



## The Fifth Sunday of Easter

*Thanks be to God for Mom*

### **Opening Hymn. "The Church's One Foundation"**

*Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900*

*Tune: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-76*

**LSB #644**

*Tune: "AURELIA"*

1. The Church's one foundation  
Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
She is His new creation  
By water and the Word.  
From heav'n He came and sought her  
To be His holy bride;  
With His own blood He bought her,  
And for her life He died.
2. Elect from ev'ry nation,  
Yet one o'er all the earth;  
Her charter of salvation:  
One Lord, one faith, one birth.  
One holy name she blesses,  
Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses  
With ev'ry grace endued.
3. Though with a scornful wonder  
The world sees her oppressed,  
By schisms rent asunder,  
By heresies distressed,  
Yet saints their watch are keeping;  
Their cry goes up, "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping  
Shall be the morn of song.

4. Through toil and tribulation  
And tumult of her war  
She waits the consummation  
Of peace forevermore  
Till with the vision glorious  
Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great Church victorious  
Shall be the Church at rest.
5. Yet she on earth has union  
With God, the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion  
With those whose rest is won.  
O blessed heav'nly chorus!  
Lord, save us by Your grace  
That we, like saints before us,  
May see You face to face.

*Text: Eph. 2:20; 4:4-6; 1 Cor. 10:16-17; Rev. 7:14-17*  
*Public domain*

### **DIVINE SERVICE Setting One**

**LSB pages 151ff**

#### **Invocation.**

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

**Response: Amen.**

#### **Confession and Absolution.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**Response: But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

**Response:**

**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 neighbor 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.**

Pastor: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our 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. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
**Response: Amen.**

**Introit/Psalm.**

*Psalm 30:1-5; Psalm 149:1 (ESV)*

<sup>1</sup> Praise the Lord!

Sing to the Lord a new song,  
 his praise in the assembly of the godly!

<sup>1</sup> **I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up  
 and have not let my foes rejoice over me.**

<sup>2</sup> O Lord my God, I cried to you for help,  
 and you have healed me.

<sup>3</sup> **O Lord, you have brought up my soul from Sheol;  
 you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.**

<sup>4</sup> Sing praises to the Lord, O you his saints,  
 and give thanks to his holy name.

<sup>5</sup> **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.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit  
 As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

<sup>1</sup> Praise the Lord!

Sing to the Lord a new song,  
 his praise in the assembly of the godly!

**Kyrie.**

Verse: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Response: Lord have mercy.**

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

**Response: Lord have mercy.**

Verse: 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.

**Response: Lord have mercy.**

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

**Response: Lord have mercy.**

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

**Response: Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise.**

Refrain: **This is the feast of victory for our God  
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia**

Verse:

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
 Whose Blood set us free to be people of God. (Refrain)  
 Power, riches, wisdom, and strength  
 And honor, blessing and glory are His. (Refrain)  
 Sing with all the people of God.  
 And join in the hymn of all creation:  
 Blessing, honor, glory, and might  
 Be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. (Refrain)  
 For the Lamb who was slain  
 Has begun His reign. Alleluia**

**Final Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**Response: And also with you.**

Pastor: 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 may be found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Response: Amen.**

**Readings from Holy Scripture.**

**Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60 (ESV)**

<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>7:2</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.

Verse: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual.**

*Adapted from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6*

**Christ has risen from the dead. [God the Father] has crowned Him with glory and honor. He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands; He has put all things under His feet.**

**1 Peter 2:2-10 (ESV)**

<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.

Verse: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

**We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. (Romans 6:9 ESV)**

Jesus says:

“If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.”

(John 14:23 ESV)

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

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

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

**Response: Glory to You, O Lord.**

**John 14:1-14 (ESV)**

<sup>1</sup> “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.

Verse: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Response: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Hymn of the Day.**

**“Built on the Rock”**

**LSB #645**

*Text: Nikolai Fredrik Severin Grundtvig, 1783--1872*    *Tune: “KIRKEN DEN ER ET GAMMELT HUS”*

*Tr. Carl Doving, 1867-1937*

*Tune: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812-87; setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941*

1. Built on the Rock the Church shall stand  
Even when steeples are falling.  
Crumbled have spires in ev'ry land;  
Bells still are chiming and calling,  
Calling the young and old to rest,  
But above all the soul distressed,  
Longing for rest everlasting.

2. Surely in temples made with hands  
God, the Most High, is not dwelling;  
High above earth His temple stands,  
All earthly temples excelling.  
Yet He who dwells in heav'n above  
Chooses to live with us in love,  
Making our bodies His temple.
3. We are God's house of living stones,  
Built for His own habitation.  
He through baptismal grace us owns  
Heirs of His wondrous salvation.  
Were we but two His name to tell,  
Yet He would deign with us to dwell  
With all His grace and His favor.
4. Here stands the font before our eyes,  
Telling how God has received us.  
Th'altar recalls Christ's sacrifice  
And what His Supper here gives us.  
Here sound the Scriptures that proclaim  
Christ yesterday, today, the same,  
And evermore, our Redeemer.
5. Grant, then, O God, Your will be done,  
That, when the church bells are ringing,  
Many in saving faith may come  
Where Christ His message is bringing:  
"I know My own; My own know Me.  
You, not the world, My face shall see.  
My peace I leave with you. Amen."

*Text: Matt. 16:13-18; Eph. 2:19-22; 1 Cor. 3:11-16; Acts 17:24*  
*Text & Tune: Public domain*

**Sermon.**

***"Let Not Your Hearts be Troubled (Fix our hearts)" John 14:1***

***"A Living Stone, Chosen and Precious" 1 Peter 2:2-5***

<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.

Our Rock is Risen! He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

We'll whet our appetite with a stein of pure spiritual milk. Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. He is the Way and the Truth and the Life. No man comes to the Father but by Him. In Him, we are baptized. In Him we live and move and Have our being. And in His Word we abide as living stones. Praise God for the Vessel that He used to give us pure spiritual milk. Praise God for our mother in the faith. Praise God for the Church. Praise God for the Blessed Virgin, for she is the Mother of our Lord. And today I praise God for our mothers. God fearing mothers feed their children pure spiritual milk that they may be built up in Christ.

All this pure spiritual milk prepares us for a little meat. In the flesh He came. And suddenly our LORD gives us the whole loaf of the Bread of Life. Now we have something on which we can chew. But our Lord would not turn the stones into bread, for man does not live by bread alone, but by every Word that proceeds from the mouth of God.

So, what does Peter mean by calling us "Living stones being built up as a spiritual house"? What does Jesus mean by telling us that He goes to prepare a place for us; a mansion within the Father's mansion? How is Jesus a stone of stumbling, a Rock of offense, and the head of the corner?

The "would be builders" of Jerusalem knew none of the answers to these questions. The builders, busy in their own houses rejected Him. He was rejected by men, and sacrificed; but, in the sight of God He is chosen and precious. Now He is risen as the chief cornerstone. And we are being built in

Him. Peter, who once marveled at the magnificent stones of the temple in Jerusalem, now shows a greater temple not made with human hands. God builds His Church by laying His Son as a foundation in the dirt. Through Christ He will form fashion and gather His people.

“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,”

Stephen showed them what this means to be a rock who cries out as the Lord of Life passes by to die our death:

Acts 7:2 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.

Stephen rested like a stone. And before Stephen, like a stone now dead, Christ rested. The Cornerstone sets the angles and lines perfectly still. Over

this Cornerstone, all mankind stumbled. And He died. Then on the third day, like a Living Stone, the seal of the tomb rolled away. And Christ the true Capstone was no longer there. Like a Living Stone, Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Like a living stone—this Rock is corporal. Christ came in the flesh; suffered in His body, died our death; and was laid behind our Stone. And on the third day the grave stone was rolled away. Christ who once was dead is now living! Never to die again. Of Him Stephen bore witness. To Him Moses ponted.

Moses was once hidden in the cleft of the Rock, laid behind the shelter of a stone, and the LORD passed by. The LORD, the all-consuming glory on the mountain flashed by, and, Moses did not die. To this same Moses God said, “Strike the Rock!” Moses struck the Rock and water flowed in the wilderness.

Paul says that the Rock was Christ. Christ was struck upon the cross, twice through the hands and then the feet. Christ was pierced and living water flowed. Here is more than Meribah. Here is greater than Jacob’s well. Here is the Living Stone who gives Living Water. Moses of old and Stephen of late were revived in Christ. Paul was a witness of these witnesses.

Paul was Saul, and Saul was there when the first martyr for Christ was struck. The stones struck Stephen. Saul was there standing over the coats, watching the stones fly. And Stephen, who was stoned to death, first prayed, then rested, and now he lives. As a living stone He looked to the Rock who was before Him. And that Rock is the Risen Christ.

Peter speaks to all who are called to follow Christ, by our baptisms we are in Christ. Peter, by the power of the Holy Spirit, says,

<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.

He is Risen! **He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!**

**Hymn of Response. "You Are the Way; through You Alone" LSB #526***Text: George W. Doane, 1799-1859**Tune: "DUNDEE"**Tune: The CL Psalms of David, Edinburgh, 1615; setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941*

1. You are the way; through You alone  
Can we the Father find;  
In You, O Christ, has God revealed  
His heart and will and mind.
2. You are the truth; Your Word alone  
True wisdom can impart;  
You only can inform the mind  
And purify the heart.
3. You are the life; the empty tomb  
Proclaims Your conqu'ring arm,  
And those who put their trust in You  
Not death nor hell shall harm.
4. You are the way, the truth, the life;  
Grant us that way to know,  
That truth to keep, that life to win  
Whose joys eternal flow.

*Text: John 14:6; 1 Tim. 2:5; Acts 4:12**Text & Tune: Public domain***Apostles' Creed****I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.****And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.****I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.****Prayer.**

Almighty God, heavenly Father, in Your Word and by the Holy Spirit, crush us like a stone of offense, lay under us as a cornerstone of righteousness, and bind us together under the capstone Head who is Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Gather us into Your Church, the body of believers in Christ, saints who stand in line with Stephen. Give us grace to trust You during this time of illness and distress. In mercy put an end to the contagion that afflicts us. Calm our fears. Grant relief to those who suffer, and comfort all that mourn. Make Your people joyful in their work and patient in their service. Sustain all medical, law enforcement, and defense personnel in their labors. Restore your people's livelihood and cause Your people ever to serve You in righteousness and holiness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.****Collect for the Word.**

Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your Holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**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.

**Offering.**—Send your offering to God by supporting your house of worship

**Offertory**

What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits to me?  
 I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving.  
 And will call on the name of the Lord.  
 I will take the cup of salvation  
 And will call on the name of the Lord.  
 I will pay my vows to the Lord now  
 In the presence of all His people,  
 In the courts of the Lord's house,  
 In the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

**Benedicamus.**

Verse: Let us bless the Lord

Response: Thanks be to God.

**Benediction.**

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. "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" LSB #761**

*Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740-78*

*Tune: "TOPLADY"*

*Tune: Thomas Hastings, 1784-1872; setting Lutheran Worship. 1982*

1. Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
 Let me hide myself in Thee;  
 Let the water and the blood,  
 From Thy riven side which flowed,

Be of sin the double cure:  
 Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

2. Not the labors of my hands  
 Can fulfill Thy Law's demands;  
 Could my zeal no respite know,  
 Could my tears forever flow,  
 All for sin could not atone;  
 Thou must save, and Thou alone.
3. Nothing in my hand I bring;  
 Simply to Thy cross I cling.  
 Naked, come to Thee for dress;  
 Helpless, look to Thee for grace;  
 Foul, I to the fountain fly;  
 Wash me, Savior, or I die!
4. While I draw this fleeting breath,  
 When mine eyelids close in death,  
 When I soar to worlds unknown,  
 See Thee on Thy judgment throne,  
 Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
 Let me hide myself in Thee.

*Text: 1 Cor. 10:4; John 19:34; Heb. 9:14; Ezek. 36:25*  
*Public domain*

**Divine Savior Lutheran Church**

1025 N. Buckman Street

Shepherdsville, KY 40165

(502) 543-2905

[www.divinesaviorshepherdsville.org](http://www.divinesaviorshepherdsville.org)

[divinesaviorshepherdsville@gmail.com](mailto:divinesaviorshepherdsville@gmail.com)