

*Let not your hearts  
be troubled.  
Believe in God;  
believe also in me.*

*John 14:1*

**Fifth Sunday  
Of Easter  
May 3, 2026**

Faith Lutheran Church  
311 Judges Rd. 2B Wilmington, NC 28405  
[www.flcwnc.org](http://www.flcwnc.org)

## Welcome to our Visitors!

Welcome in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We are glad you are here. It is our sincere prayer that God would refresh you by His Holy Word and Sacrament and that you would take with you His peace and joy. If you would care to give us your contact information, we would like to get to know you better and keep in touch. If you have questions or are interested in membership, please speak to anyone here.

## Holy Communion

We come to the table at the invitation of the Lord, receiving the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of our sins. Christians who share this faith and wish to join us at the table are welcome. Young children may be brought forward for a blessing.

## Mission Statement

“...that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.”

1 Peter 2:9

+++++

Ministers: Members of Faith Lutheran Church

Pastor: Paul Ebert

Director of Parish Music: Debra Ebert

**Mailing Address:**

Faith Lutheran Church

1319 Military Cutoff Suite CC/200

Wilmington, NC 28405

**Website:** [www.flcwnc.org](http://www.flcwnc.org)

**Phone:** 910-399-7813

**Email:** [office@flcwnc.org](mailto:office@flcwnc.org)

Today's liturgy and /or hymns are reprinted from Lutheran Service Book, 2006, License #1-199; Evangelical Lutheran Worship, 2010; Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978; Psalter for Worship, 1998; Worship and Praise, 1999; Breaking Bread, 2022; Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-7730266; CCLI #11599406. All rights reserved. Front cover picture from Sola Publishing.

# Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2026

LBW Holy Communion Setting One

\*indicates Congregation please stand

**Bold**-Congregation responses

**PRELUDE** KIRKEN DEN ER ET GAMMELT HUS

*Setting by Zach Unke*

## **\*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

**\*ENTRANCE HYMN      Built on the Rock**



1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, e - ven when stee - ples are  
 2 Sure - ly, in tem - ples made with hands God the Most High is not  
 3 Christ builds a house of liv - ing stones: we are his own hab - i -  
 4 Yet in this house, an earth - ly frame, Je - sus the chil - dren is  
 5 Through all the pass - ing years, O Lord, grant that, when church bells are



fall - ing; crum - bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are  
 dwell - ing— high in the heav'ns his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly  
 ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us  
 bless - ing; hith - er we come to praise his name, faith in our  
 ring - ing, man - y may come to hear your Word, who here this



chim - ing and call - ing— call - ing the young and old to rest, call - ing the  
 tem - ples ex - cel - ling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a -  
 life and sal - va - tion. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their  
 Sav - ior con - fess - ing. Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak - ing with  
 prom - ise is bring - ing: "I know my own, my own know me; you, not the



souls of those dis - tressed, long - ing for life ev - er - last - ing.  
 bide with us in love, mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.  
 midst will show his grace, bless - ings up - on them be - stow - ing.  
 us his cov - e - nant, grant - ing his chil - dren the king - dom.  
 world, my face shall see; my peace I leave with you. A - men."

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867–1937, adapt.  
 Music: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887  
 Text © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress

**\*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**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

**Amen**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. . . .

Living God, your Son, Jesus Christ, is the way, the truth, and the life. Grant us the grace to follow him and live lives of servanthood and truth; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

## **FIRST READING:**

The First Reading is from Acts, the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> chapters.

<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>2a</sup> And Stephen said:

<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 your fathers not 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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: 146** Read Responsively

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

<sup>2</sup>**Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth,  
for there is no help in them.**

<sup>3</sup>When they breathe their last, they return to earth,  
and in that day their thoughts perish.

<sup>4</sup>**Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help!  
whose hope is in the Lord their God;**

<sup>5</sup>Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;  
who keeps his promise forever;

<sup>6</sup>**Who gives justice to those who are oppressed,  
and food to those who hunger.**

<sup>7</sup>The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind;  
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

<sup>8</sup>**The Lord loves the righteous; the Lord cares for the stranger;  
he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.**

<sup>9</sup>The Lord shall reign forever,  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

## **SECOND READING:**

The Second Reading is from 1<sup>st</sup> Peter, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

<sup>2</sup>Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation — <sup>3</sup>if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. <sup>4</sup>As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, <sup>5</sup>you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For it stands in Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” <sup>7</sup>So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” <sup>8</sup>and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. <sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. <sup>10</sup>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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **\*ALLELUIA AND VERSE**

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

**You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia.**



## **\*GOSPEL:**

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

**Glory be to you, O Lord.**

<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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**



# HYMN OF THE DAY You Are the Way

1 You are the way; through You a - lone Can  
 2 You are the truth; Your Word a - lone True  
 3 You are the life; the emp - ty tomb Pro -  
 4 You are the way, the truth, the life; Grant

we the Fa - ther find; In You, O Christ, has  
 wis - dom can im - part; You on - ly can in -  
 claims Your con - qu'ring arm, And those who put their  
 us that way to know, That truth to keep, that

God re - vealed His heart and will and mind.  
 form the mind And pu - ri - fy the heart.  
 trust in You Not death nor hell shall harm.  
 life to win Whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt.  
 Tune: *The CL Psalms of David*, Edinburgh, 1615; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941

DUNDEE  
 C M

Text and music: Public domain

John 14:6; 1 Tim. 2:5; Acts 4:12



**\*NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven;  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

**\*THE PRAYERS**

Set our minds on heavenly things;  
Fill us with your joy.

**\*PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
And also with you.

*(Let us greet one another with the peace of the risen Christ.)*

**OFFERTORY** “My Faith Looks Up To Thee” *Lowell Mason/Arr. Cindy Berry*

**\*LET THE VINEYARDS**



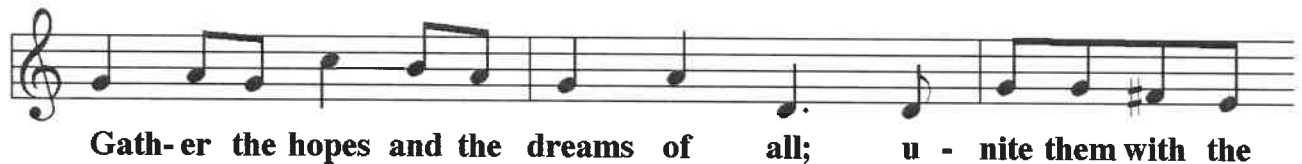
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our



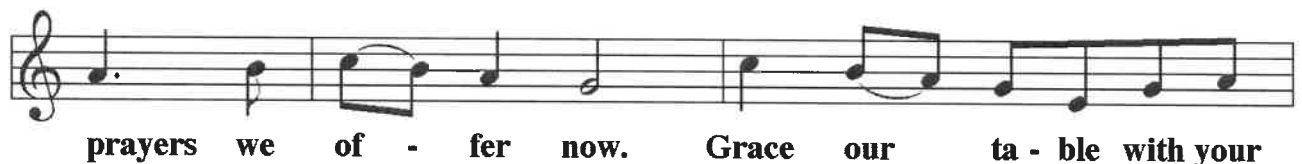
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the



seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.



Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the



prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

Merciful Father,

**we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

## \*GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

## \*PREFACE

## \*SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## **\*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.**

## **\*LAMB OF GOD**



**Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have**



**mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the**



**world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the**



**sin of the world; grant us peace.**

## COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

**Amen.**


## COMMUNION HYMN I Received the Living God



I re - ceived the liv - ing God, and my heart is full of joy.




I re - ceived the liv - ing God, and my heart is full of joy.



1 Je - sus said: I am the bread, knead - ed long to give you life;  
2 Je - sus said: I am the way, and my Fa - ther longs for you;  
3 Je - sus said: I am the truth; come and fol - low close to me.  
4 Je - sus said: I am the life, far from whom no thing can grow,

*Refrain*



you who will par - take of me need not ev - er fear to die.  
so I come to bring you home to be one with us a - new.  
You will know me in your heart, and my word shall make you free.  
but re - ceive this liv - ing bread, and my Spir - it you shall know.

Text: 77 77 with refrain; anon.

Music: LIVING GOD; anon.; arr. by Steve Grundy, b. 1955, © 2002, OCP. All rights reserved.

## \*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you unto life everlasting.

**Amen**

## POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



☪ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re- calls his prom- is - es and leads his peo- ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks- giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## \*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

### \*BLESSING

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.

**Amen**

**\*SENDING HYMN God Loved the World**

1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly  
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made  
 3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with  
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all

Son the lost to save, That all who would in  
 flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in  
 sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the  
 sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by

Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
 Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
 Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.  
 Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

5 If you are sick, if death is near,  
 This truth your troubled heart can cheer:  
 Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;  
 That is the firmest ground of faith.

△ 6 Glory to God the Father, Son,  
 And Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
 To You, O blessèd Trinity,  
 Be praise now and eternally!

Text: *Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens-Opfer*, Stettin, c. 1778; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.  
 Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941

ST. CRISPIN  
 L M

Text and music: Public domain

*John 3:16; Titus 3:4–7; 2 Tim. 1:9; Matt. 9:2*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

+++++

**SERVING THE FAMILY OF FAITH**

**This Week: 5/3**

Reader: Ken Schiess

Communion: Sandra Humphrey

Fellowship: Sandra Humphrey

Usher: Gary Ebeltoft

**Next Week: 5/10 CFS**

Reader:

Communion:

Fellowship:

Usher: Frank Gray

**Reminder:** May and June dates are available for serving:  
5/10 Chicago Folk Service: Mother's Day

**Given to the glory of God:**