

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

**P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

**L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**L: Christ is our cornerstone;
C: on Him alone we build.**

**L: In Him we are a newborn, chosen, priestly people.
C: We are called to proclaim His excellencies to the world.**

CONFESSION AND DECLARATION OF GRACE

L: Though Christ is our cornerstone and has changed our identity to be His chosen people, we often build upon things other than Jesus. Such building crumbles to the ground, for unless we build on Christ, we labor in vain. Still, our heavenly Father is merciful, and He invites us to draw near to His throne in confidence to ask for forgiveness. *Silence for reflection.*

**L: Heavenly Father,
C: though we are Your chosen people, we have acted in accordance with the world rather than Your Word. We have taken the privileges of being Your children without accepting our responsibility to love You and our neighbors as we love ourselves. Forgive us, renew us, and restore as Your newborn, chosen, priestly people, on account of Jesus. Amen.**

**L: Though Jesus Christ was rejected and killed, God raised Him from the dead, and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Because of His victory over death by the cross, he encourages our hearts not to be troubled, promising to prepare for us a place in His heavenly home. As you have believed, so it shall be. Our sins are forgiven; in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen. We are forgiven. We are a newborn, chosen, priestly people.**

SHARING THE PEACE

SONG OF PRAISE

“Salvation’s Song” Stuart Townend

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: 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.

C: Amen.

**The FIRST READING for the 5th Sunday of Easter is from the 6th & 7th chapters of Acts.
(Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60)**

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. 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. 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. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” 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. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

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.

And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. 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.

And Stephen said:

“Brothers and fathers, hear me...

“You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.”

Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. 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. And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. 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. And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." 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.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *1 Peter 2:2–10* (Built on Jesus, we are a chosen people.)

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation—if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, 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. 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."

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,"

and

"A stone of stumbling,
and a rock of offense."

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

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. 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.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

VERSE *adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6*

L: Alleluia. Christ has risen from the dead.

God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor. Alleluia!

C: He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;

He has put all things under His feet. Alleluia!

HOLY GOSPEL *John 14:1–14 (Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life.)*

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

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. 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? 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. And you know the way to where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me, if you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” 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’? 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. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

“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. Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN No. 644 “The Church’s One Foundation” (vss 1, 4, 5)

The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is His new creation By water and the Word.
From heav'n He came and sought her To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.

Through toil and tribulation And tumult of her war
She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore
Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union With God, the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won.
O blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by Your grace
That we, like saints before us, May see you face to face.

SERMON "Troubled Hearts Find the Way" John 14:1-14

CONFESSION OF FAITH

THE NICENE CREED *Please stand*

**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 the third day 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.**

**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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Christ is our cornerstone,

C: on Him alone we build.

L: Lord Jesus Christ, we bring before You all those who have built their lives on something other than You. We pray that You would draw them to Yourself that they may build on a sure foundation. Christ is our cornerstone,

C: on Him alone we build.

L: Lord Jesus Christ, we pray for all those who have trouble in this world, including for the homeless, the poor, the lonely, the unemployed, those who are abused, and those who are taken advantage of. Lead each of these to steadier situations, so that their lives may evermore be built on You. Christ is our cornerstone,

C: on Him alone we build.

L: Lord Jesus Christ, You have borne our griefs and shared in our sorrows. Bring Your comfort all those who are suffering in grief. Point them to the hope that in Your Father's house are many rooms, and You have gone to prepare a place for us. Christ is our cornerstone,

C: on Him alone we build.

L: Lord Jesus Christ, we pray for all those struggling with relationship issues, whether that is friendships, family dynamics, marital struggles, or anything else. We pray that You would bring reconciliation in the midst of such struggle. Remind Your people that they are chosen and holy and called to reflect Your forgiveness. Christ is our cornerstone,

C: on Him alone we build.

L: Lord Jesus Christ, we pray for our nation and its leaders. For our president and vice president and their staffs, for Congress and all lawmakers, for the Supreme Court and all judges, we pray that You would shine Your wisdom upon these, Your servants. Guide them to perform their tasks with justice and equity. Christ is our cornerstone,

C: on Him alone we build.

L: Lord Jesus Christ, look with favor upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering, *[especially those whom You have placed on our hearts today, namely (congregation my call out names . . .)]* . We praise You for the mercies You have shown to **Doris Sloup and Bob Morton and Cornie Paulsen.**

Grant Your help and comfort upon all in need of physical, emotional or spiritual care, and restore them to health according to Your wisdom and great compassion.

Christ is our cornerstone,

C: on Him alone we build.

L: Lord Jesus Christ, You are the foundation of the lives of all who trust in You. In You we live, and move, and have our being. Therefore, we thank You for Your goodness toward those who celebrate another year of birthday blessing under Your grace, especially, **Payton Johnson, Oscar Garcia, Ben Lesire, Stephanie Yep, Gloria Alvarado, Mary Stake and Haydin Williams.**

We give You thanks for the witness of unity displayed by the marriages of **Chris & Sandie Rust and Kyle & Virginia Kesting.** Continue to grant them prosperity and every spiritual blessing through the union You established on their wedding day.

Christ is our cornerstone,

C: on Him alone we build.

L: Lord Jesus Christ, we commend all these people and situations into Your hands, for You have promised to hear our prayers and intercede for us and You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, for He is the cornerstone, the sure foundation upon which the newborn, chosen, priestly people of His Church have been built. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

HYMN No. 790 "Praise to the Lord" (vs. 5)

**Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath, Come now with praise before Him!
Let the Amen Sound from His people again;
Gladly forever adore Him!**

PRAYER

P: Praise to You, Lord of heaven and earth. You have revealed Your mercy to us in granting us Your only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. We give thanks for the redemption prepared for us through Jesus Christ and pray You to grant us Your Holy Spirit, that enlightened with a living faith, we might be worthy to receive Him who comes to us in His body and blood.
C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Remember us in Your kingdom Lord, and teach us to pray, saying:
**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 PEACE OF THE LORD

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C: And also with you.

LAMB OF GOD (Agnus Dei) LSB #181

**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, grant us peace.**

WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24;*
Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

P: Now with the very words of Christ we consecrate and partake of this sacred meal together.

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.
This do, as often as you drink it in remembrance of Me.”

L: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

DISTRIBUTION “Beautiful Things” Gungor
LSB # 411 “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

POST-COMMUNION “I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table” (vs. 5)

What higher gift can we inherit?
It is faith’s bond and solid base;
It is the strength of heart and spirit,
The covenant of hope and grace.
Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood
Be for my soul the highest good!

BLESSING OF THE LORD *Numbers 6:24–26*

P: 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.

C: Amen.

HYMN No. 465 “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds” (vss. 1,3 & 4)

Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
In praise of love that still abounds:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here:
"Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;
Set heart and will on things above
That we conquer through Your triumph;
Grant grace sufficient for life's day
That by our lives we truly say:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Adoring praises now we bring
And with the heav'nly blessed sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Be to the Father and our Lord,
To Spirit blest, most holy God,
All the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

SENDING

L: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
C: Thanks be to God!