

CREATED, SAVED AND GIFTED BY GOD,  
WE SEEK, SERVE AND SHARE JESUS CHRIST.



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
MAY 3, 2025  
10:30 AM

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH  
901 EAST STROOP ROAD  
KETTERING, OHIO 45429-4688  
(937)298-0136

# INTRODUCTION

As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

## Overview

The words of today's gospel are most often heard during a funeral service. It is a popular choice of scripture for that occasion because the words provide wonderful assurance that the one who has died in Christ has now taken up residence in their heavenly home. The gospel begins by Jesus saying that he will prepare a place for each one of us. But as the text continues, we can see that our place is not an isolated room of our own in a giant heavenly mansion. Jesus' words are less about a place than a relationship: our relationship with Jesus and God the Father. They tell us that in Jesus we know all we need to know about God, and just as we can have a relationship with another human person, we can also have a relationship with God that will one day be as real and obvious as are our relationships with one another. The hope of one day being with Christ fully and forever is as real as the works we are called to do in his name today.

This text allows us the opportunity to contemplate what is ultimately unknowable, yet is also a central part of our faith: what heaven will be like.

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*\*\* indicates to stand as you are able.*

# GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pr. Mallory Morris

## \*\* GATHERING HYMN

"Thine Is the Glory" (ELW 376)

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the  
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he  
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-

vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment  
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness  
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con - qu'rors,

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes  
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;  
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

where thy bod - y lay.  
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring  
to thy home a - bove.

*Refrain*

Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

**\*\* GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

**\*\* KYRIE**

*Assisting Minister*

*Assisting minister:*

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the...

**Congregation:**

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

*Assisting minister:*

For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world;  
for the unity of all, let us pray to the...

**Congregation:**

**Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

*Assisting minister:*

For your people here, who have come to give you praise;  
for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the...

**Congregation:**

**Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

*Assisting minister:*

Help, save, and defend us, O God.

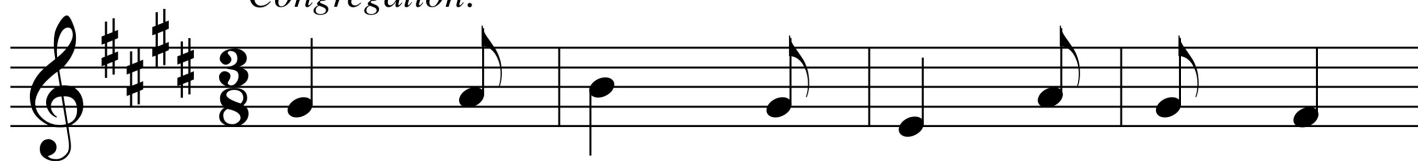
**Congregation:**

A - - men.

\*\* CANTICLE OF PRAISE

**Refrain**

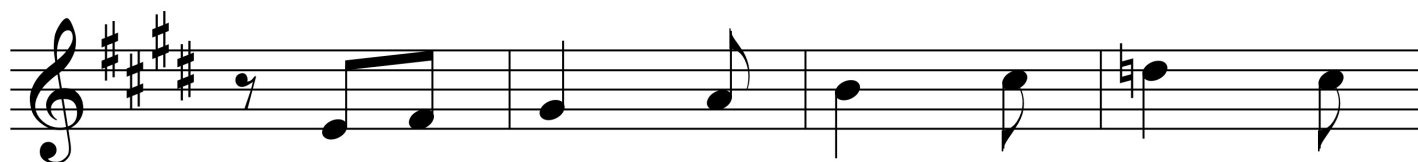
*Congregation:*



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,



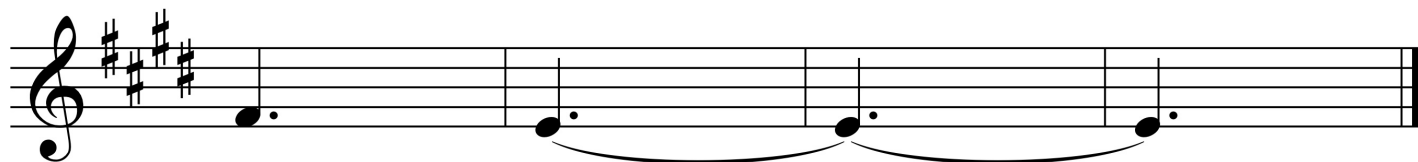
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy



to the God of life and love and



free-dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -



er - more!

## Verse 1

*Congregation or Congregation 1:*

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once  
slain, whose blood has freed and u -  
nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of  
God. *to Refrain*

## Verse 2

*Congregation or Congregation 2:*

2. Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and  
might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ  
for ev - er. *to Refrain*

### Verse 3

*Congregation:*

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to  
make us peo - ple of God; to make  
all things new. *to Refrain*

#### \*\* PRAYER OF THE DAY

*Assisting Minister*

Almighty God, **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.**

#### \*\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

# WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

## FIRST READING

Acts 7:55-60

Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.

A reading from Acts, the seventh chapter.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. 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. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." 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.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Psalm 31: "Father, Into Your Hands"

The image shows three staves of musical notation for the refrain of Psalm 31. The music is in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff is labeled 'Refrain' and contains the lyrics 'Fa - ther, in - to your hands I com -'. The second staff continues with 'mend my spir - it. Fa - ther, in - to'. The third staff concludes with 'your hands I com - mend my spir - it.' The music consists of simple quarter and eighth notes with a final double bar line.

Verse 1      In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.  
In your justice, set me free. You will redeem me, O faithful God.

- Verse 2      To my foes I am a reproach, to my friends an object of dread;  
 Those who see me in the street flee from me.  
 I am forgotten like a dish that is broken.
- Verse 3      But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, "You are my God.  
 My life is in your hands; save me from the clutches of my enemies.
- Verse 4      Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your love."  
 Be strong, let your heart take courage, all you who hope in the Lord.

## **SECOND READING**

1 Peter 2:2-10

*Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.*

A reading from First Peter, the second chapter.

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and 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.

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."

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," 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.

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.

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.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God**

## \*\* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Congregation:*

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life. Al - le - lu - ia! *Optional Repeat*

## \*\* GOSPEL READING

John 14:1-14

*On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.*

The holy gospel according to John, the fourteenth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. 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? 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. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." 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'? 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. 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. 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. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so

that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **YOUTH MESSAGE**

### **MESSAGE**

*Pastor Mallory Morris*

### **\*\* HYMN OF THE DAY**

"Forever (We Sing Hallelujah)"

(Verse 1 - Praise Team)

The moon and stars - they wept,  
The morning sun was dead;  
The Savior of the world was fallen.  
His body on the cross,  
His blood poured out for us;  
The weight of every curse upon him.

(Verse 2 - Women)

**One final breath he gave  
As heaven looked away;  
The Son of God was laid in darkness.  
A battle in the grave,  
The war on death was waged;  
The power of hell forever broken.**

(Verse 3 - Praise Team)

The ground began to shake,  
The stone was rolled away;  
His perfect love could not be overcome.  
Now, death, where is your sting?  
Our resurrected King  
Has rendered you defeated.

(Refrain - Praise Team/**All**)

Now, forever he is glorified;  
Forever he is lifted high.  
And forever he is risen;  
He is alive, and he is alive.

**Now, forever he is glorified;  
Forever he is lifted high.  
And forever he is risen;  
He is alive, and he is alive.**

**(Verse 4 - Men)**

**The ground began to shake,  
The stone was rolled away;  
His perfect love could not be overcome.  
Now, death, where is your sting?  
Our resurrected King  
Has rendered you defeated.**

**(Refrain - All)**

**Now, forever he is glorified;  
Forever he is lifted high.  
And forever he is risen;  
He is alive, and he is alive.**

**(Praise Team / All)**

**We sing hallelujah,  
We sing hallelujah,  
We sing hallelujah;  
The Lamb has overcome.**

**We sing hallelujah,  
We sing hallelujah,  
We sing hallelujah;  
The Lamb has overcome.**

**We sing hallelujah,  
We sing hallelujah,  
We sing hallelujah;  
The Lamb has overcome.**

**We sing hallelujah,  
We sing hallelujah,  
We sing hallelujah.**

**(Ending - Praise Team)**

**And now, death, where is your sting?  
Our resurrected King,  
He's overcome, He's overcome.**

## **BILLER FAMILY AFFIRMATION AND BAPTISM**

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Sponsor: I present Mary, Harper, and James Biller for baptism.

Mary, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to be baptized into Christ?

Response: I do.

Mary and John called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have *your children* baptized into Christ?

Response: I do.

As you and your children come to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with *them* among God's faithful people,  
bring *them* to the word of God and the holy supper,  
teach *them* the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,  
place in *their* hands the holy scriptures,  
and nurture *them* in faith and prayer,  
so that *your children* may learn to trust God,  
proclaim Christ through word and deed,  
care for others and the world God made,  
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help *your children* grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response: I do.

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture *these persons* in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Response: I do.

People of God, do you promise to support the Billers and pray for *them* in *their* new life in Christ?

**We do.**

*The assembly stands.*

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church:

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Response: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Response: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response: I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.\*  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, holy God. You are the creator of the waters of the earth. You are the fire of rebirth. You poured out your Spirit on your people Israel. You breathe life into

our dry bones. Your Son Jesus promised to send the Spirit to us that the world may know your peace and truth.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, and breathe new life into those who are here baptized. By your Spirit adopt us all as your children, through our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **BAPTISM OF MARY, HARPER AND JAMES BILLER**

### **Presentation of Baptism Candles**

Let your light so shine before others  
that they may see your good works  
and glorify your Father in heaven.

John, you have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,  
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,  
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,  
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,  
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Response: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support this family and pray for *them* in their life in Christ?

**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:  
join us in giving thanks and praise to God  
and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

**\*\* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*Assisting Minister*

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

*A brief silence.*

*Each petition concludes:*

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING OF THE GIFTS**

**OFFERTORY**

*"Take and Eat"*

by James Quinn, SJ and Michael Joncas  
*Chancel Choir*

Take and eat:

This is my body given up for you.

Take and drink:

This is my blood given up for you.

I am the Word that spoke and light was made;  
I am the seed that died to be reborn;  
I am the bread that comes from heaven above;  
I am the vine that fills your cup with joy.

I am the way that leads the exile home;  
I am the truth that sets the captive free;  
I am the life that raises up the dead;  
I am your peace, true peace my gift to you.

I am the cornerstone that God has laid;  
A chosen stone and precious in his eyes;  
You are God's dwelling place, on me you rest;  
Like living stones, a temple for God's praise.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

*Assisting Minister*

Merciful God,  
accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.  
You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day  
when we will hunger and thirst no more.  
Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,  
that goodness and mercy may follow us  
and bless the world you love.  
In the name of Jesus,  
**Amen**

# MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.


## \*\* GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Presider:* *Congregation:*




The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.

*Presider:* *Congregation:*




Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

*Presider:* *Congregation:*



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is



right to give God thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*Congregation:*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!  
Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting, and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness  
to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Congregation:*

Christ has died. Christ is ris - en.

Christ will come, come a - gain.

O God of resurrection and new life:  
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast.  
Grace our table with your presence.


*Congregation:*

A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus.

A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

*Congregation:*




A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it.




A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.


*Congregation:*




Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the



u - ni - ty of the Spir - it, all glo - ry and hon - or is



yours, O God, now and for ev - er.



A - men.

**\*\* LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

**\*\* INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come to the table of new life.

Receive the risen Lord.

***For those communing at home or in the pew:***

**COMMUNION** — *Receiving the Lord's tangible presence*

The body of Christ given for you.

The blood of Christ shed for you.

*Each person may respond: Amen.*

**Communion Statement** ~ We believe that the communion table is not Pr. Mallory's table, Good Shepherd Lutheran's table, or even the ELCA's table. This is God's table. And because this is God's table, we believe that anyone who wishes to receive communion can come forward and do so without condition or qualification.

Please note that we provide a non-alcoholic option (white) for those who do not want to partake of the communion wine (red). We also have gluten-free wafers available for those who need them. Simply let Pr. Mallory and the communion assistants know that you need something different when they come to you.

If anyone wishes to come forward and receive a blessing instead of communion elements, you are welcome to come forward to the communion rails with your arms crossed over your chest in the shape of an "X" instead.

If mobility concerns make it difficult to come forward for communion, you can alert the ushers, and they will let Pr. Mallory know to come to you.

**REFLECTION DURING COMMUNION**

As we prepare to receive the sacrament today, may we quietly take this time to center ourselves on Christ and ponder the amazing gifts of grace and forgiveness that we have been given. As we receive the body and the blood of our Lord, let us reflect upon His sacrifice. Finally, may we take this time to ask the Holy Spirit to enter our hearts, and then to work in us and through us each and every day.

# LAMB OF GOD

*Congregation:*

*Congregation or Assistant:*



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
you break the chains of ha - tred and  
you are the way of jus - tice and  
you are the way of mer - cy and

*Congregation:*



world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,  
fear:  
peace:  
love.

## Final Stanza

*Congregation or Assistant:*



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you

*Congregation:*



take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION HYMN

### **“Be the Center”**

(Verse 1 - Music Ministers)

Jesus, be the center.  
Be my source, be my light, Jesus.

(Verse 2 - All)

**Jesus, be the center.  
Be my hope, be my song, Jesus.**

(Refrain - All)

**Be the fire in my heart.  
Be the wind in these sails.  
Be the reason that I live,  
Jesus, Jesus.**

(Verse 3 - All)

**Jesus, be my vision.  
Be my path, be my guide, Jesus.**

(Refrain - All)

**Be the fire in my heart.  
Be the wind in these sails.  
Be the reason that I live,  
Jesus, Jesus.**

(All)

**Jesus, be the center.  
Be my source, be my light, Jesus.  
Be my source, be my light, Jesus.  
Jesus, Jesus.**

### **\*\* TABLE BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bless you and always keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

### **\*\* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*Assisting Minister*

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

**\*\* SENDING OF COMMUNION**

*Communion ministers may be sent to take the sacrament to those who are absent.  
The presiding minister may lead this prayer of sending.*

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick, homebound, and imprisoned. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

**SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**\*\* BLESSING**

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, † bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**\*\* SENDING HYMN**

**“How Great Is Our God” with “How Great Thou Art”**

**(Verse 1 - All)**

**The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty;  
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.  
He wraps himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,  
And trembles at his voice, and trembles at his voice.**

**(Refrain - All)**

**How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!  
And all will see how great, how great is our God!**

**(Verse 2 - All)**

**And age to age he stands, and time is in his hands;  
Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End.  
The Godhead, three in one: Father, Spirit, Son,  
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb.**

**(Refrain - All)**

**How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!  
And all will see how great, how great is our God!**

*(How Great Thou Art, Verse 1 - All)*

O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works thy hands hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed;  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!

*(How Great Thou Art, Verse 2 - All)*

But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing  
He bled and died to take away my sin;  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!

*(Music Ministers/All)*

Name above all names, worthy of all praise.  
My heart will sing: How great is our God!  
Name above all names, worthy of all praise.  
My heart will sing: How great is our God!

*(Refrain - All)*

How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!  
And all will see how great, how great is our God!  
How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!  
And all will see how great, how great is our God!

**\*\* DISMISSAL**

Hallelujah! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen, indeed. Hallelujah!**

Go in peace. In Christ, you are made new.

**Created, saved and gifted by God,**

**we seek, serve and share Jesus Christ. Hallelujah, thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**

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## **“W + 2” = WORSHIP PLUS TWO**

**MAKE A COMMITMENT NOT ONLY TO WORSHIP EACH WEEK,  
BUT ALSO TRY TO FIND A WAY TO SERVE IN THE CONGREGATION  
AND SEEK OUT A WAY TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY.**

**YOU ARE NOW ENTERING THE MISSION FIELD**

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## UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

### **Monica, mother of Augustine, died 387**

Monday, May 4, 2026

Monica was married to a pagan husband who was ill-tempered and unfaithful, but whom she helped bring into the Christian faith. She repeated the influence on her son Augustine, who went on to become one of the greatest church teachers.

### **Julian of Norwich, renewer of the church, died around 1416**

Friday, May 8, 2026

When she was about thirty years old, Julian (or Juliana) reported visions that she later compiled into a book, *Sixteen Revelations of Divine Love*, now a classic of medieval mysticism. The visions declared that love was the meaning of religious experience, provided by Christ who is love, for the purpose of love.

### **Victor the Moor, martyr, died 303 (TFF)**

Friday, May 8, 2026

Also known as Victor Maurus, this native of the northwest African nation of Mauritania was a soldier in the Roman Praetorian Guard. Under the persecution of Maximian, Victor died for his faith at Milan.

**Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, renewer of the church,  
hymnwriter, died 1760**

Saturday, May 9, 2026

When he was 22, a group of Moravians asked permission to live on Zinzendorf's land. He agreed, and eventually worldwide Moravian missions emanated from this community. Zinzendorf participated in these missions, and is also remembered for writing hymns characteristic of his Pietistic faith.