

King of Kings Lutheran Church

Connecting People to Christ Now and Forever

The Fifth Sunday of Easter **May 18, 2025 | 8:15am**

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Thank you for worshiping with us at King of Kings! Our prayer is that the Holy Spirit will draw you closer to the living God through your time of worship today and strengthen your connection to Christ our Savior.

PARTICIPATION IN HOLY COMMUNION

St. Paul urges us to examine ourselves before partaking of Holy Communion (*1 Cor. 11:28*). We urge you to do so, on the basis of these questions.

- 1. Do you believe you are a sinner? (*Romans 3:23*)**
- 2. Are you truly sorry for your sins? (*Psalms 51:17*)**
- 3. Do you believe in Jesus Christ as your Savior? (*Romans 5:6-8*)**
- 4. Do you intend with the power of the Holy Spirit, to amend your sinful life? (*Romans 6:1-4*)**
- 5. Do you believe you receive Christ's true Body and Blood along with the blessed bread and wine for the forgiveness of your sins?**

In the Lutheran Church, Holy Communion, is considered a public confession of our common faith. If you are a visitor unfamiliar with the teachings of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, out of respect for your own faith tradition, we invite you to receive a blessing by placing your right hand over your heart when you come forward.

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Hymn

O Holy Spirit, Enter In – LSB 913

O Holy Spirit, enter in, and in our hearts Your work begin,
Your dwelling place now make us.
Sun of the soul, O Light divine, around and in us brightly shine,
To joy and gladness wake us
That we may be truly living, to You giving prayer unceasing
And in love be still increasing.

Give to Your Word impressive pow'r, that in our hearts from this good hour
As fire it may be glowing,
That in true Christian unity we faithful witnesses may be,
Your glory ever showing.
Hear us, cheer us by Your teaching; let our preaching and our labor
Praise You, Lord, and serve our neighbor.

O mighty Rock, O Source of life, let Your dear Word, in doubt and strife,
In us be strongly burning
That we be faithful unto death and live in love and holy faith,
From You true wisdom learning.
Your grace and peace on us shower; by Your power Christ confessing,
Let us see our Savior's blessing.

Text: Michael Schirmer, Catherine Winkworth, *The Lutheran Hymnal* | Tune: Philipp Nicolai | Lutheran Service Book #913

Invocation

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

Exhortation

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

Confession of Sins

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **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.**

Absolution

P 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.

C **Amen.**

Kyrie

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **(J) Lord, have mercy.**

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

C **(J) Lord, have mercy.**

P 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.

C **(J) Lord, have mercy.**

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

C **(J) Lord, have mercy.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **(J) Amen.**

This Is the Feast

C **(J) 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 Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P O God, our heavenly Father,

C **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. Amen.**

Service of the Word

First Reading

Acts 11:19–30

¹⁹Now those who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except Jews. ²⁰But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who on coming to Antioch spoke to the Hellenists also, preaching the Lord Jesus. ²¹And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number who believed turned to the Lord. ²²The report of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. ²³When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose, ²⁴for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. ²⁵So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, ²⁶and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church and taught a great many people. And in Antioch the disciples were first called Christians.

²⁷Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. ²⁸And one of them named Agabus stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world (this took place in the days of Claudius). ²⁹So the disciples determined, everyone according to his ability, to send relief to the brothers living in Judea. ³⁰And they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Revelation 21:1–7

¹Then 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. ²And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

⁵And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶And 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 from the spring of the water of life without payment. ⁷The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son."

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse

C (J) **Alleluia.**

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

John 16:12–22

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹²[Jesus said:] "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

¹⁶"A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me."
¹⁷So some of his disciples said to one another, "What is this that he says to us, 'A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me'; and, 'because I am going to the Father'?" ¹⁸So they were saying, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We do not know what he is talking about." ¹⁹Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, "Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, 'A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me'? ²⁰Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. ²¹When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. ²²So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Children's Message

Sermon Hymn

What God Ordains is Always Good – LSB 760

Verses 1, 2, 5, 6

What God ordains is always good: His will is just and holy.
As He directs my life for me, I follow meek and lowly.
My God indeed in ev'ry need knows well how He will shield me;
To Him, then, I will yield me.

What God ordains is always good: He never will deceive me;
He leads me in His righteous way, And never will He leave me.
I take content what He has sent; His hand that sends me sadness
Will turn my tears to gladness.

What God ordains is always good: though I the cup am drinking
Which savors now of bitterness, I take it without shrinking.
For after grief God gives relief, my heart with comfort filling
And all my sorrow stilling.

What God ordains is always good: this truth remains unshaken.
Though sorrow, need, or death be mine, I shall not be forsaken.
I fear no harm, for with His arm He shall embrace and shield me;
So to my God I yield me.

Text: Samuel Rodigast, *The Lutheran Hymnal* | Tune: Severus Gastorius | Lutheran Service Book #760

Sermon

Nicene Creed

C 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 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.

Gathering of Tithes & Offerings

Prayers of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C (J) And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C (J) We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C (J) It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- 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. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

- G** (J) **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.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- G** **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

- G** **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

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

C (♩) **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.

Participation in Holy Communion

St. Paul urges us to examine ourselves before partaking of Holy Communion (*1 Cor. 11:28*). It is only right that we first recognize our sin before receiving God's grace in this holy meal. In the Lutheran Church, Holy Communion, is considered a public confession of our common faith. If you are a visitor unfamiliar with the teachings of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, out of respect for your own faith tradition, we invite you to receive a blessing. Place your right hand over your heart with your head bowed to receive a blessing.

Distribution Hymn

The Gifts Christ Freely Gives – LSB 602

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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!

Text: Richard C. Resch | Tune: Charles J. Dale | © 2001 Richard C. Resch | LSB Hymn License no. 110004465 | Lutheran Service Book #602

Thank the Lord

**☞ (♩) Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Benediction

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.

Closing Hymn

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus – LSB 685

Let us ever walk with Jesus, follow His example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us and to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in His footsteps treading, pilgrims here, our home above,
Full of faith and hope and love, let us do the Father's bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide; I shall follow where You guide.

Let us suffer here with Jesus and with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness; where He is, there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter, we shall reap celestial joy;
All discomforts that annoy shall give way to mirth hereafter.
Jesus, here I share Your woe; help me there Your joy to know.

Let us gladly die with Jesus. Since by death He conquered death,
He will free us from destruction, give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion that would lead us into sin;
And the grave that shuts us in shall but prove the gate to heaven.
Jesus, here with You I die, there to live with You on high.

Let us also live with Jesus. He has risen from the dead
That to life we may awaken. Jesus, You are now our head.
We are Your own living members; where You live, there we shall be
In Your presence constantly, living there with You forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be, life eternal grant to me.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, *Lutheran Book of Worship* | Tune: Georg G. Boltze | © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship | LSB Hymn License no. 110004465 | Lutheran Service Book #685

Announcements

Sending

- P** With boldness and courage we go now, believing this eternal truth...
- C** **God has not given us a spirit of fear but of power and authority to do the good works He has prepared for us to do. Amen.**

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