

Lutheran Church of Hope

Pastor Liz Lowry

Drawn together by God, celebrating Grace, serving all

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Office Administrator Hours: Monday—Thursday, 1-5 PM

MAY 3, 2026

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

NOW YOU ARE
G  **D'S**
PEOPLE

1 PETER 2:10, NRSV

WELCOME

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne
and to the Lamb!
Amen.

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God,
you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.
You lead us beside still waters.
We thank you for the waters of creation:
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.
We thank you for the waters that nourish us.
Blessed are you.
You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness
who accompanies us on our journeys.
We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.
We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.
Blessed are you.
You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.
Break down barriers that divide us.
Fill us with the breath of peace.
Blessed are you.
You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,
and for making us a new creation.
We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,
now and forever.
Amen.



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900

Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING — 1 Peter 2:2-10

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵ 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. ⁶ 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.”

⁷ 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,”

⁸ 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.

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ 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.

PSALM 31:1-5, 15-16 (*First Nations Version*)

¹ Grandfather, I wrap myself in you like a warm blanket, for you are my safe place. Never let shame cross my path. You who always do what is right, set me free from those who would harm me.

² **Bend down low and turn your ear to hear my weak voice. Come quickly to my aid. Be the strong rock I can rest on, my strong lodge where I am kept safe from all harm.**

³ You have been my rock and my strong lodge. Because I honor your name, you will guide me on the road of life.

⁴ You will keep me safe from the hidden trap my enemies have laid for me, for you are the strength of my life.

⁵ Grandfather, I place the care of my spirit into your hands. You are the one who paid the price to set me free and make me whole. You are my Sacred Truth Giver.

¹⁵ My life from beginning to end is in your hands. Rescue me from the power of my enemies, from all who would hunt me down and do me harm.

¹⁶ Make your face shine like the rising sun on the one who serves you. Show me your love that remains faithful and true, and set me free.

GOSPEL — John 14:1-14

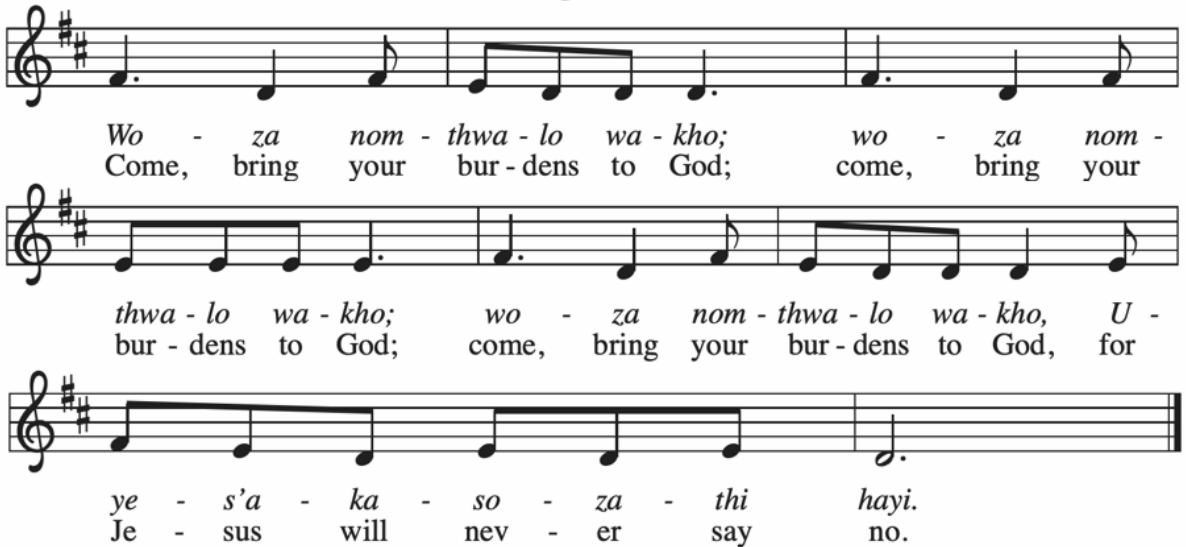
[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹ 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’? ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ 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. ¹² 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. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Come, Bring Your Burdens



Wo - za nom - thwa - lo wa - kho; wo - za nom -
 Come, bring your bur - dens to God; come, bring your
 thwa - lo wa - kho; wo - za nom - thwa - lo wa - kho, U -
 bur - dens to God; come, bring your bur - dens to God, for
 ye - s'a - ka - so - za - thi hayi.
 Je - sus will nev - er say no.

Text: South African; English text Barbara Clark, Mairi Munro, and Martine Stemerick
 Music: WOZA NOMTHWALO WAKHO, South African melody; arr. Welile Sigabi
 English text and arr. © 2008 WGRG, Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

My Life Flows On in Endless Song



1 My life flows on in end-less song; a-bove earth's lam-en-ta-tion,
 2 Through all the tu-mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring-ing.
 3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv-eth.
 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev-er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre-a-tion.
 It finds an ech-o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
 What though the dark-ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv-eth.
 All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899

Music: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING, Robert Lowry, alt.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

The offerings received by this congregation support this church and local ministries in Anchorage. Checks can be made out to "Lutheran Church of Hope." You may also use the iPad at the entrance to the sanctuary to make a secure donation via Square or scan the QR code in the insert to donate via Tithe.ly.

Good-ness is stron-ger than e - vil; love is stron-ger than hate;
 light is stron-ger than dark - ness; life is stron-ger than death; vic-t'ry is
 ours, vic-t'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Vic-t'ry is
 ours, vic - t'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

Text: From *An African Prayer Book*, Desmond Tutu, b. 1931

Music: GOODNESS IS STRONGER, John L. Bell, b. 1949

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OFFERING PRAYER

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.

EUCHARIST PRAYER

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:
 beyond the stars;
 beneath the sea;
 within each cell;
 with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:
through the water;
by night and day;
across the wilderness;
out of exile;
into the future.
We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life;
near to those who suffer;
beside the sinner;
among the poor;
with us now.
We thank you, O God.

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.

Remembering his love for us
on the way,
at the table,
and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering;
within this meal;
among your people;
throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks
to you, holy God,
through Christ Jesus,
by your Spirit,
in your church,
without end.
Amen.

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMNS

ELW 492

Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup



Eat this bread, drink this cup. Taste and see the good-ness of God.



Bread of life, cup of love, we re-joice in your pres-ence.



- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times, praise with heart and voice;
- 2 Look up - on the Lord, be ra - diant, nev - er turn a - way.
- 3 An - gels fold their wings a - round us, guard through good and ill.
- 4 Saints of God, bow down and wor - ship, bless the ho - ly name.



Refrain

in my God I glo - ry for - ev - er: lis - ten and re - joice!
God will save in ev - 'ry af - flic - tion, hear us when we pray.
Those who seek the Lord will lack noth - ing; taste, and have your fill.
Rise to tell God's great - ness for - ev - er, won - drous deeds pro - claim!

Text: Jeremy Young, b. 1948, refrain; *With One Voice*, stanzas, based on Ps. 34
Music: STONERIDGE, Jeremy Young
Text and music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther; there is no
 2 Sum-mer and win-ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and
 3 Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, thine own dear



shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-
 stars in their cours-es a-bove join with all na-ture in
 pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to-day and bright



pas-sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for-ev-er wilt be.
 man-i-fold wit-ness to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy, and love.
 hope for to-mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!

Refrain

Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by



morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy



hand hath pro-vid-ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960

Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

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POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A New Creed (from The United Church of Canada)

**We are not alone,
we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

**We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.**

**We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

You whom God has called,
Keep listening.

You whom Christ has fed,
Live simply.

You whom the Spirit has filled,
Love completely.

And receive the blessing that awaits you. **Amen.**

Almighty God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

1 Build us up, Lord, build us up; set in
 2 Build us up, Lord, build us up; let our

us a strong foun - da - tion. Lead us to do your
 lives re - flect your glo - ry. Cast a - way all our

ho - ly will; form and shape your new cre - a - tion.
 doubts and fears; help us tell the world your sto - ry.

Build us up, Lord, build us up; as we
 Build us up, Lord, build us up; help us

guide and teach each oth - er, help us to share your love with the
 bear good fruit for you, Lord, give us vi - sion and keep us

world: ev - 'ry sis - ter, ev - 'ry broth - er.
 sure. Grant us faith that's stead - fast and true.

Refrain

Grow - ing in Christ, we plant seeds for the king - dom; we fol - low in
 faith what's be - gun! Lord, set in our hearts the pow'r of your
 word to spread the news of your Son!

Text: Mark Glaeser, b. 1956, and Donna Hanna, b. 1952
 Music: BUILD US UP, Mark Glaeser and Donna Hanna
 Text and music © 2003 Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Worship

Name:

Pronouns:

Phone Number:

Email:

Address:

I would like to...

- receive the Weekly News email
- receive the monthly Newsletter
- learn how to get involved
- receive a call from Pastor Liz

I am a...

- First Time Visitor
- Regular Visitor
- Church Member
- In Need of Prayer

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PRAYER REQUEST

Please place this tab in the offering plate.

I would like a call
from Pastor Liz
May 3, 2026

CALENDAR

*Lutheran Church of Hope events are in **bold***

SUNDAY, MAY 3

- 8:30 AM—Bible Study**
- 10 AM—Worship with Holy Communion**
- 2 PM—Christian Worship Center
- 4 PM—Confirmation**

MONDAY, MAY 4 *Office Hours 1-5 pm*

- 5:30 PM—Sit Stay Play AK
- 6 PM—JOIN Meeting**

TUESDAY, MAY 5 *Office Hours 1-5 pm*

- 3:30 PM—Mobile Food Pantry
- 7 PM—Plus 24 AA
- 7 PM—Shoulder to Shoulder Al Anon

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6 *Office Hours 1-5 pm*

THURSDAY, MAY 7 *Office Hours 1-5 pm*

- 6:30 PM— There Is A Solution OA

FRIDAY, MAY 8

- 6 PM—Sit Stay Play AK

SATURDAY, MAY 9

- 12 PM—United Church of God
- 4:30 PM—CWC Women's Dinner

SUNDAY, MAY 10

- 8:30 AM—Bible Study**
- 10 AM—Worship with Holy Communion**
- 2 PM—Christian Worship Center
- 4 PM—Confirmation**