

## Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 18, 2025

### Order of Worship: Holy Communion, Setting Four

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**Congregational responses are printed in bold type.**

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PRELUDE & BELLS *We observe a moment of silence for prayer and meditation.*

WELCOME

Blessed be the Kingdom...now and forever **and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*We stand* OPENING HYMN

#363

“Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”

*vv1-4*

#### ✠BRIEF RITE FOR CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS✠

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

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence is kept for reflection and personal confession.*

*1John 1:8-9*

Most merciful God... **we confess that we are born captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Jesus Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you- who believe and repent- of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

✠HOLY COMMUNION✠

APOSTOLIC 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.**

LITANY

*Kyrie Eleison*

Lord, Have Mercy

5PM Spoken *2 Corinthians 13:13*



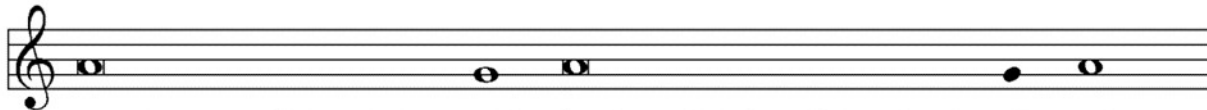
**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



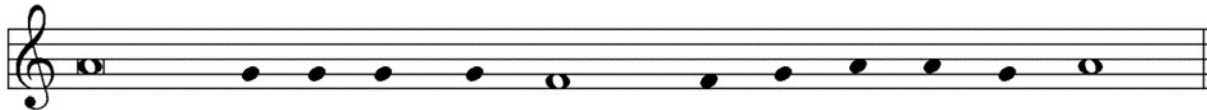
**A** For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



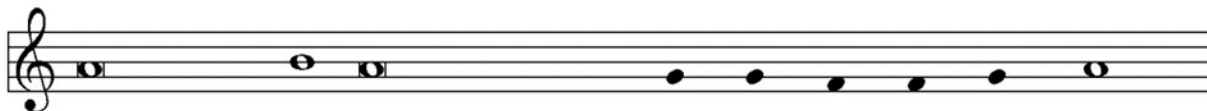
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. **G** A - men



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



**B** Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



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



Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray... O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Next Steps Weekly Memory Verse: JOHN 13:35

*Everyone will know that you are my disciples if you have love for one another.*

## FIRST READING: ACTS 11:1-18

<sup>1</sup> Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup> So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup> saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?” <sup>4</sup> Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup> “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup> As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup> I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ <sup>8</sup> But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ <sup>9</sup> But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ <sup>10</sup> This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. <sup>11</sup> At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup> The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. <sup>13</sup> He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup> he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’ <sup>15</sup> And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup> And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ <sup>17</sup> If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?” <sup>18</sup> When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

RESPONSE & MEDITATION: PSALM 148

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens;  
praise him in the heights.

<sup>2</sup> **Praise him, all you angels of his;  
praise him, all his host.**

<sup>3</sup> Praise him, sun and moon;  
praise him, all you shining stars.

<sup>4</sup> **Praise him, heaven of heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens.**

<sup>5</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD;  
for he commanded, and they were created.

<sup>6</sup> **He made them stand fast forever and ever;  
he gave them a law which shall not pass away**

<sup>7</sup> Praise the LORD from the earth,  
you sea monsters and all deeps;

<sup>8</sup> **fire and hail, snow and fog,  
tempestuous wind, doing his will;**

<sup>9</sup> mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars;

<sup>10</sup> **wild beasts and all cattle,  
creeping things and winged birds;**

<sup>11</sup> kings of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the world;

<sup>12</sup> **young men and maidens,  
old and young together.**

<sup>13</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
for his name only is exalted, his splendor is over earth and heaven.

<sup>14</sup> **He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants,  
the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING: REVELATION 21:1-6

<sup>1</sup> I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; <sup>4</sup> he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." <sup>5</sup> And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup> Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**



GOSPEL READING: JOHN 13:31-35

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup> When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup> Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ <sup>34</sup> I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord **Praise to You, O Christ!**

HYMN OF THE DAY

#359

“Where Charity and Love Prevail”

*vv1-4*

*We sit.* SERMON

*Looking Up*  
**Eat Up!**

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic\* and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the + resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

\*means whole, entire Christi

#### PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray to our risen Savior on behalf of the Church, the world, and one another.

*A brief silence*

Lord Jesus, you are the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the Resurrection and the Life! You bestow, here and now, a vision of that new creation, in which sin and death are no more. Our words falter. We truly are “lost in wonder, love, and praise.” To you alone, blessed Jesus, be the glory!

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Fill your Church with the Holy Spirit. Make it constant in faith, bold in witness, joyful in worship, patient in adversity, cheerful in service, rich in compassion, and radiant with holiness. Through it, lead many, as you led Cornelius and his household, to life, salvation, and fellowship with all who love you.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Embrace, equip, and encourage those who are persecuted on account of you – in Nigeria, Syria, and elsewhere. Do not let us ignore their suffering, but rather find ways to assist and defend them.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Stir up the Spirit's power in this congregation. Make us burn with love for you and for our neighbors. Give us that joy which the world cannot give. Help us share that joy with all who need it most.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless all elementary and middle school children with joy, love of learning, and kindly hearts. Protect them from bullies and abusers, from the world's alluring dangers and hidden threats; and from everything that would darken their hearts or hide your face.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who stand in harm's way on behalf of others. Strengthen them to do their jobs faithfully, bravely and well. Bring them home in safety when their service is completed. Speed the day when there is no more warfare, pain, or death, and all your people may live at peace with you and with each other.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Fill this world with your goodness and righteousness, until every creature, person, nation, and tribe shouts praises to your name for the abundant life that only you can give. Teach the rulers of the nations – and the leaders of commerce, technology, education, medicine, and law – to seek truth; to delight in wisdom; to deliberate and decide with justice; and to act with generosity and humility. And teach everyone to live in peace and fellowship with one another.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Wipe away the tears, and take away the suffering, of all whose need is great. This day we plead on behalf of: {List}. Give them, and all who love them, a measure of your Kingdom's joy and peace.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, you are the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end of all things. You are the light and life of all who died trusting in you. Keep us in fellowship with them, through the bond of your Spirit. By the same Spirit, raise up all whom you have redeemed. Lead us into your Father's presence as a holy community: your family, joy, and treasure forever.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant whatever is in accordance with your will, dear Jesus, and accomplish your salvation among us; for you live in majesty with your Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

#### SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

*We briefly greet those in our row with the words "Peace be with you."*



*We sit.* OFFERING, OFFERTORY SONG & PRAYER- *Giving back to God*



*First- and second-time guests are not expected to give a monetary offering; your Connection Card and your presence this morning are your gifts. Safe, secure & easy electronic giving is available on our website [stpeterhallettsville.org/giving](http://stpeterhallettsville.org/giving) or by scanning this code.*

*We stand* #884

“Praise God”

*tune* #883

A musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The first system of music is for the first line of lyrics, and the second system is for the second line. The lyrics are: "Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost." The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block notes and stems.

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be - low;

praise him a - bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

## GRADUATION MILESTONE

### OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O Lord, our God, king of the universe. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so 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.

It is indeed right and salutary . . . and join their unending hymn:

5PM SPOKEN

**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth... as he comes to us in his holy supper.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

In the night in which he was betrayed, ... Do this for the remembrance of me.

## LORD'S PRAYER

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**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.**

## *We sit.* INVITATION TO COMMUNION

As often as we eat of this bread and drink of this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. **Thanks be to God.**

*Holy Communion is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ present and received in, with, and under the bread and wine. All who are baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit and who believe the Lord's words "This is my body given for you" and "This is my blood poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins" may receive Communion. Young children, not yet receiving Communion, may receive a blessing.*

*(Matt 26:26ff, Mark 14:22ff, Luke 22:19ff, 1 Cor. 11:24ff)*

*Communion administration occurs in a continuous fashion at the Communion rail. The ushers will guide you to the rail. To receive the elements, extend your hand, palm up, to the ministers. White grape juice is available in the center of the trays. For those unable to consume either bread or wine, the Church affirms the Lord's full presence in each element alone. Once you have received the elements, return to your seat by the side aisles. If you do not desire to receive Holy Communion, you may remain seated.*

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION HYMN

#195


"Lamb of God"

*John 1:29*

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, using mostly quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the staves, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace." The score ends with a double bar line.

*We stand* POST-COMMUNION BLESSING, SONG, & PRAYER  
May the true body and blood...keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

“Thank the Lord” 9AM ONLY *p*92



☛ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.  
Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.  
He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy  
with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

Let us pray. Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

#### 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.**

#### CLOSING HYMN

#377

“Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen”

*w*1-2

ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH  
100 North Promenade, Hallettsville, Texas 77964  
(361) 798-2808    www.stpeterhallettsville.org

Our mission is Christ's mission – "I will build my church"  
by developing fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

**Thank you to all who continue to support the quarterly blood drives sponsored by St. Peter!** A special thanks to Cheryl Thompson-Draper and Barb Koehn for coordinating with the South Texas Blood and Tissue staff on the day of the drive. Our Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> collection of blood was the #1 largest in all South Texas. We had 21 persons signed up, 21 heroes show up, and 21 successful donations with **NO deferrals**, which is very, very rare! So, with 21 units of blood collected, the potential of 63 persons' lives will be changed. This is an awesome community outreach for St. Peter, and our next scheduled Drive will be on Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Sincere appreciation goes to all who pray for a positive response to and out come of these events, for those who "give so others my live" and for all who help with advertising...helping to educate the community on the value of blood donation. It truly is a privilege to help coordinate this worthwhile and IMPORTANT life-giving program. Barb Grindeland, Coordinator

**MANNA FOOD PANTRY DRIVE:** Social Ministry will be holding a Food Drive for the Manna Food Pantry until July. The Pantry is in desperate need of cereal and juice. If you would like to contribute, a box in the Narthex and one by the elevator will be available for your donations. Thank you in advance!

**TODAY** Honor Graduate, *Emilie Hotz* during 9AM Service

**TODAY** 2:00 pm Solid Rock End of Year Program: All are invited to attend the End of the Year Program in the Fellowship Hall.

**Sunday, May 25 No 5PM Service**

**Sunday May 25** Safe House Church Celebration (FH)

**Monday, May 26** Church Office Closed for Memorial Day

**SAVE THE DATES IN JUNE 2025:**

Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup> Next Steps Worship Assistant training 10:30 am -12:30 pm

Wednesday, June 11<sup>th</sup> Lifeline Screening will be in the Fellowship Hall. For more information, please see Kari in the office.

Wednesday, June 11<sup>th</sup> Forgiveness & Healing Service at 6:00 pm

**OFFERING YTD (Jan-Apr '24) \$98,554.54; EXPENSES \$83,738.97**  
**DIFFERENCE +/-+\$14,823.57**

**Fifth Sunday of Easter May 18, 2025**

Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 148; Revelation 21:1-6; John 13:31-35

## **St. Peter Church Council Highlights for May 12, 2025**

- Committee & Commission Goals for 2026 due in August

### **This Weekend May 18**

**Sunday AM:** *Assisting:* Barb Grindeland

*Communion Set Up:* Barb Koehn

*Communion Clean Up:* Judy Drozd

*Organist:* Denise Drozd

*Ushers:* Cal Bonzer, Trent Skelton, Michael Woytek, Kevin Sullivan

*Acolytes:* Elli DeForest & Abigail Horton

*Power Point Sunday:* Judy Garmon

*Altar Flowers given by:* Leon & Carol Koehne in honor of granddaughter, Lauren's, graduation from UMHB & in celebration of Carol's Birthday, & in memory of Landon Koehne

*Radio Ministry given by:* Matthew & Martha Bludau in celebration of granddaughter, Emilie Hotz's graduation

**Sunday PM:** *Assisting:* Daniel Drozd

*Communion Clean Up:* Daniel Drozd

### **This Week @ St. Peter**

**Sun** May 18, 9:00 am Worship Service, (*Graduation Sunday*), 10:00 am Coffee Time, 10:30 Adult Christian Learning, 5:00 pm Worship Service

**Mon** May 19, 1:00 pm Quilting, 6:00 pm Men & Women in Mission Meeting

**Tue** May 20, 7:00 pm Prayer Group

**Thu** May 22, 7:00 pm AA/Al-Anon

**Sun** May 25, 9:00 am Worship Service, 10:00 am Coffee Time, 10:30 am Adult Christian Learning, **NO 5:00 pm Worship Service**

**Our Prayer List:**– *Requests listed 4 weeks under **Concerns For** unless otherwise requested.*

Charles Hotz, Charlotte Murphy, Kay Rother, Ms. Alberta, Cherri Fryer, Will Pence, Chandler Rainosek, Barbara Clark, Jane Yamerick, Aaron Sloper, Tommy Kanak, Betsey Rideout

**Extended concerns: *Requests listed 9 months unless otherwise requested.***

Oleen Covey, Gracie Isbell, Jim Brandt, Edmund Koerth, Barbara Tackett, Melissa Grice, Charlotte Hartmann, Michael Drozd, Jeffrey Morgenroth, Charlie Garmon, Carrie Besetsny, DeWayne Dixon, James Evans, Pr. John Schmidt & family *(Missionary in Ghana)*

**Other Concerns: first responders *(military, law enforcement, firefighter, medical)*, Safe House Church *(Hallettsville)*;**

San Miguel *(Ft. Worth)* and Houston Oromo Lutheran Churches, President Trump, our country

**Grieving Families of:** Elliette Mae Kocian, Gary Muehr, Darlene Kastner, Jordan Ramirez, Bernadette Bludau, Percy Spradlin, Kim Fowlkes, Jean Niemietz, Steve Kutach, Andy Seay, Emmanuel Velasquez, Michelle Greenwell, Michelle Goranson, Howard & Dean Loewe

**Serving Next Weekend: May 25**

**Sunday AM:** *Assisting:* Cheryl Draper

*Communion Set Up:* Stephanie Foeh

*Communion Clean Up:* Mary Schroeder

*Organist:* Denise Drozd

*Ushers:* Cal Bonzer, Trent Skelton, Michael Woytek, Kevin Sullivan

*Acolytes:* Benson Adee and Ariel Muehr

*Power Point Sunday:* Sophie Teltschik

*Altar Flowers given by:* Shannon & Kari DeForest in celebration of our 35<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

*Radio Ministry given by:* OPEN

**NO Sunday PM**

**ENTRANCE HYMN (ELW) *Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain* (ELW 363)**

Text by John Mason Neale; Music by Johann Horn

1 Come, you faithful, raise the strain  
of triumphant gladness!  
God has brought forth Israel  
into joy from sadness,  
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke  
Jacob's sons and daughters;  
led them with unmoistened foot  
through the Red Sea waters.

2 'Tis the spring of souls today:  
Christ has burst his prison,  
and from three days' sleep in death  
as a sun has risen.  
All the winter of our sins,  
long and dark, is flying  
from the Light to whom we give  
laud and praise undying.

3 Now the queen of seasons, bright  
with the day of splendor,  
with the royal feast of feasts  
comes its joy to render;  
comes to glad Jerusalem,  
who with true affection  
welcomes in unwearied strain  
Jesus' resurrection!

4 Neither could the gates of death,  
nor the tomb's dark portal,  
nor the watchers, nor the seal  
hold you as a mortal:  
but today, among your own,  
you appear, bestowing  
your deep peace, which evermore  
passes human knowing.



## **HYMN OF THE DAY (ELW) *Where Charity and Love Prevail* (ELW 359)**

Text by Omer Westendorf; Music by Lucius Chapin

1 Where charity and love prevail,  
there God is ever found;  
brought here together by Christ's love,  
by love we thus are bound.

2 With grateful joy and holy fear,  
God's charity we learn;  
let us with heart and mind and soul  
now love God in return.

3 Let us recall that in our midst  
dwells Christ, God's holy Son;  
as members of each body joined,  
in him we are made one.

4 Let strife among us be unknown;  
let all contentions cease.  
Be God's the glory that we seek;  
be his our only peace.

## **CLOSING HYMN (ELW) *Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!* (ELW 377)**

Text by Herbert F. Brokering; Music by David N. Johnson

1 Alleluia! Jesus is risen!  
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!  
Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever!  
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!

### ***Refrain***

Jesus is risen and we shall arise.  
Give God the glory! Alleluia!

2 Walking the way, Christ in the center  
telling the story to open our eyes;  
breaking our bread, giving us glory:  
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise. *Refrain*