be near me to the end. _____
I will love You to the end. _____

Text and tune: © 1984 Meadowgreen Music Company, admin. EMI. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000828

Closing of the Table

Post-Communion Canticle:

Congregation:



1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:
2. From of old you loved and sought us:

Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Truth and jus - tice

weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for ev - er!
you have taught us: Thanks be to you for ev - er!

Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your
love, re - mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of
life with us. 3. Praise to you, O
God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for ev - er!
Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for
ev - er! Thanks be to you for ev - er!

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

Post-Communion Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

Benediction

Recessional Hymn

"Praise the Almighty"

LSB 797 verses 1 & 4



1 Praise the Al - might - y, my soul, a - dore Him!
4 Pen - i - tent sin - ners, for mer - cy cry - ing,



Yes, I will laud Him un - til death; With songs and
Par - don and peace from Him ob - tain; Ev - er the



an - thems I come be - fore Him As long as
wants of the poor sup - ply - ing, Their faith - ful



He al - lows me breath. From Him my life and
God He will re - main. He helps His chil - dren



all things came; Bless, O my soul, His ho - ly name.
in dis - tress, The wid - ows and the fa - ther - less.



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

Dismissal

Pastor: Lord Jesus you lead us! Now we go as....

People: Disciples making disciples.

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Many thanks to the Kid's Choir!

Easter Child - Ella Eastep

Easter Artist - Ethan Sullivan

Color Green - Ella Eastep

Color Black - Jack Eastep

Color Brown - Mathias Tamayo

Color Purple - Meghan Sullivan

Color Red - Meghan Sullivan

Color Grey - Lucia Beveridge

Color Orange - Jack Eastep

Color Pink - Lola Kenniff

Color White - Sofia Beveridge

Color Blue - Ella Eastep

Color Yellow - Lucia Beveridge

Finale - Sofia Beveridge

Solo Jesus love me - Antonella Tamayo



Continues this Sunday, May 7 at 9:45 AM in the purple classroom. All parents of youth are encouraged to attend.

Parenting isn't easy. We know that better than anyone. But you don't have to feel like you're alone in the struggle. You are invited to participate as Jeremy together with Mike & Sarah Heller will lead us onto a 5-week Youth Parent Bible Class Sunday, April 16th through May 14.

Email jbecker@stpaulweston.org for more information.



STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministers provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties.

Call the church office at 943-384-9096 if you or someone you know would like to speak with a Stephen Minister.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Rev. Scott Henze, Pastor

Mr. Jeremy Becker, DCE, Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Mrs. Kathy Henze, Preschool Director

580 Indian Trace, Weston, Florida 33326

Church Office (954) 384-9096 † office@stpaulweston.org

www.stpaulweston.org

Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Sunday School for children and youth : 9:45 AM

Adult Bible Study: 10:00 AM



Website and online giving

St. Paul
LUTHERAN CHURCH
& PRE-SCHOOL