

**Fifth Sunday in  
Easter**

**10:30 am,  
May 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Preacher:

*- Pastor Corey Shaffer*

**St. Luke's Lutheran  
Church**

& Preschool/4K

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*We at St. Luke's dedicate  
ourselves to grow in faith  
and love, to serve together,  
and to reach out with the  
Gospel of Jesus Christ.*



## PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

### WELCOME & GREETING

*Following the welcome, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).*

*Remain Standing*

### Invitational Prayer

*Stand, as able*

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

### Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

### Psalm

*Psalm 146; antiphon: v. 2*

P: <sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

**C: <sup>2</sup>I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

P: <sup>3</sup>Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

**C: <sup>4</sup>When his breath departs he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.**

P: <sup>5</sup>Blessèd is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,

**C: <sup>6</sup>who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever;**

P: <sup>7</sup>who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry.

**C: <sup>8</sup>The LORD sets the prisoners free; <sup>8</sup>the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.**

P: The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

**C: <sup>9</sup>The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.**

P: <sup>10</sup>The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations.  
Praise the LORD!

C: <sup>2</sup>**I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

## CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

### Exhortation

LSB 213

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

### Confession of Sins

LSB 213

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

### Absolution

LSB 213

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

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 may 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.

**C Amen.**

*Be Seated*

**Song: 'How Great Is Our God'**

1 The splendor of the King Clothed in majesty  
Let all the earth rejoice All the earth rejoice  
He wraps Himself in light and darkness tries to hide  
And trembles at His voice trembles at His voice

**Chorus:**

How great is our God Sing with me  
How great is our God and all will see  
How great, how great is our God

2 And age to age He stands and time is in His hands  
Beginning and the End Beginning and the End  
The Godhead three in one Father Spirit Son  
The Lion and the Lamb the Lion and the Lamb

**(Chorus x2)**

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## **SERVICE OF THE WORD**

**First Reading ~ New Testament History**

*Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60*

<sup>1</sup>Now 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. <sup>2</sup>And 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. <sup>3</sup>Therefore, 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. <sup>4</sup>But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” <sup>5</sup>And 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. <sup>6</sup>These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

<sup>7</sup>And 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.

<sup>8</sup>And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. <sup>9</sup>Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen.

<sup>2</sup>And Stephen said: “Brothers and fathers, hear me.

<sup>51</sup>You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you.

<sup>52</sup>Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, <sup>53</sup>you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.”

<sup>54</sup>Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. <sup>55</sup>But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

<sup>57</sup>But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. <sup>58</sup>Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup>And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” <sup>60</sup>And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

## **Second Reading ~ New Testament Epistle**

*1 Peter 2:2–10*

<sup>2</sup>Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— <sup>3</sup>if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

<sup>4</sup>As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, <sup>5</sup>you 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. <sup>6</sup>For 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.” <sup>7</sup>So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” <sup>8</sup>and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

<sup>9</sup>But 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. <sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

*Stand, as able*

## **Third Reading ~ Holy Gospel**

*John 14:1–14*

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In 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? <sup>3</sup>And 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. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to 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 had known me, you would have known 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 it is enough for us.” <sup>9</sup>Jesus 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'? <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 authority, 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, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

<sup>12</sup>"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. <sup>13</sup>Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it."

### **Apostles' Creed**

**☩ 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.**

*Be Seated*

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

## **Song: 'Mighty To Save'**

Everyone needs compassion  
Love that's never failing  
Let mercy fall on me.  
Everyone needs forgiveness  
the kindness of a Savior  
the hope of nations

### **Chorus**

Savior, He can move the mountains.  
My God is mighty to save,  
He is mighty to save.  
Forever, author of salvation  
He rose and conquered the grave  
Jesus conquered the grave.

So take me as You find me,  
all my fears and failures,  
fill my life again.  
I give my life to follow,  
everything I believe in.  
now I surrender. **(Chorus)**

Shine your light and let the whole world see, we're singing.  
For the glory of the risen King, Jesus.  
Shine your light and let the whole world see, we're singing.  
For the glory of the risen King, Jesus. **(Chorus 2x)**

Jesus conquered the grave.

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**SERIES ~ "The Shepherd Who Stays" (Acts 1:8)**

**SERMON ~ "The Way Home" (John 14:6)**

**THE GATHERING OF OUR GIFTS & WE CARE CARDS**

**Offertory Song: 'Nothing Without You' - Solo**

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

**P** For this Easter season, we are modeling the life of Christ in a special way. After his death on Good Friday and resurrection on Easter Sunday, the disciples were blessed to have Jesus opening the scriptures to them on the road to Emmaus and in his many appearances for the final 40 days of his earthly ministry. Jesus was teaching the disciples what his words meant. Likewise, we will pray the Lord's Prayer together, but with the teachings that have been passed down throughout the ages to help us learn what each petition means.

**P** As he taught us to pray...

**C** **Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**P** With these words, God, You want to entice us, so that we come to believe You are truly our Father and we are truly Your children, in order that we may ask of You boldly and with complete confidence, just as loving children ask their loving father.

Look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth.

**C** **Hallowed be Thy name,**

**P** With these words, God, You remind us that Your name is holy in itself, but we ask in this prayer that it may also become holy in and among us. Whenever the Word of God is taught clearly and purely and we, as God's children, also live holy lives according to it. To this end help us, dear Father in heaven! God, stop whoever teaches and lives otherwise than what Your Word teaches and stop all who profane the name of God among us. Preserve us from this, heavenly Father!

Grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us all, the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned.

**C** **Thy kingdom come,**

**P** With these words, God, You remind us that kingdom comes on its own, even without our prayer, but we ask in this prayer that it may also come to us. Give us Your Holy Spirit, so that

through Your grace we believe Your Holy Word and live godly lives here in time and hereafter in eternity.

May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased.

**C Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;**

**P** With these words, God, You remind us that Your good and gracious will also comes about without our prayer, but we ask in this prayer that it may also come about in and among us. Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend [name(s)] and all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done.

**C give us this day our daily bread;**

**P** With these words, God, You remind us that our daily bread is even given without our prayer, even to all evil people, but we ask in this prayer that You cause us to recognize what our daily bread is and to receive it with thanksgiving. Everything included in the necessities and nourishment for our bodies, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, farm, fields, livestock, money, property, an upright spouse, upright children, upright members of the household, upright and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, decency, honor, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like. We pray for *[birthdays & anniversaries]*. Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs.

**C and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;**

**P** With these words, God, You remind us to ask in prayer that our heavenly Father would not regard our sins nor deny these petitions on their account, for we are worthy of nothing for which we ask, nor have we earned it. Instead, we ask that You would give us all things by grace, for we daily sin much and

indeed deserve only punishment. Yet, on the other hand, we, too, truly want to forgive heartily and to do good gladly to those who sin against us.

Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us.

**C and lead us not into temptation,**

**P** With these words, God, You remind us that You tempt no one, but we ask in this prayer that You would preserve and keep us, so that the devil, the world, and our flesh may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice, and that, although we may be attacked by them, we may finally prevail and gain the victory.

Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles.

**C but deliver us from evil.**

**P** With these words, God, You remind us in a summary that You may deliver us from all kinds of evil—affecting body or soul, property or reputation—and at last, when our final hour comes, may grant us a blessed end and take us by grace from this valley of tears to Yourself in heaven.

Deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever.

**C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.**

**P** With these words, the doxological praise of "kingdom, power, and glory," O God, while not part of what our Lord taught us to pray, the Lord's Prayer, we say these words as an added ending of praise for this chief text that our Lord gave us to learn, read, and inwardly digest. With early evidence of this in Christian tradition, may our praise to You for these words extend by the Law of Christ according to their function for our lives. We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C Amen.**

- ☐ With these words, God, we speak together our confidence in  
You, that these things we have prayed are most certainly true.

## **Benedicamus**

LSB 218

- ☐ Let us bless the Lord.  
☑ **Thanks be to God.**

## **Benediction**

- ☐ The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.  
☑ **Amen.**

*Remain Standing*

### **Song: 'That's My King'**

Verse1 (Leader)

I know You're the reason I even breathe.  
Though I walk through the valley,  
I know You're here with me.  
And Your Love for me, is so deep and wide  
that you called me a child of mine.

### **Chorus (ALL)**

**That's my God, that's my King. - That's my Savior, my everything.  
Of Your Glory I will sing. - That's my Father, my God, and my King.**

Verse2 (Leader)

Sometimes I fall to worry, sometimes I fall to pain,  
but I know it's me You carry, each step and every day.  
How much You love me was in your sacrifice,  
For You called me a child of mine.

### **Chorus (ALL)**

Bridge (Leader)

There'll be no tears one day — Your love wipes them away.  
For by grace through faith in You I'm saved.

### **Chorus (ALL)**

**(Repeat)**

### **Sending Instructions & Dismissal**

- ☐ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
☑ **Thanks be to God.**