



First Lutheran Church

Sunday, May 3, 2026 | Fifth Sunday of Easter



Today is sometimes called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus is called the "gate" of the sheep in today's gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism.

Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world's violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God's tender care to all creation.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: Merciful God, **C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out our offenses. Release us from the guilt and shame we carry, and renew a right spirit within us. Teach us your ways, and uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN | *Lord God, We Praise You* | ELW #558, vs 1,3

1. Lord God, we praise you, now the night is over, active and watchful, standing here before you; singing, we offer prayer and meditation; thus we adore you.
3. All-holy Father, Son, and equal Spirit, Trinity blessed, send us your salvation; yours is the glory, gleaming and resounding through all creation.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Almighty God, **C: your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

MUSICAL MESSAGE | *Gaudeamus - Arnold B. Sherman* | *Alleluia Ringers*

FIRST READING | *Acts 7:55-60*

⁵⁵ Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

RESPONSIVE PSALM | *Psalms 31:1-5; 15-16*

R: In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

C: Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.

R: Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

C: Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.

R: Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.

C: My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

R: Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love."

SECOND READING | 1 Peter 2:2-10

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." ⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," ⁸ and "A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ 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.

R: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | ELW pg. 205

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.
Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.
Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL | John 14:1-14

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 14th Chapter. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON | Pastor Matthew Rossler

SONG OF THE DAY | Confidence

I'm not a warrior, I'm too afraid to lose. I feel unqualified for what You're calling me to do.
But Lord with Your strength I've got no excuse 'Cause broken people are exactly who You use.

**Chorus: So give me faith like Daniel in the lion's den. Give me hope like Moses in the wilderness.
Give me a heart like David. Lord, be my defense So I can face my giants with confidence.**

You took a shepherd boy and made him a king. So I'm gonna trust You and give You ev'rything.
I'll be a conqueror cause You fight for me. I'll be a champion claiming your victory. **Chorus**

I'm gonna sing and shout and shake the wall. Won't stop until I see 'em fall.
Gonna stand up, step out when You call. Jesus, Jesus.
I'm gonna sing and shout and shake the wall. Won't stop until I see 'em fall.
Gonna stand up, step out when You call. Jesus.

Chorus (2 times)

I'll face my giants with confidence.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P: Lord in your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer.**

SHARING OF PEACE

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

OFFERING / NOISY OFFERING | *May: Lutheran World Relief*

OFFERTORY SONG | *Holy, Holy, Holy | ELW #473*

1. Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you.
My heart is glad to say the words: You are holy God. **(Sing 2x)**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Loving God, **C: receive this offering for the building up of your kingdom: the proclamation of your word and the loving of our neighbor. Amen.**

NEW MEMBER WELCOME & BLESSING

*Peter & Ann Jacobson
Randy & Karen Henrikson
Valerie Nielsen
Bonnie Erickson
Sandy Muchow
Erik Jorgenson & children Jolee and Parker*

COMMUNION

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

C: 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.

Distribution

Post Communion Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

C: Gracious God, at this table you have nourished our body and soul with food and drink. As you have been food and drink for us, transform us to be food and drink for one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN | *Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna! | ELW # 383*

- 1 Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed.
In the desert all surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.
- 2 Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.
- 3 Christ is risen! Earth and heaven nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna, ev'ryone!

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE



ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMBERSHIP SUNDAY

Today is new member Sunday! Join us in the Fellowship Hall after the worship service for delightful refreshments and say hello to our newest members.

FLC FOUNDATION UPDATE

The First Lutheran Church Foundation of Detroit Lakes serves the mission of the church through financial giving exclusively for charitable, religious, literary, or educational purposes. Our April quarterly meeting approved funding requests for FLC Vacation Bible School, a matching grant to complete furnishing and equipping of the Library meeting room, and Teach Haiti.

FIRST LUTHERAN FOUNDATION SENIOR SCHLORSHIP AWARDS

Each year, the Foundation awards scholarships to graduating FLC seniors. This year's Foundation Scholarships were awarded to:
Carter Ask, Carter Whitworth, Alonna Moench, Brock Burhans, Peyton Malecka, Kyleigh Okeson, Mya Omberg, Emily Peterson.
Congratulations!

THE CHOSEN BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays at 1 pm. in the library Through May 5.
Now watching season 2!

FLC WOMEN'S BRUNCH

Saturday May 9, 9:30am
All FLC women are invited ~ bring your kids ~ bring a friend! A freewill offering will be taken to benefit the Boys & Girls Club of DL. Bring an item for the hygiene kits. Door prizes! Food! Fun!

SUMMER WORSHIP TIMES

May 24 | 8:30 & 10:30am
Summer is almost here and our worship service times will be changing on May 24 to 8:30 indoors and 10:30am outdoors on the lawn. If you are joining us outside, please bring a lawn chair or blanket.

BLESSING CLOSET NEEDS

Currently we are need of: spring/summer clothing, reusable shopping bags/tote bags & blankets.. Donations can be brought to the church office.
Thanks!

Prayers for God's People

*Ongoing prayers for:
Bill Wegschied, Judy Wood, Larry Kjono, Tyler Wilson, Dave & Pam Nustad, Cami Eckhoff, Kathy Larson, Marlys Douglas, Dorothy Havercamp, Vicky Havercamp, Dianne McKinney, Haley & Mel Johnson*

Today's altar flowers have been given in honor of our 2026 Confirmands!

UPCOMING DATES

May 3 | Confirmation Sunday
May 3 & 6 | New Member Welcome
May 3 | Last Day of Kid's Fellowship
May 6 | Last Day of Oasis
May 17 | Annual Meeting
May 24 Outdoor worship begins
May 25 | Memorial Day
June 22—25 | VBS

Youth & Family

KID'S FELLOWSHIP

Sundays @ 10:30 for all kids grade prek-5. *Today is the last day!*

HIGH SCHOOL FREE LUNCH

*May 14 & 28 @ 11:30am
At Pizza Ranch*

HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER TRIP

*July 19-23
To Wolf Ridge, Finland, MN
Registration deadline, May 14.*

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 22-25

Open to kids completing K-5th grade. Cost: FREE! Registration now open.



SUMMER CAMP

Are you planning on sending your kids to camp this summer? Scholarships are available. Scan QR code for more info.



Thanks for worshipping with us!

Lead Pastor: Joe Skogmo
Associate Pastor: Matthew Rossler
Music Director: Karen Bimberg

Prefer electronic giving? Scan the QR code to give online. Then, drop the **green laminated slip** in the offering plate.

GIVE ONLINE

