



THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 10, 2026 | 8:00 AND 10:30 AM

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH; CONCORDIA, MO

ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP

Alleluia! Christ is risen! During the Easter Season, we celebrate resurrection—the resurrection of Jesus as well as our own. We are God's new creation, filled with the undying life of our Savior. As the Spirit fills the Church on Pentecost, this life invigorates God's people for mission and ministry. *This is Part 5 of a year-long series, "A Year in Matthew."*

P Pastor **C** Congregation/All

✠ All may make the sign of the cross to remember their baptism.



Led by the Holy Spirit, we gather for worship.
We are prepared for worship through Confession and Absolution.

PRELUDE & WELCOME

OPENING HYMN 474 *"Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen"*

BAPTISM OF CLYDE VERNON STUENKEL (10:30 am)

CONFESSION OF SINS & FORGIVENESS 1 John 1:8–9

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

C Amen.

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.**

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.**

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.

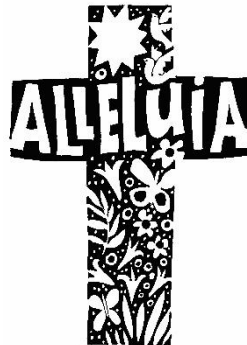
EASTER GREETING

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

INTROIT | Entrance

Psalm 119:89–93; antiphon: v. 105

- P** Your word is a lamp to my feet
C and a light to my path.
P Forever, O LORD, your word
C is firmly fixed in the heavens.
P Your faithfulness endures to all generations;
C you have established the earth, and it stands fast.
P By your appointment they stand this day,
C for all things are your servants.
P If your law had not been my delight,
C I would have perished in my affliction.
P I will never forget your precepts,
C for by them you have given me life.
C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
P Your word is a lamp to my feet
C and a light to my path.



HYMN OF PRAISE “This Is the Feast”

Revelation 5:12–13; 19:5–9; for text and tune, see page 155.

Refrain: (sing) This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

- C** Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
Whose blood set us free to be people of God. *Refrain*

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
And honor, blessing and glory are His. *Refrain*

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. *Refrain*

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign.
Alleluia. *Refrain*

SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

VERSE OF THE MONTH *Psalm 95:1–2*

C Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!



We hear God's Word read and proclaimed,
and we respond with our prayers and praise, tithes and offerings.

FIRST READING *Acts 17:16–31*

Saint Paul proclaims the Gospel to the people in Athens.

¹⁶While Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. ¹⁸Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, “What does this babbler wish to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities”—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. ¹⁹And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?”

²⁰For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean.” ²¹Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

²²So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, ‘To the unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord

of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ²⁶And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, ²⁷that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, ²⁸for ‘In him we live and move

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *1 Peter 3:13–22*

Christ suffered unjustly to bear the sins of all people, so that we, who are unrighteous, may be made righteous. Baptism is the sign and seal of this new reality.

¹³Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God’s will, than for doing evil.

¹⁸For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that

and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we are indeed his offspring.’ ²⁹Being then God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. ³⁰The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, ²⁰because they formerly did not obey, when God’s patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. ²¹Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE *John 6:68; for text and tune, see page 156.*

G (sung) Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 21:12–22*

Jesus clears the temple of those who sought to make a dishonest profit on the religious pilgrims. True disciples will bear God-pleasing fruit of faith.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.



G Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹² And Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who sold and bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. ¹³ He said to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer,’ but you make it a den of robbers.”

¹⁴ And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them.

¹⁵ But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying out in the temple, “Hosanna to the Son of David!” they were indignant, ¹⁶ and they said to him, “Do you hear what these are saying?” And Jesus said to them, “Yes; have you never read, ‘Out of the mouth of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise’?”

¹⁷ And leaving them, he went out of the city to Bethany and lodged there.

¹⁸ In the morning, as he was returning to the city, he became hungry. ¹⁹ And seeing a fig tree by the wayside, he went to it and found nothing on it but only leaves. And he said to it, “May no fruit ever come from you again!” And the fig tree withered at once.

²⁰ When the disciples saw it, they marveled, saying, “How did the fig tree wither at once?” ²¹ And Jesus answered them, “Truly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what has been done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and thrown into the sea,’ it will happen. ²² And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON HYMN 691 *“Fruitful Trees, the Spirit’s Sowing”*

SERMON *Called to Live: “Living What We Confess”*

CONFESSION OF FAITH (8:00 am)

Martin Luther's explanation of the Second Article of the Apostle's Creed

C I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

GATHERING OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

All may sign the friendship register found in each pew.

Music during the offering:

DUET "Scatter the Darkness, Break the Gloom" setting by Robert J. Powell (8 am)

ANTHEM "You Are My All in All" by Dennis Jernigan (SPLS 6-8 Choir, 10:30 am)

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION MILESTONE

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition:

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

The 8:00 am service concludes with the Lord's Prayer, Benediction, Easter Greeting, and Closing Hymn 490, "Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won."



We receive God's gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation
as we share the Sacrament of the Altar.

The 10:30 am service continues with the Preface on page 160 in the hymnal.

We believe that in the Lord's Supper our Lord gives to us His true body and blood with the bread and the wine for the forgiveness of

our sins. We recognize the charge that St. Paul offers in 1 Corinthians 11:27–28 that those who come to receive the Lord’s Supper ought to examine themselves so that they do not eat and drink in an unworthy manner. Therefore, out of concern for those who have not been instructed in the faith or who hold to a different confession, we ask that only members of Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregations receive the Sacrament. If you would like to learn more about what our congregation teaches, to inquire about becoming a member or have questions about our practice, please speak to one of the pastors. Adults and children who have not yet been baptized or instructed in the Christian faith are invited to come forward and receive a spoken blessing at the altar rail; please indicate this by crossing your arms across your chest.

For those who require it, diluted wine is found in the purple glasses in the center of the tray of individual cups; gluten free wafers are available upon request.

Music during distribution:

HYMN 483 *“With High Delight Let Us Unite”*

HYMN 627 *“Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior”*

HYMN 821 *“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”*



Even as this time of worship ends, we go out of the church into the worship of our everyday lives, ready to be God’s witnesses and do His will.

The service concludes with the Post-Communion Canticle (“Thank the Lord”), Post-Communion Collect, and Benediction on pages 164–166.

EASTER GREETING

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

G He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

CLOSING HYMN 490 *“Jesus Lives! The Victory’s Won”*

ANNOUNCEMENTS, SENDING & POSTLUDE

P Go in peace; serve the Lord.

G Thanks be to God!

This week's takeaway: Our Gospel today holds both harsh Law and beautiful Gospel. It holds Jesus' judgement of Jerusalem's religious elite (and a fig tree!) but loving recognition of little children and promised strength and providence for confused disciples. Today, we are pointed to faith that confesses Jesus in His fullness—and that is life changing.

Portions of this service from *Lutheran Service Book*, copyright © 2006, Concordia Publishing House. Used with permission.

Unless otherwise noted, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, ESV® Text Edition: 2016. Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers.

Church year icon on cover designed using resources from Flaticon.com; used with permission.

SERVING IN THIS SERVICE

Rev. Michael Pottschmidt, *Liturgist*

Rev. Andrew Lehenbauer, *Preacher*

Katie Drefs, *Organist*

Sarah Sullivan, Kahlan Haase, *Clarinet*

Rachel Martens, *SPLS 6–8 Choir Director (10:30 am)*

Annabelle Walsh, *Violin (10:30 am)*

Eli Boehmer, Liam Clayton, *Acolytes (8:00 am)*

Lane Brackman, Henry Mills, *Acolytes (10:30 am)*

Tim & Robin Kerksick, *Greeters (8:00 am)*

Ann Wolters, *Greeter (10:30 am)*

John Beerman, Andy Jones, Mark Schelp, *Elders on Duty*

PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP

Acts 1:1–11; Ephesians 1:15–23; Matthew 24:1–14

Hymns (*Lutheran Service Book*): 495, 348, 491, 492, 494, 512, 493



"Making a Christ-centered difference in our community and world today and for eternity."

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

401 S. MAIN STREET, CONCORDIA, MO 64020

CHURCH OFFICE: (660) 463-2291 | SCHOOL OFFICE: (660) 463-7654
STPAULSCONCORDIA.ORG | FACEBOOK.COM/STPAULSCONCORDIAMO