

# THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 3, 2026

9:00 a.m.

**PRELUDE** . . . . . “Christ is Made the Sure Foundation” . Carla Barrowsby

David Cherwien

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**WELCOME** . . . . . Pastor Lonnie Gonzales, Associate Pastor of Outreach

**PROCESSIONAL** . “Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation” . . . . . LSB 909

Christ is made the sure foundation,  
Christ, our head and cornerstone,  
Chosen of the Lord and precious,  
Binding all the Church in one;  
Holy Zion’s help forever  
And our confidence alone.

To this temple, where we call You,  
Come, O Lord of hosts, and stay;  
Come with all Your loving-kindness,  
Hear Your people as they pray;  
And Your fullest benediction  
Shed within these walls today.

Grant, we pray, to all Your faithful  
All the gifts they ask to gain;  
What they gain from You, forever  
With the blessed to retain;  
And hereafter in Your glory  
Evermore with You to reign.

Praise and honor to the Father,  
Praise and honor to the Son,  
Praise and honor to the Spirit,  
Ever three and ever one:  
One in might and one in glory  
While unending ages run!

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## INVOCATION

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

**C** Amen.

## CONFESSION

**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.**

## **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  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## **HYMN OF PRAISE . . . . . “This is the Feast” . . . . . LSB 155**

All: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Women: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

All: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Men: Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

All: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Women: 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.

All: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Men: For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

All: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## SALUTATION

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** O God, 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.

**C** Amen.

## FIRST READING. . . . .Acts 6:1-9, 7:2a, 51-60

**R** The First Reading is from the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Chapters of Acts.

**R** <sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

<sup>7</sup>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.

<sup>8</sup>And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. <sup>9</sup>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. . . .

<sup>2</sup>And Stephen said: “Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . .

<sup>51</sup>You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. <sup>52</sup>Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, <sup>53</sup>you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.”

<sup>54</sup>Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. <sup>55</sup>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. <sup>56</sup>And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” <sup>57</sup>But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. <sup>58</sup>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. <sup>59</sup>And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” <sup>60</sup>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. (ESV)

**R** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE READING** . . . . . 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

**R** The Epistle Reading is from the 4<sup>th</sup> Chapter of 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians.

**R** <sup>1</sup>Finally, then, brothers, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us how you ought to live and to please God, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more. <sup>2</sup>For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. <sup>3</sup>For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; <sup>4</sup>that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, <sup>5</sup>not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; <sup>6</sup>that no one transgress and wrong his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. <sup>7</sup>For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. <sup>8</sup>Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives His Holy Spirit to you.

<sup>9</sup>Now concerning brotherly love you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another, <sup>10</sup>for that indeed is what you are doing to all the brothers throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, brothers, to do this more and more, <sup>11</sup>and

to aspire to live quietly, and to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we instructed you, <sup>12</sup>so that you may live properly before outsiders and be dependent on no one. (ESV)

**R** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**ALLELUIA AND VERSE** . . . . . LSB 156

**C** Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

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

**HOLY GOSPEL** . . . . . John 14:1-14

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

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

**P** <sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in Me. <sup>2</sup>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? <sup>3</sup>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.

<sup>4</sup>And you know the way to where I am going.” <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going. How can we know the way?” <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. <sup>7</sup>If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also. From now on you do know Him and have seen Him.”

<sup>8</sup>Philip said to Him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.”

<sup>9</sup>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’? <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

<sup>12</sup>“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. <sup>13</sup>Whatever you ask in My name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.” (ESV)

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

**CONFESSION OF FAITH . . . . . 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.**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE . . . . .** Haley Zimmerman, Director of Youth and  
Children’s Ministries

**MESSAGE. . . . .** Pastor Lonnie Gonzales

**RESPONSE. . . . .** “Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me” . . . . . LSB 722

Lord, take my hand and lead me Upon life’s way;  
Direct, protect, and feed me From day to day.  
Without Your grace and favor I go astray;  
So take my hand, O Savior, And lead the way.

Lord, when the tempest rages, I need not fear,  
For You, the Rock of Ages, Are always near.  
Close by Your side abiding, I fear no foe,  
For when Your hand is guiding, In peace I go.

Lord, when the shadows lengthen And night has come,  
I know that You will strengthen My steps toward home.  
Then nothing can impede me, O blessèd Friend;  
So take my hand and lead me Unto the end.

## PRAYERS

### LORD'S PRAYER

☐ 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.

### OFFERING

*(Offerings may be submitted online to [www.trinitydt.org](http://www.trinitydt.org), by mail to Trinity Downtown, 800 Houston Ave., Houston, TX 77007 or dropped off at the office, M-F, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)*

**MUSICAL OFFERING.** . . . "My Hope Is in the Lord" . . . . . Sanctuary Choir  
by Norman Clayton & Marianne Forman

*My hope is in the Lord, who gave Himself for me,  
And paid the price of all my sin at Calvary.  
For me He died; for me He lives,  
And everlasting life and light He freely gives.  
  
No merit of my own, His anger to suppress.  
My only hope is found in Jesus' righteousness.  
For me He died; for me He lives,  
And everlasting life and light He freely gives.*

*And now for me He stands before the Father's throne.  
He shows His wounded hands and names me as His own!*

*For me He died; for me He lives,  
And everlasting life and light He freely gives.*

*His grace has planned it all, 'tis mine but to believe  
And recognize His work of love and Christ receive.*

*For me He died; for me He lives,  
And everlasting life and light He freely gives.*

*My hope is in the Lord, who gave Himself for me.*

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## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**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  $\text{✝}$  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  $\text{✝}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me” ..... LSB 683

Jesus, Thy boundless love to me  
No thought can reach, no tongue declare;  
Unite my thankful heart to Thee,  
And reign without a rival there!  
Thine wholly, Thine alone I am;  
Be Thou alone my constant flame.

O grant that nothing in my soul  
May dwell, but Thy pure love alone;  
Oh, may Thy love possess me whole,  
My joy, my treasure, and my crown!  
All coldness from my heart remove;  
My ev'ry act, word, thought be love.

This love unwearied I pursue  
And dauntlessly to Thee aspire.  
Oh, may Thy love my hope renew,  
Burn in my soul like heav'nly fire!  
And day and night, be all my care  
To guard this sacred treasure there.

In suff'ring be Thy love my peace,  
In weakness be Thy love my pow'r;  
And when the storms of life shall cease,  
O Jesus, in that final hour,  
Be Thou my rod and staff and guide,  
And draw me safely to Thy side!

O living Bread from heaven,  
How well You feed your guest!  
The gifts that You have given  
Have filled my heart with rest.  
Oh, wondrous food of blessing,  
Oh, cup that heals our woes!  
My heart, this gift possessing,  
With praises overflows.

My Lord, You here have led me  
To this most holy place  
And with Yourself have fed me  
The treasures of Your grace;  
For You have freely given  
What earth could never buy,  
The bread of life from heaven,  
That now I shall not die.

You gave me all I wanted;  
This food can death destroy.  
And You have freely granted  
The cup of endless joy.  
My Lord, I do not merit  
The favor You have shown,  
And all my soul and spirit  
Bow down before Your throne.

Lord, grant me then, thus strengthened  
With heav'nly food, while here  
My course on earth is lengthened,  
To serve with holy fear.  
And when You call my spirit  
To leave this world below,  
I enter, through Your merit,  
Where joys unmingled flow.

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“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing” . . . . . LSB 643

Sent forth by God’s blessing,  
Our true faith confessing,  
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.  
The Supper is ended.  
O now be extended  
The fruits of this service in all who believe.  
The seed of His teaching,  
Receptive souls reaching,  
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.  
His grace did invite us,  
His love shall unite us  
To work for God’s kingdom and answer His call.

With praise and thanksgiving  
To God ever-living,  
The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.  
Our faith ever sharing,  
In love ever caring,  
Embracing His children of each tribe and race.  
With Your feast You feed us,  
With Your light now lead us;  
Unite us as one in this life that we share.  
Then may all the living  
With praise and thanksgiving  
Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

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## **DISMISSAL**

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✝ in peace.
- 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.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus,  
Ye soldiers of the cross.  
Lift high His royal banner;  
It must not suffer loss.  
From vict'ry unto vict'ry  
His army He shall lead  
Till ev'ry foe is vanquished,  
And Christ is Lord indeed.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus;  
The trumpet call obey;  
Stand forth in mighty conflict  
In this His glorious day.  
Let all His faithful serve Him  
Against unnumbered foes;  
Let courage rise with danger  
And strength to strength oppose.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus;  
Stand in His strength alone.  
The arm of flesh will fail you,  
Ye dare not trust your own.  
Put on the Gospel armor;  
Each piece put on with prayer.  
Where duty calls or danger,  
Be never wanting there.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus;  
The strife will not be long;  
This day the din of battle,  
The next the victor's song.  
The soldiers, overcoming,  
Their crown of life shall see  
And with the King of Glory  
Shall reign eternally.

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**POSTLUDE** . . . . . “Stand Up, Stand up for Jesus” . . . . . Carla Barrows

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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