



THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
 HOLY EUCHARIST | CHILDREN & YOUTH SUNDAY
 MAY 3, 2026, AT 9 AM (LIVESTREAMED)

THE WORD OF GOD

*Please keep a prayerful quiet as we prepare for worship.
 The People's responses are printed in bold.*

Prelude Piano improvisation Theodore Allen-Schack

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn 536 Open your ears, O faithful people *Torah Song*

Opening Acclamation

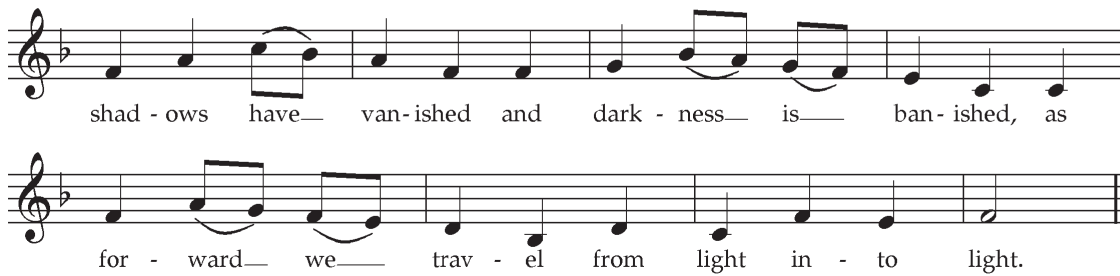
Alleluia. Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed.** Alleluia.

Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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 Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Song of Praise *sung by all* Let all things now living *The Ash Grove*

Let all things now— liv - ing a song of— thanks - giv - ing to
 God the— Cre - at - or tri - um - phant - ly raise, who
 fash - ioned and— made us, pro - tect - ed— and— stayed us, who
 guides us— and— leads to the end of our days. God's—
 ban - ners— fly— o'er us; God's light goes— be - fore us, a
 pil - lar— of— fire shin - ing forth in the night, till



—Text: Katherine K. Davis (1892–1980)

Collect of the Day

God be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Savior, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Faith Story *seated* Helene Burwell

This morning we continue our series of Faith Stories shared by members of the St. Columba's community. Faith Stories are a way to share our unique faith journeys and hear God speak through one another.

First Reading Acts 7:55-60

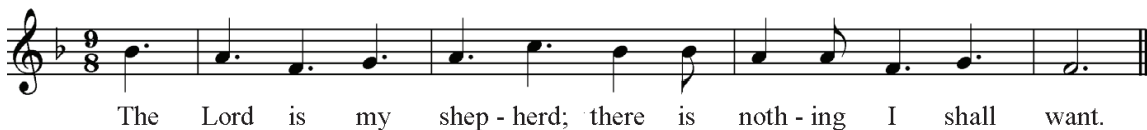
Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against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

For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us,
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

Antiphon: Leon Roberts (1950–1999)

The People sing the antiphon after it has been introduced by the Choir and where indicated.



In you, O God, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; *
deliver me in your righteousness.

Incline your ear to me; * make haste to deliver me. *Antiphon*

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; *
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, * for you are my tower of strength.

Into your hands I commend my spirit, * for you have redeemed me, O God of truth. *Antiphon*

My times are in your hand; *

rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

Make your face to shine upon your servant, * and in your loving-kindness, save me." *Antiphon*

Second Reading 1 Peter 2:2-10

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.” To you then who believe, he is precious; 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 race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts 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.

For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us,
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Alleluia *standing as able* Fintan O’Carroll (1922–1981) and Christopher Walker (b. 1942)

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

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

The Gospel John 14:1-14

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus told his 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 me 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, Lord Christ.

All repeat the sung alleluia.

Storytime

Children ages 3–10 are invited to the Music Room after the Gospel for a Bible story, prayers, and music, returning at the Peace.

Sermon Katelyn Printz

Katelyn Printz is studying for ordination to the priesthood at Virginia Theological Seminary and serving as a seminary intern at St. Columba's this year.

Please be seated at the invitation of the preacher. A period of silence will be observed after the sermon.

The Nicene Creed *standing as you are able*

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.

Prayers of the People

Intercessor Almighty, merciful, and loving Lord, we come to you in prayer.

Unifying and everpresent God, we pray for the church around the world, for tolerance, patience, peace, unity, and endurance. Holy God, **receive our prayer.**

Nurturing and sustaining God, we pray for our planet, for land and oceans, for the flowers of spring, and for moments that help us feel small in the expanse of creation. Holy God, **receive our prayer.**

Just and sovereign God, we pray for our community and leaders, for our president, for our mayor and city council, for all in federal and local governments, for leaders around the world, and for our church leaders and vestry. Holy God, **receive our prayer.**

Protecting and loving God, we pray for all who are sick, grieving, lost, overlooked, untethered, struggling with transition, searching for security, and seeking community. We pray especially for . . . and for all we name aloud or in our hearts . . . Holy God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray with thankful hearts for school and church communities, especially for our children and youth programs, for quality of life, for our graduating seniors and those who will step into leadership as those seniors chart new paths, and for all the blessings we name aloud or in our hearts . . . Holy God, **receive our prayer.**

Eternal and welcoming God, we pray for all who have died that they may find joy, peace, and rest eternal in your kingdom. We pray especially for . . . and for all we name aloud or in our hearts . . . Holy God, **receive our prayer.**

Trusting in your love and mercy, we offer our prayers to you, O God. Grant us an assurance of your presence and the courage to follow in your ways; in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution *standing or kneeling as you are able*

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

All greet one another in the name of Jesus Christ, and are seated for the announcements.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

At the Offertory

The Holy Spirit inspires us to give generously, to extend Christ's mission in this place and the wider world. Please visit <http://tinyurl.com/GivetoSCEC> to make your offering, or you can text to give using your phone. Text SCEC and AMOUNT to 73256 (QR code in Connections) and you will receive a text with instructions.

Anthem

Sing the Lord's song
The Children's, Gallery, and Celtic Choirs

Natalie Sleeth (1930–1992)
Music and text

Sing, sing, sing the Lord's song, let the music sound.
Sing, sing, sing the Lord's song all the world around!
Sing, sing, sing the Lord's song, chant it high or low,
sing, sing, sing the Lord's song ev'rywhere you go!

Sing, sing, sing the Lord's song, share the melody,
sing, sing, sing the Lord's song joyfully,
O sing, sing, sing the Lord's song, sing it thru and thru,
sing, sing, sing the Lord's song ev'ry day anew!

Sing, sing, sing the Lord's song, let it fill the air,
sing, sing, sing the Lord's song, sound it ev'rywhere!
Sing, sing, sing the Lord's song, 'tis a song of praise,
sing, sing, sing the Lord's song, thankful voices raise!

Sing, sing, sing the Lord's song, follow in its way,
sing, sing, sing the Lord's song day by day,
O sing, sing, sing the Lord's song, sing it shore to shore,
sing, sing, sing the Lord's song now and evermore!

Please stand as you are able as the offering is brought forward and blessed.

The Great Thanksgiving

God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them unto God.**

Let us give thanks to our Sovereign God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; you brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; and so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Sanctus and Benedictus *sung by all*

Rob Glover (1928–2017)

Ho - ly, — ho - ly, — ho - ly Lord, — God — of
pow - er and might, — 1. Heav - en and earth, — heav - en and earth — are
2. Blessed is the one — blessed is the one — who
full of your glo - ry. — *Chorus:* Ho - san - na — in — the
comes in the name of the Lord. —
high - est, ho - san - na — in — the high - est. —
second time through, sing Chorus again

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restored our life. Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with blessed Columba, and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise. Blessed are you now and for ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

The bread is broken and silence observed.

Fraction Anthem

Be known to us, Lord Jesus

Gary James (b. 1957)

The People join in singing the refrain.



Be— known to— us, Lord— Je - sus, in the break - ing— of the bread.

The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ. *Refrain*

One body are we, alleluia, for though many we share one bread. *Refrain*

Invitation to Communion

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, you are welcome at Christ's table.

Communion

Christ welcomes all to communion. ■ Receive the bread in open and outstretched hands and sip the wine, guiding the chalice to your lips. ■ If you do not want to sip the wine, it is also perfectly appropriate to receive the bread only. We do not allow dipping the bread into the wine. ■ Respond to communion by saying "Amen." ■ If you prefer a blessing, cross your hands over your chest. ■ Gluten-free wafers are available at each communion station. ■ Baptism is offered several times a year; speak to a priest to learn more.

Anthem

The Call
The Gallery Choir

John Leavitt (b. 1956)

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life; such a way as gives us breath;
such a truth as ends all strife; such a life as killeth death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: Such a light as shows a feast;
such a feast as mends in length; such a strength as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: Such a joy as none can move;
such a love as none can part; such a heart as joys in love.

—Text: George Herbert (1593–1632)

Hymn WLP 757

Will you come and follow me

Mary Alexandra

This hymn is in Wonder, Love, and Praise, the green hymnal supplement found in your pew rack.

Prayer after Communion *standing as you are able*

Let us pray.

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Sending Forth of Eucharistic Ministers *when scheduled*

In the name of St. Columba's we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that *N.* may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. **We who are many are one body, as we all share one bread, one cup.**

Blessing

The People respond **Amen.**

Hymn WLP 810

On eagle's wings

Michael Joncas (b. 1951)

This hymn is in Wonder, Love, and Praise, the green hymnal supplement found in your pew rack.

Dismissal

The People respond **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude

Epilogue

Norman Gilbert (1912–1975)

Liturgical Note

Easter is a 50-day season of celebration. During celebratory seasons, the church typically uses white and gold vestments and altar paraments (liturgical hangings). The service includes themes of resurrection and redemption, and repetition of "alleluia" all throughout. We are glad you are celebrating with us!

Land Acknowledgement

We meet today on the traditional land of the first people of Nacotchtank, who were custodians of the land for thousands of years, caring for and nurturing it. We give thanks for their stewardship and lament the ways the Nacotchtank were removed from their ancestral home. We pray for all who live on this land and pay our respects to the native leaders past, present, and emerging. We also remember and lament that this plot of land was given to St. Columba's Episcopal Church by an enslaver and that the wealth created by the labor of enslaved persons helped to build this sanctuary.

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