



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

*The Lutheran Church-
Missouri Synod*

1308 Whitley Rd.
Keller, TX 76248

**Sunday School &
Adult Bible Class**
9:30am

Sunday Worship
8:00am, 10:45am

CHURCH OFFICE
(817) 431-2345

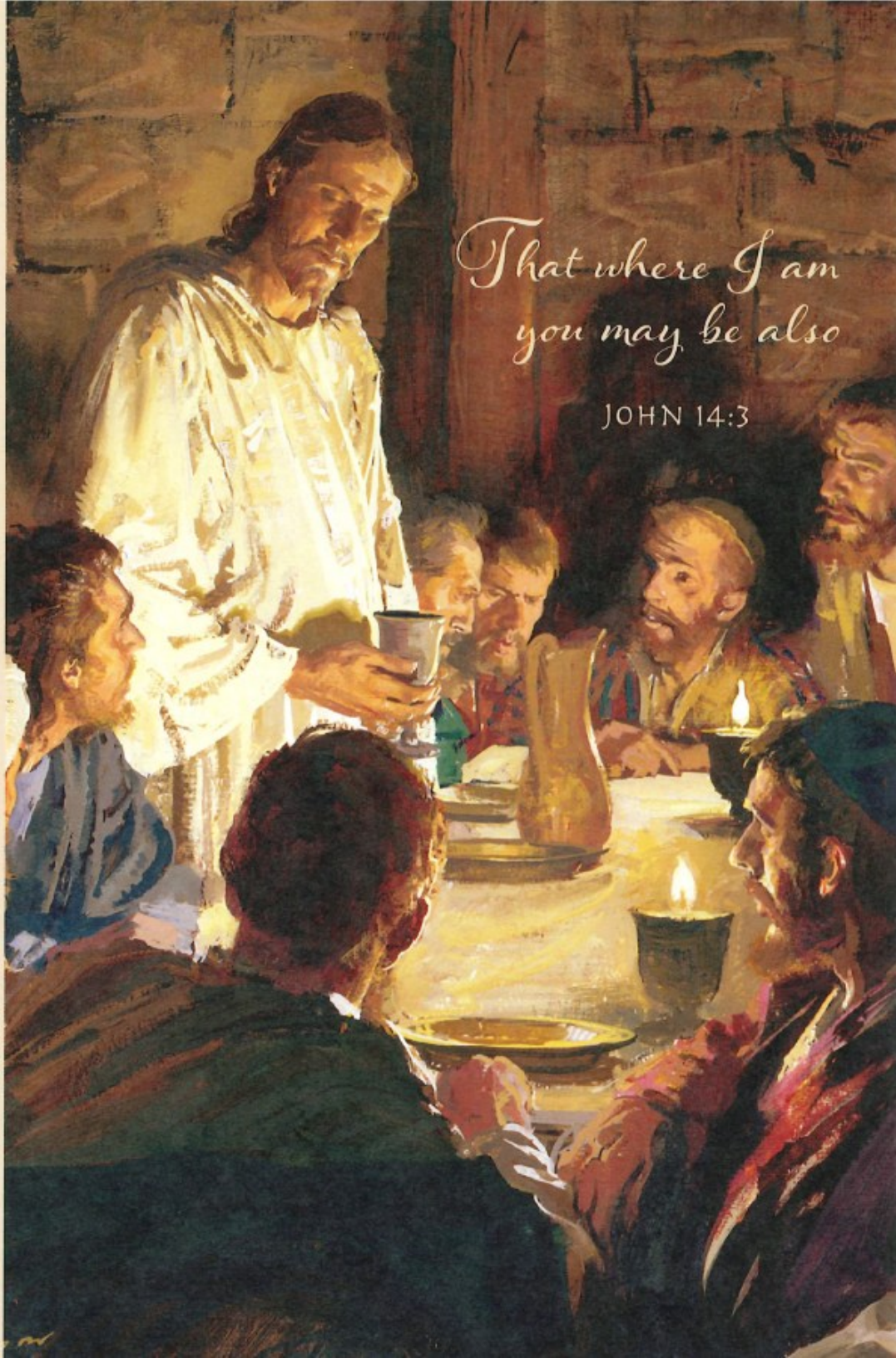
Rev. Thomas Chryst
Senior Pastor

Rev. Brennick Christiansen
Assistant Pastor

CLASSICAL ACADEMY
(817) 431-5486

www.messiahkeller.org

www.mlcatexas.org



*That where I am
you may be also*

JOHN 14:3

FOR OUR VISITORS....



Welcome! We encourage you to follow along with either the printed service, or with the hymnal. The page numbers for the hymnal are posted at the front of the sanctuary and on the next page. We realize it can take a while for newcomers to become familiar with our liturgy, so please feel free to ask someone near you for assistance—he or she would be happy to help.

We love children in our church! But if your little one gets fussy you may use the **cry room** that is located at the north end of the hallway behind the sanctuary on your right. You are able to see and hear the worship service from there. We also have "**Quiet Bags**" available for children to use during the service. Please ask an usher or elder if you need assistance. The Quiet Bags are returned after the service.

The Lord's Supper is celebrated in our services today. In this supper, our Lord Jesus Christ graciously feeds the humble sinner with His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. Scripture clearly teaches that anyone who eats and drinks the body and blood of Christ without discerning that body and blood receives a judgment rather than a blessing from God (1 Cor. 11:29). Therefore, out of a Christian concern for souls, we require a thorough instruction in the teachings of the Lutheran Church before participating in this Sacrament. Participation at the altar is also a testimony of unity of faith with all others who partake (1 Cor. 10:17). Since unity at the altar presupposes unity in doctrine and confession (Acts 2:42), we kindly request that **only those who are in confessional fellowship** with the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod participate. This includes active members in good standing of all sister Missouri-Synod congregations.



We recognize that **Closed Communion** is a sensitive issue for many and have a brochure to explain it more thoroughly. It is available in the narthex or from an usher. If you have any questions or concerns, you are welcome to speak with our pastor. However, **we welcome** both children and adults who are not communicant members of the Lutheran Church to come to the altar during communion for a pastoral blessing. Please indicate the request for a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest.



Follow the QR code to visit our "**Virtual Guestbook**" and tell us about yourself and your visit with us.

This bulletin is available in large print upon request.

Divine Service—Setting Two—LSB 167

Hymns:

410, 633, 465

Hymns During Distribution:

526, 475

Sermon Title:

“The Way, The Truth, and The Life”

Scripture:

John 14:1-6

Today is Confirmation Sunday in our 10:45am service.

Please follow the Order of Service included in this bulletin.



The Lord Jesus Christ Is the Way, the Truth and the Life



The risen Lord Jesus alone is *“the way, and the truth, and the life,”* and we come *“to the Father”* only through Him (John 14:6). God is thus *“glorified in the Son,”* and those who believe in Him will do the works of Christ because He goes to the Father for us (John 14:12-14). Stephen, *“a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit”* (Acts 6:5) and *“doing great wonders and signs among the people”* (Acts 6:8), did the works of Christ. When he was falsely accused and put to death, he *“gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God”* (Acts 7:55). Fixing his hope there, he commended his spirit to the Lord Jesus and prayed for his murderers. In the same way, all the baptized are called to follow the example of Christ Jesus by faith. Though He was *“rejected by men”* in the sight of God, He is *“chosen and precious”* (1 Peter 2:4). He is the chief cornerstone of the Father’s *“spiritual house,”* and we are built upon Him as *“living stones”* (1 Peter 2:5).

Serving in God’s House Today

| | | 8:00 a.m. | 10:45 a.m. |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Organist: Miguel Ruiz | | | |
| Altar Guild: Joan Burk Nikki O’Dell Carrie Ratsch | Head Elder: | Roland Towers | Jim Ward |
| | Head Usher: | Randy Burk | Marty Hobson |
| Counters: Herbert Herrmann Carol Lemmon | Acolytes: | Seth Ruiz Asher Ruiz | Luther Kirby Matthias Loeffler |
| | Crucifer/ Altar | Cory O’Dell | Nathan Munoz |

The flowers that adorn the altar this morning are given by Bob Knipp to the glory of God, and in memory of his aunt, Adell (Knipp) Highley, and his cousin, Dennis Hahn.

THE HOUSEHOLD AT PRAYER

Make prayer a daily habit for your family. Do as much of this as is helpful. Gather together in one place. Set aside all distractions as best as you are able. Before or after meal works well. The most important part is reading the Bible.

1. The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.
In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
2. Sing or speak the hymn, introit, and/or psalm. Start with the first stanza.
3. Read aloud the appointed scripture for the day using the Daily Lectionary reading from LSB 299-304, or as found in the Treasury of Daily Prayer.
4. The Head of Household may give instruction/ ask questions on the scripture reading.
Ask basic questions: "What is this?" and "what did it say?", Q & A for Youth.
5. Recite or quiz one another on the weekly verse and Catechism passage .
6. Confess Apostles' Creed together.
7. Pray the Lord's Prayer and Collect of the Day. Also pray for others (see prayer list in bulletin). Include prayers for family and friends, ourselves, upcoming events and plans.
8. Sing or say the following, then go joyfully to your work or to rest:
Let us || bless the Lord.
Thanks | be to God.

Scripture: Romans 10:17

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

What is Confession?

Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

READINGS

Mon: Jeremiah the Priest Is Called to Be a Prophet - Jeremiah 1:1-19

Tue: King Josiah Restores the Worship - 2 Chronicles 34:29-33

Wed: Jeremiah Is Put in Prison - Jeremiah 37:1-21

Thu: Jeremiah Is Thrown into a Cistern - Jeremiah 38:1-28

Fri: Paul in Athens & Paul Addresses the Areopagus - Acts 17:16-31

Sat: Suffering for Righteousness' Sake - 1 Peter 3:13-22

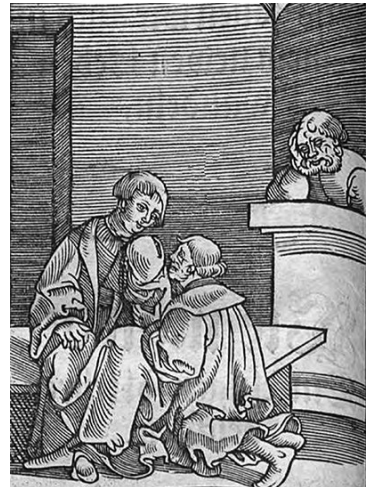
Sun: Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit - John 14:15-21

HYMNS

607 1, 3, 4 "From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee"

479 1, 3 "Christ Is Risen, Christ Is Living"

768 1, 3 "To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray"



THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

TODAY 05/03 - 8:00AM - DIVINE SERVICE—STREAMING LIVE
- 9:30AM - SUNDAY SCHOOL—STREAMING LIVE
- 10:45AM - DIVINE SERVICE

MONDAY 05/04 - 9:30AM - BRAILLE WORKSHOP—MAC BUILDING

TUESDAY 05/05 - 12:00PM - FUNERAL FOR BOB LEMMON

WEDNESDAY 05/06

THURSDAY 05/07

FRIDAY 05/08 - 5:00PM - YOUTH BALLROOM DANCE LESSONS

SATURDAY 05/09 - 7:00AM - BOARD OF ELDERS MEETING
- 8:30AM - SWADDLING CLOTHES



VBS 2026

VBS will be **June 15-18** this year, and the theme is **Jesus Gives Us Joy!**

You may register for VBS at <https://tinyurl.com/2abc9cm5>.

In addition, volunteers are needed and welcomed! If you are able to help with VBS, please sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/ytvn98s9>.

If you have any questions, please contact either the church office or Veronica Hobson.

ANNUAL PRAYER LIST UPDATE

Messiah is doing our annual Prayer List Update. Please drop a note to the Church Office at churchoffice@messiahkeller.org and let us know if there's a name you would like to keep on the prayer list that is printed in the weekly bulletin. Also, tell us if you have a college student to add to the list or who is graduating. We will "reset" the list on May 26. Thank You!

DAILY BIBLE READINGS: May 3-May 16

3: Lev. 20:1-16, 22-27
Luke 11:37-54
4: Lev. 21:1-24
Luke 12:1-12
5: Lev. 23:1-22
Luke 12:13-14
6: Lev. 23:23-44
Luke 12:35-53

7: Lev. 24:1-23
Lev. 25:1-55
Luke 12:54-13:17
8: Lev. 26:1-20
Luke 13:18 - 35
9: Lev. 26:21-33, 39-44
Num. 1:1-2:34
Luke 14:1-24

10: Num. 3:1-16, 39-48
Num. 4:1-8:4
Luke 14:25-15:10
11: Num. 8:5-6
Luke 15:11-32
12: Num. 9:1-23
Luke 16:1-18
13: Num. 10:11-36
Luke 16:19-31

14: Num. 11:1-23, 31-35
Luke 17:1-19
15: Num. 11:24-29; 12:1-16
Luke 17:20-37
16: Num. 13:1-3, 17-33
Luke 18:1-17

Please keep in your prayers...

We continue to pray for our members and loved ones battling cancer: Karen Bentle, Mandy Demick, John DiCesare, Tim Speight, Rob Bentley, Randy Gay, Denny Knutson, Joan Beach, Linda Pancake, Wayne Kirkland, Ken & Carolyn Blume, Gaelina Strader, Sarah Jarrett, Mike Vandergriff, Rev. Ernie Bernet, Janie Peter, David Grissom.

...also those with other illnesses and trials: Don Knutson, Michael Hanson, Aaron Koppelberger, Bruce Lage, Marilyn Curry, Nikki McLeroy, Marilyn Kivit, Brian Cade's mother, Abby Carpenter, Ron Klingbeil, Lief Stratmoen, Karen Shrum, Vicky Krolczyk, Matt Hinde, Lee Masoian, Alli Burk, Amy Lyon, the Lewis family, Chelsea Lage, Grant Smith, William Johnstone, Marlene Eaton, Kris Carter, Wes Liles, Mary Lowry, Patsy Smith, Shelby Renfro, Connie Worley Ramsey, Brooke Lage, The Lowry Family, Sandy McDougal, Jacob Brewer.

...and those who are unable to worship with us regularly: Susan Copen, Carolyn Blume, Don & Marilyn Curry, LaVina Goedecke, Ron and Barbara Busse, Ronald and Brenda Patterson, Marvin Wilken.

...all of our college students in and out of state: Ashley Brewer, Jacob Brewer, Colby Carter, Seminarian David Christensen, Maranda Crutchfield, Dorian Crutchfield, Paul Hedman, Ethan Johnson, Cole O'Dell, Ryan O'Dell, Clara O'Neil, Daniella Osorio, Helena Phillips, Aidan Richmond, Davis Richmond, Mia Salgado, Max Tonniges, Charlie Umayam, Audrey Weber, Emily Weber, Morgan Chryst, Matthew Palmer.

We remember all those serving our country, particularly our members and loved ones in the military: Carly Schwarzenburg, Jesus Aranda, Hannah Kajer, Nicolas Towers, Tony Bourassa, Tyler Burk, David Cantrell, Cassie Gessling, Joseph Kajer, Seth Kirch, Andrew Latham, Andrew Lowry, Hannah Pinkston, Brandon Towers, Frank Wilde, Chaplain Peter J. Williams.

We also pray for...

- Our Braille ministry, that the Word will continue to reach the blind or visually impaired around the world.
- Messiah's educational ministry, especially our Academy, Preschool, Sunday School, and our Catechumens.
- Fellow Messiah members, married couples and children, young couples, singles, Pastor Chryst, and Pastor Christiansen.
- The voters, church council, and leaders of Messiah Church and School as they deliberate on the work the Lord has given His people to do.
- Our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world being persecuted for their faith.
- The spread of the Gospel around our nation and world and the work of our missionaries and relief workers.
- Rev. Dr. Michael Paul and his work in Taiwan.
- The Swaddling Clothes ministry and those who come seeking assistance.
- Those studying at seminary, including David Christensen (4th Year), Tanner Sawall (4th Year), Abram Egger (1st Year), and Vicar Peter Williams, as they prepare to serve in the Holy Ministry.
- Prayers for peace in the Middle East and Ukraine.

Pastor Chryst: pastor.chryst@messiahkeller.org
Pastor Christiansen: pastor.christiansen@messiahkeller.org
Director of Parish Music: miguel.ruiz@messiahkeller.org
MLCA Office: schooloffice@mlcatexas.org
MLCA Preschool: schooloffice@mlcatexas.org
School Board Chair: schoolboardchairman@mlcatexas.org
Board of Trustees: trustees@messiahkeller.org

Financial Director: jinel.munoz@messiahkeller.org
Financial Secretary: financial.secretary@messiahkeller.org
Church Office: churchoffice@messiahkeller.org
Church Office Administrator: linda.pinkston@messiahkeller.org
MLCA Hours: Mon-Fri, 7:30am—3:30pm.
Church Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 9am-3pm



MLCA is hiring teachers for the 2026-2027 school year. For more information, you may call the school office at 817.431.5486, or you may send your resume to schooloffice@mlcatexas.org.



MESSIAH VOLLEYBALL—If you are interested in playing volleyball on Sunday afternoons, please text **Jinel Munoz at 214-514-5871**. You'll then be included on a group text for determining time, turnout, and weather pending factors.



Pregnancy Help 4 U is looking for families, small groups, and church members (kids, teens, adults all welcome!) to participate in

their **Baby Bottle Bowling Bash on Sunday, June 7th, from 1:00-3:00** ~ a special event to kick off PH4U's Baby Bottle Campaign! At the event, church members will receive baby bottles to take home, to be filled with spare change, cash, or checks over the following weeks, then returned to PH4U by June 30th. The group that raises the most through their bottles will win a **gift card to Main Event!** **LOCATION:** Main Event, 2601 Presidio Vista Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76177

TICKETS: \$75 per bowler

TEAMS: 4-6 Bowlers

SIGN UP: <https://giving.myamplify.io/App/Form/d98a5853-4711-4ec5-a964-c958070683eb>



Music Ministry Search Committee—

To begin addressing our music ministry needs, the Voters' Assembly, on Sunday, authorized the formation of a search committee. Please let church leadership know if you have any candidate suggestions. And most of all, please pray...for wisdom, unity, and that the Lord would provide a faithful, talented Lutheran musician to serve our congregation and support our worship life.



A Life Thought in the Church Year for May 3 - Fifth Sunday of Easter:

The truth of God's Word is not always welcomed by "stiff-necked people" who "resist the Holy Spirit," and even become enraged at hearing the truth. Stephen faithfully proclaimed that Word even though it led to his martyrdom (Acts 7:51, 59-60). Many angry voices today demand unfettered access to abortion or physician-assisted suicide. But we must continue to sound the trumpet of truth, for only the power of God's Word can open the eyes of the blind and execute justice for the oppressed (Psalm 146:7-8). It is the narrow road of faith in Jesus Christ, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, that gives us access to our Father in heaven (John 14:6). Baptized into Christ, we are living stones, being built up into a spiritual house, that we may proclaim the Good News of the One who calls us out of darkness into His marvelous light (1 Peter 2:5, 9).



LCMS STEWARDSHIP—1 Peter 2:9 - "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." God has called us to be His own. He has chosen us out of love, out of mercy, out of sheer, divine joy. The apostle Peter says that God chose us so that we might share in His glory and "proclaim the excellencies of Him" who has made us His own. And truly, this is our delight! His joy brings joy to our hearts as well.



PROVIDING ARTILLERY SUPPORT FOR THE CHURCH MILITANT ON THE FRONT LINES...Issues, Etc. is a podcast and radio

talk show produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL, and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. Recent topics include: Intercessory Prayer in a Post-Christian Culture, Understanding Difficult Old Testament Passages, Roman Catholicism on Free Will, "The Population Bomb" by Paul Ehrlich, Luther's Large Catechism on Holy Baptism and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: Last Sunday: 8:00am: 85 10:45am: 118 Total: 203
Sunday School: 77 **OFFERINGS FOR THE WEEK: \$ 9,902.04** (includes online giving to Gen. Fund)

WEEKLY OFFERINGS NEEDED TO FUND THE CURRENT YEAR BUDGET: **\$ 19,549.00**

You may use this QR code for your convenience if you would like to give to Messiah. It will direct you to our Vanco System for electronic giving.

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• YOUTH CONFIRMANDS •

2026

• Sabrina Addink •

“Jesus said to him,
‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through me.’”
John 14:6

• Christian Hernandez •

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined,
what God has prepared for those who love him.”
1 Corinthians 2:9

• Jaxon Kirby •

“For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers,
nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ”
Romans 8:38-39

• Joshua Kirby •

“And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good,
for those who are called according to his purpose.”
Romans 8:28

• Sam Sifford •

"I can do all things through him who strengthens me."
Philippians 4:13

• Shyanne Simon •

"Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death."
John 8:51

• David Umayam •

“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened,
and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”
Joshua 1:9

✠ The Order of Worship ✠

Prelude

Stand

Opening Hymn: 410 Within the Father's House



1 With-in the Fa-ther's house The Son has found His home,
2 The doc-tors of the Law Gaze on the won-drous child
3 Yet not to them is giv'n The might-y truth to know,
4 The se-cret of the Lord Es-capes each hu-man eye,



And to His tem-ple sud-den-ly The Lord of life has come.
And mar-vel at His gra-cious words Of wis-dom un-de-filed.
To lift the earth-ly veil that hides In-car-nate God be-low.
And faith-ful pon-d'ring hearts a-wait The full e-piph-a-ny.

5 Lord, visit Thou our souls
And teach us by Thy grace
Each dim revealing of Thyself
With loving awe to trace

△ 6 Till we behold Thy face
And know as we are known
Thee, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Coequal Three in One.

Text: James R. Woodford, 1820-85, alt.
Tune: Johann Balthasar König, 1691-1758; adapt. William H. Havergal, 1793-1870
Text and tune: Public domain

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. *Matthew 28:19b;[18:20]*
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** *1 John 1:8-9*

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**
- 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. *[John 20:19-23]*
C Amen.



Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 30:1-5; antiphon: Psalm 149:1



*Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song,
his praise in the assembly of the godly!*

I will extol you, O LORD, for you have | drawn me up*
and have not let my foes rejoice | over me.

**O LORD my God, I cried to | you for help,*
and you have | healed me.**

O LORD, you have brought up my soul | from Sheol;*
you restored me to life from among those who go down | to the pit.

**Sing praises to the LORD, O | you his saints,*
and give thanks to his | holy name.**

For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a | lifetime.*

Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the | morning.

**You have turned for me my mourning into | dancing,*
you have loosed my sackcloth**

and clothed me with | gladness,

that my glory may sing your praise and not be | silent.*

O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you for- | ever!

**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.

*Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song,
his praise in the assembly of the godly!*

Kyrie

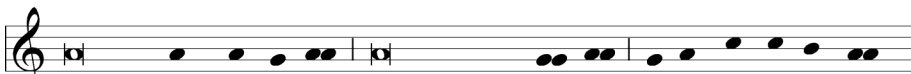
Mark 10:47



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



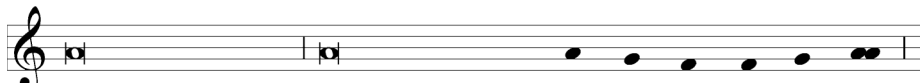
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni - ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



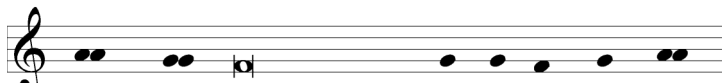
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

This Is the Feast

Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9



A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



C Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,



whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.



Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and



hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,



for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.



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

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

First Reading

Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60

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. 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. 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. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” 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. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

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.

And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. 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. . . .

And Stephen said:

“Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . .

You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.”

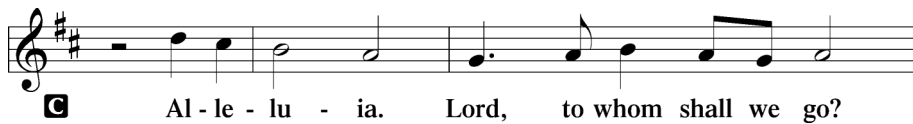
Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. 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. And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” 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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse

John 6:68



Holy Gospel

John 14:1-14

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



[Jesus said:] “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. 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? 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. And 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 had known me, you would have for you? 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. And you know the way to 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 had known me, you would have known my Father also.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” 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’? 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. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

“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. Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Nicene Creed

**☩ 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.**

Sit



Hymn of the Day: 633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um-phant go
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

△ 8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–68, alt.
Tune: Kirchengeseng, 1566, Ivancice
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Rite of Confirmation

LSB 272

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Offertory

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19



☐ What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to



me? I will of-fer the sac-ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo - ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru - sa - lem.

Reception of the Offering

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]



P The Lord be with you.



C And al-so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.


P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus


Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9




C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of




 pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your



 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



 Bless - ed is He who comes in the name



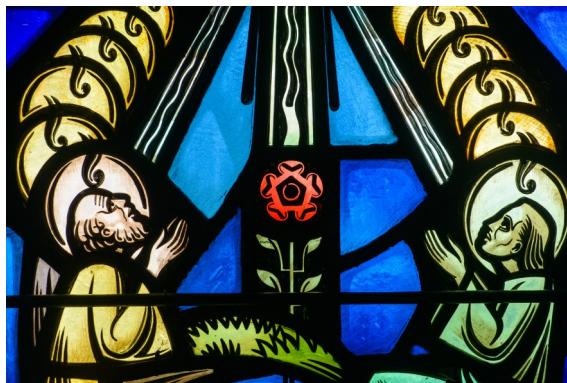
 of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.






sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of
 God, You take a - way the sin of the world;
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

Sit

Distribution

526 You Are the Way; through You Alone



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, 1615, Edinburgh
 Text and tune: Public domain

475 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph
 2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; Bring flow'rs of song to
 3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry That love, that life which
 4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, And sing to - day with



of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:
 strew His way; Let all the world re - joice and say:
 can - not die, And sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
 one ac - cord The life laid down, the life re - stored:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872-1955, alt.

Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570-1615

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Tune: Public domain

Stand

Thank the Lord

[Psalm 105:1-3, 42-43]; [1 Chronicles 16:8-10]



Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev - 'ry-one what



He has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re -



joice 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 Collect

A Let us pray.

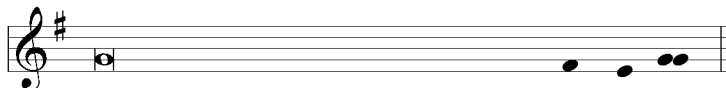
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - - men.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



P 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.



C A - - men.



465 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds In
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift He brings, There -
 3 O fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love; Set
 △ 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring And



praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has tri - umphed!
 fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has tri - umphed!
 heart and will on things a - bove That we con - quer
 with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has tri - umphed!



He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and
 He is liv - ing!" Now still He comes to give us
 through Your tri - umph; Grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's
 Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the Fa - ther and our



clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
 life And by His pres - ence stills all
 day That by our lives we tru - ly
 Lord, To Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has tri - umphed!"
 strife. Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 God, All the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt.
 Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623, Köln
 Text: © 1958 Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005149
 Tune: Public domain

Service Music:

Prelude:

Praeludium in E-flat Major – Johann Kaspar Ferdinand Fischer
DUNDEE (“You Are the Way; through You Alone”) – Keith Kolander
SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT (“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”)
-settings by Jacob B. Weber and Kevin Hildebrand

Postlude:

“Little Prelude and Fugue in F,” by J. S. Bach, BWV 556

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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Artwork:



The Stoning of Saint Stephen, circa 1623, Jacques Stella



16th Century Lutheran Woodcut representing Confession and Absolution





About the Cover

Jesus' work on the cross and His resurrection was all done so that we may be with Him forever. There is no good apart from Jesus. Jesus is indeed with us this day by the promise of Baptism. We have the promise that He will never leave us. In His Word, He is with us by the power of the Holy Spirit. In the Lord's Supper, He is with us in His very body and blood to bring us forgiveness and strengthen our faith. When we die, we will be with Jesus. Finally, when we are raised on the Last Day, we and all believers will be in heaven with Him forever.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60

¹Now 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.

²And 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.

³Therefore, 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. ⁴But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." ⁵And 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. ⁶These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷And 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.

⁸And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹Then 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. . . .

^{72a}And Stephen said: "Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . .

^{51a}You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. ⁵²Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, ⁵³you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it."

⁵⁴Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him.

⁵⁵But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." ⁵⁷But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. ⁵⁸Then 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. ⁵⁹And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰And 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.

Epistle: 1 Peter 2:2–10

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

⁴As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you 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. ⁶For 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."

⁷So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,"

⁸and

"A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But 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. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Holy Gospel: John 14:1–14

¹[Jesus said:] "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In 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? ³And 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. ⁴And you know the way to where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

⁸Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." ⁹Jesus 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?' ¹⁰Do 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. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

¹²"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. ¹³Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it."