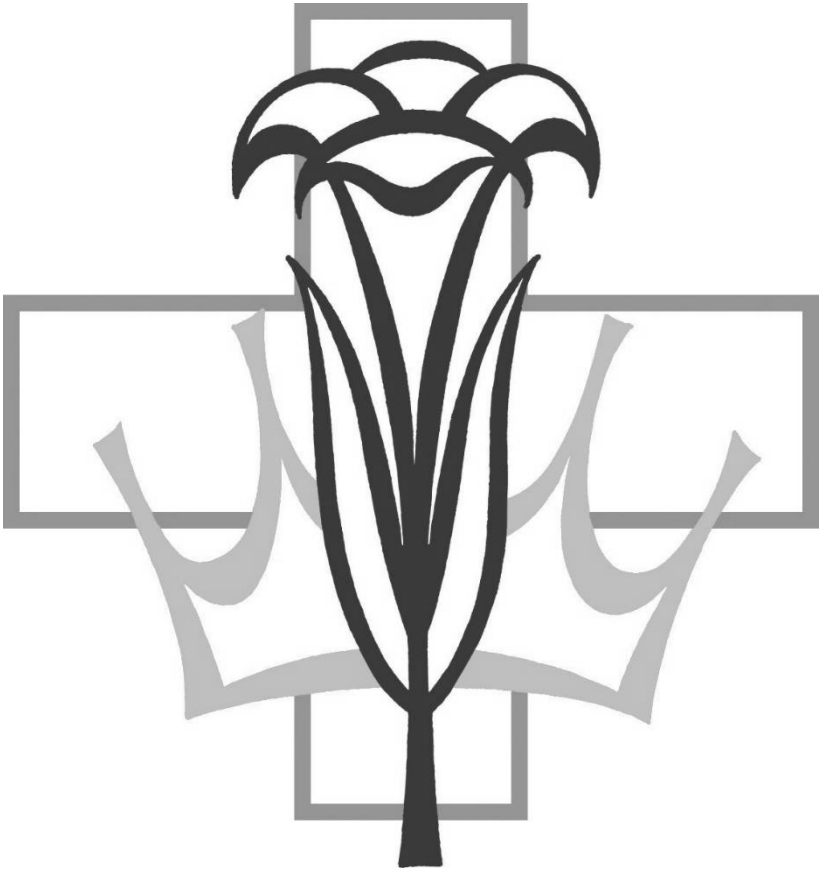


The Lutheran Church of the Savior

A Community of Faith: *Centered in Christ – Called to Serve*



Order of Worship

May 10, 2026 10:45 AM

The Lutheran Church of the Savior

426 Davis Road - Bedford, MA 01730

church@lcsavior.org 781-275-6013

<https://www.lcsavior.org>

Rev. Nils Niemeier, Pastor

email: pastor@lcsavior.org

Introit

Psalm 119:89–93; antiphon: v. 105

Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.

Forever, O LORD, your word
is firmly fixed in the heavens.

Your faithfulness endures to all generations;
you have established the earth, and it stands fast.

By your appointment they stand this day,
for all things are your servants.

If your law had not been my delight,
I would have perished in my affliction.

I will never forget your precepts,
for by them you have given me life.

*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.*

Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.

Communion Theology and Practice

Please see our statement of Communion Theology and Practice
on the back page of the worship bulletin.

*If you are a visitor with us this morning and wish to receive the
Lord's Supper, please speak with the pastor before the service.*

Thank you.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Divine Service, Setting Four

Welcome

Stand

O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth

LSB 834



1 O God, O Lord of heav'n and earth, Thy liv - ing
2 Our fa - tal will to e - qual Thee, Our reb - el
3 Thou cam - est to our hall of death, O Christ, to
△ 4 O Spir - it, who didst once re - store Thy Church that



fin - ger nev - er wrote That life should be an aim -
will wrought death and night. We seized and used in pride -
breathe our poi - soned air, To drink for us the dark
it might be a - gain The bring - er of good news



less mote, A death - ward drift from fu - tile birth.
ful spite Thy won - drous gift of lib - er - ty,
de - spair That stran - gled our re - luc - tant breath.
to men, Breathe on Thy clo - ven Church once more,



Thy Word meant life tri - um - phant hurled In splen - dor through
We housed us in this house of doom, Where death had roy -
How beau - ti - ful the feet that trod The road that leads
That in these gray and lat - ter days There may be those



Thy bro - ken world. Since light a - woke and life be - gan,
al scope and room, Un - til Thy ser - vant, Prince of Peace,
us back to God! How beau - ti - ful the feet that ran
whose life is praise, Each life a high dox - ol - o - gy



Thou hast de - sired Thy life for man.
Breached all its walls for our re - lease.
To bring the great good news to man!
To Fa - ther, Son, and un - to Thee.

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76, alt. Tune: Jan O. Bender, 1909–94

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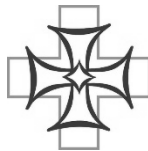
Confession and Absolution

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

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**
- P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Kneel/Stand

- C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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.**



Stand

Service of the Word

Psalm

Psalm 66:8–20; antiphon: v. 8



A Together, we sing Psalm 66 responsively:

⁸Bless our God, O | peoples;*

let the sound of his | praise be heard,

**⁹who has kept our soul among the | living*
and has not let our | feet slip.**

¹⁰For you, O God, have | tested us;*

you have tried us as sil- | ver is tried.

¹¹You brought us in- | to the net;*

you laid a crushing burden | on our backs;

¹²you let men ride o- | ver our heads;*

we went through fire and through water;

yet you have brought us out to a place of a- | bundance.

¹³I will come into your house with burnt | offerings;*

I will perform my | vows to you,

¹⁴that which my lips | uttered*

and my mouth promised when I was in | trouble.

¹⁵I will offer to you burnt offerings of fattened animals,

with the smoke of the sacri- | fice of rams;*

I will make an offering of | bulls and goats.

¹⁶Come and hear, all you who | fear God;*

and I will tell what he has done | for my soul.

¹⁷I cried to him | with my mouth,*

and high praise was | on my tongue.

¹⁸If I had cherished iniquity | in my heart,*

the Lord would not have | listened.

¹⁹But truly God has | listened;*

he has attended to the voice | of my prayer.

²⁰Blessèd | be God;*

because he has not rejected my prayer

or removed his steadfast | love from me!

C **Glory be to the Father and | to the Son***

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

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 Amen.

First Reading*Acts 17:16–31*

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 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.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Choir

“If You Love Me”

Raney

Epistle

1 Peter 3:13–22

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 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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 205



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

John 14:15–21

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

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

¹⁵[Jesus said:] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, ¹⁷even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

¹⁸"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**☩ 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.**

Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

LSB 556 sts. 1-5



1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re - joi-ce, With ex - ul - ta - tion
2 Fast bound in Sa - tan's chains I lay; Death brood-ed dark - ly
3 My own good works all came to naught, No grace or mer - it
4 But God had seen my wretch-ed state Be - fore the world's foun-
5 God said to His be - lov - ed Son: "It's time to have com-



spring-ing, And with u - nit - ed heart and voice And ho - ly
o'er me. Sin was my tor - ment night and day; In sin my
gain - ing; Free will a - gainst God's judg - ment fought, Dead to all
da - tion, And mind - ful of His mer - cies great, He planned for
pas - sion. Then go, bright jew - el of My crown, And bring to



rap - ture sing - ing, Pro - claim the won - ders God has done, How
moth-er bore me. But dai - ly deep - er still I fell; My
good re - main - ing. My fears in - creased till sheer de - spair Left
my sal - va - tion. He turned to me a fa - ther's heart; He
all sal - va - tion. From sin and sor - row set them free; Slay



His right arm the vic - t'ry won. What price our ran - som cost Him!
life be - came a liv - ing hell, So firm - ly sin pos - sessed me.
on - ly death to be my share; The pangs of hell I suf - fered.
did not choose the eas - y part But gave His dear - est trea - sure.
bit - ter death for them that they May live with You for - ev - er."

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800-87, alt. Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

- L** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

The response after each petition is as follows:

L Lord, in your mercy:

G Hear our prayer.

G Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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.

Benediction

P The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

LSB 556 sts. 6–10



6 The Son o - beyed His Fa - ther's will, Was born of vir - gin
7 To me He said: "Stay close to Me, I am your rock and
8 "Though he will shed My pre - cious blood, Me of My life be -
9 "Now to My Fa - ther I de - part, From earth to heav'n as -
10 "What I on earth have done and taught Guide all your life and



moth - er; And God's good plea - sure to ful - fill, He came to
cas - tle. Your ran - som I My - self will be; For you I
reav - ing, All this I suf - fer for your good; Be stead - fast
cend - ing, And, heav'n - ly wis - dom to im - part, The Ho - ly
teach - ing; So shall the king - dom's work be wrought And hon - ored



be my broth - er. His roy - al pow'r dis-guised He bore; A
 striveand wres - tle. For I am yours, and you are Mine, And
 and be - liev - ing. Life will from death the vic - t'ry win; My
 Spir - it send - ing; In trou - ble He will com - fort you And
 in your preach - ing. But watch lest foes with base al - loy The

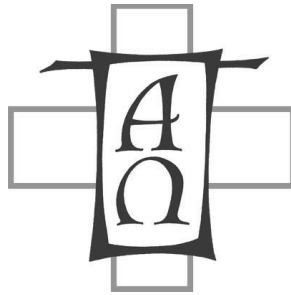


ser - vant's form, like mine, He wore To lead the dev - il cap - tive.
 where I am you may re-main; The foe shall not di - vide us.
 in - no - cence shall bear your sin, And you are blest for - ev - er.
 teach you al - ways to be true And in - to truth shall guide you.
 heav'n-ly trea - sure should de-stry; This fi - nal word I leave you."

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt.

Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg

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Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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"If You Love Me" Words and Music by Joel Raney

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Resources for Meditation this Week

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10 May 2026

Readings

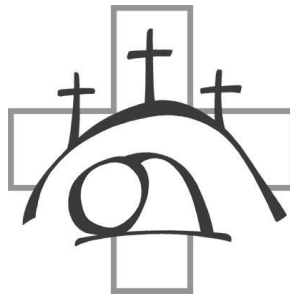
Acts 17:16–31

1 Peter 3:13–22

John 14:15–21

The Lord Jesus Comforts Us with the Preaching of His Resurrection

"The God who ... gives to all mankind life and breath and everything" (Acts 17:24–25) wants all people to seek Him that they might "feel their way toward him and find him" (Acts 17:27). But in our sinful ignorance, we humans turn instead to idols "formed by the art and imagination of man" (Acts 17:29). Therefore, God appointed the Man of Righteousness, Jesus Christ, and "has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead" (Acts 17:31). Because He lives, we also live (John 14:19) in His forgiveness, and thus we love Him and keep His commandments (John 14:15). While the risen Lord prepares us for His ascension, He will not leave us "as orphans" (John 14:18), but He gives "another Helper," the Holy Spirit, to be with us forever (John 14:16) through the preaching of "Jesus and the resurrection" (Acts 17:18). Because He "suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous" (1 Peter 3:18), we "honor Christ the Lord as holy" and are always "prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks" for the reason for our hope (1 Peter 3:15). Our Baptism "now saves" us "as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 3:21).



SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

17 May 2026

Readings

Acts 1:12–26

1 Peter 4:12–19; 5:6–11

John 17:1–11

Our Lord Jesus Is with Us in the Upper Room of His Church on Earth

On the night when He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus prayed for His apostles and His Church on earth. *"The hour"* had come when the Father would glorify His Son by the cross (John 17:1). Through the shedding of His blood, He would bring forgiveness for the sins of the world, and in His resurrection and ascension He would unite all Christians with the Father *"that they may be one"* with God (John 17:11). He manifested His name to the apostles and gave them the words of the Father to speak in His name. The apostolic witness of His cross and resurrection (Acts 1:21–22) gathers disciples together *"with one accord"* into the one Body of Christ (Acts 1:14). *"Devoting themselves to prayer,"* they wait upon the Lord in *"the upper room"* (Acts 1:13–14), the place of His Holy Supper. Strengthened by the Gospel, Christians bear the cross of Christ in patience and peace, rejoicing to share in His suffering, in order that they *"may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed"* (1 Peter 4:13).



Communion Theology and Practice

Welcome! In Holy Communion, our Lord invites us to eat and drink His true Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life (Matthew 26:26-28). In preparation for this sacrament, each communicant should examine him or herself and come to the Lord's Table seeking these things. As the Small Catechism teaches, "a person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: 'Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.'" We likewise take seriously St. Paul's admonition in 1 Corinthians 11:27-30 regarding recognizing the Lord's Body and Blood in this sacrament and receiving it worthily. We also believe that Holy Communion is a profession of confessional unity in which all who commune at the Lord's Table are united in their confession and faith (1 Corinthians 11:26).

Therefore, we practice what is often called "closed communion," in which we invite those Christians who have been baptized and instructed in the Christian faith, who share in the same confession of faith as the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and who believe that Jesus offers here His true Body and Blood, in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine, for the strengthening of their bodies and souls, cleansing them of their old nature and giving them new life, to join us at His table.

If you are new here, have not been baptized, or have not received instruction with regard to the teachings of the Lutheran Church regarding the Lord's Supper, have doubts about the nature of the sacrament, or have questions, please introduce yourself to our pastor before the service. He will be happy to discuss these things with you and help determine whether or not you should commune. If you do not wish to commune, have not been baptized, or have not been instructed in the Christian faith, we invite you to come receive a blessing. When you come to the altar, please come forward with your arms crossed to indicate that you would like the pastor to bless you. If you would like to learn more about the Christian faith or wish to be baptized, please speak to our pastor!