

# The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer

1515 Boundary Street • Newberry, SC 29108

(803) 276-2003 • [www.redeemernewberry.org](http://www.redeemernewberry.org)



The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2026 - 10:30 am

## **The Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ**

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

Welcome to the Easter season! The 40 days of Lent have passed, and today we gather as a community of faith to celebrate victory over darkness, hope over despair, and life over death, basking in the light of the resurrection. As we worship together, may the joy of the Risen Lord fill your hearts and renew your spirits. We celebrate that Jesus has opened the gates of paradise for us, and his resurrection power is available to us all. Welcome to this celebration of salvation and eternal life.

It is our hope that as we join in song, liturgy, and word that you will continue to grow in the knowledge and love of the Lord here at The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer. Our vibrant parish invites you to join us each Sunday as we continue to celebrate Easter and the blessings that God has bestowed on us.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

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The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer is a Christian community of diverse people called and guided by the Holy Spirit to nurture with God's love those within and beyond our congregation.

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A place where God is at work!  
All are welcome. No exceptions.

..... ✚ **GATHERING** ✚ .....

**Voluntaries**

*Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now  
He Comes to Us as One Unknown  
Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness*

Johann Gottfried Walther  
Marilyn Biery  
Theodore Beck

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*<We stand.>*

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

In the name of ✚ the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

**Amen.**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

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.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.*

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.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

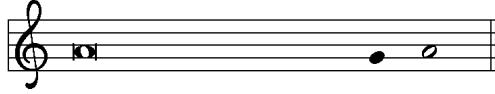
**O Zion, Haste**

*ELW Hymn 668*

# GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

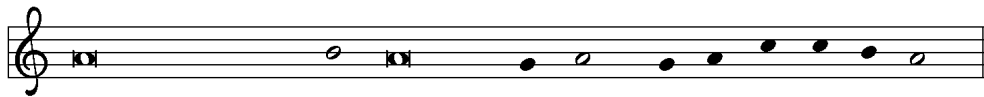
# KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



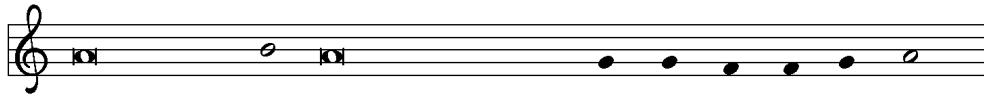
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



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

# CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Refrain*  
Assisting minister



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

All



1 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.

*Refrain*



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

2 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.

*Final refrain*



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.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray together. God of the unknown, **Your mysteries are astounding. Give us knowledge where you see fit, and let us sit comfortably with that which we can never understand. Amen.**

<We sit.>

**READING**

**Acts 17:16-31**

*Pew Bible page 902*

*While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was deeply distressed to see that the city was full of idols. So he argued in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons and also in the marketplace<sup>□</sup> every day with those who happened to be there. Also some Epicurean and Stoic philosophers debated with him. Some said, "What does this pretentious babbler want to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign divinities." (This was because he was telling the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.) So they took him and brought him to the Areopagus and asked him, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? It sounds rather strange to us, so we would like to know what it means." Now all the Athenians and the foreigners living there would spend their time in nothing but telling or hearing something new. Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God<sup>□</sup> and perhaps fumble about for him and find him – though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said,*

*'For we, too, are his offspring.'*

*"Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."*

<At the conclusion of the reading>

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR**

**Come, Join in Our Song**

**Helen Kemp**

**LIL' LUTHERAN TALK**

<We stand.>

**GOSPEL**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**John 1:16-18**

*Pew Bible page 862*

*From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.*

<At the conclusion of the reading>

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

<We sit.>

**SERMON**

**Rev. Matthew Titus**

<We stand.>

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**He Comes to Us as One Unknown**

*ELW Hymn 737*

**NICENE CREED**

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

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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 INTERCESSION**

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

<We kneel.>

*Each prayer petition will end with "Merciful God," and the response is "receive our prayer."  
At the conclusion of the prayers, ... through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. "Amen."*

<We stand.>

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also, with you.**

*You are invited to share the peace however you and those around you are comfortable.*

<We sit.>

..... † **MEAL** † .....

**RECEPTION OF THE OFFERING**

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

*Prayer of St. Paul*

Charles Callahan

<We stand.>

**OFFERTORY HYMN      Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in the key of D major (one sharp). The melody is primarily in the treble clef, while the bass clef provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost." The score concludes with a double bar line.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray... 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.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

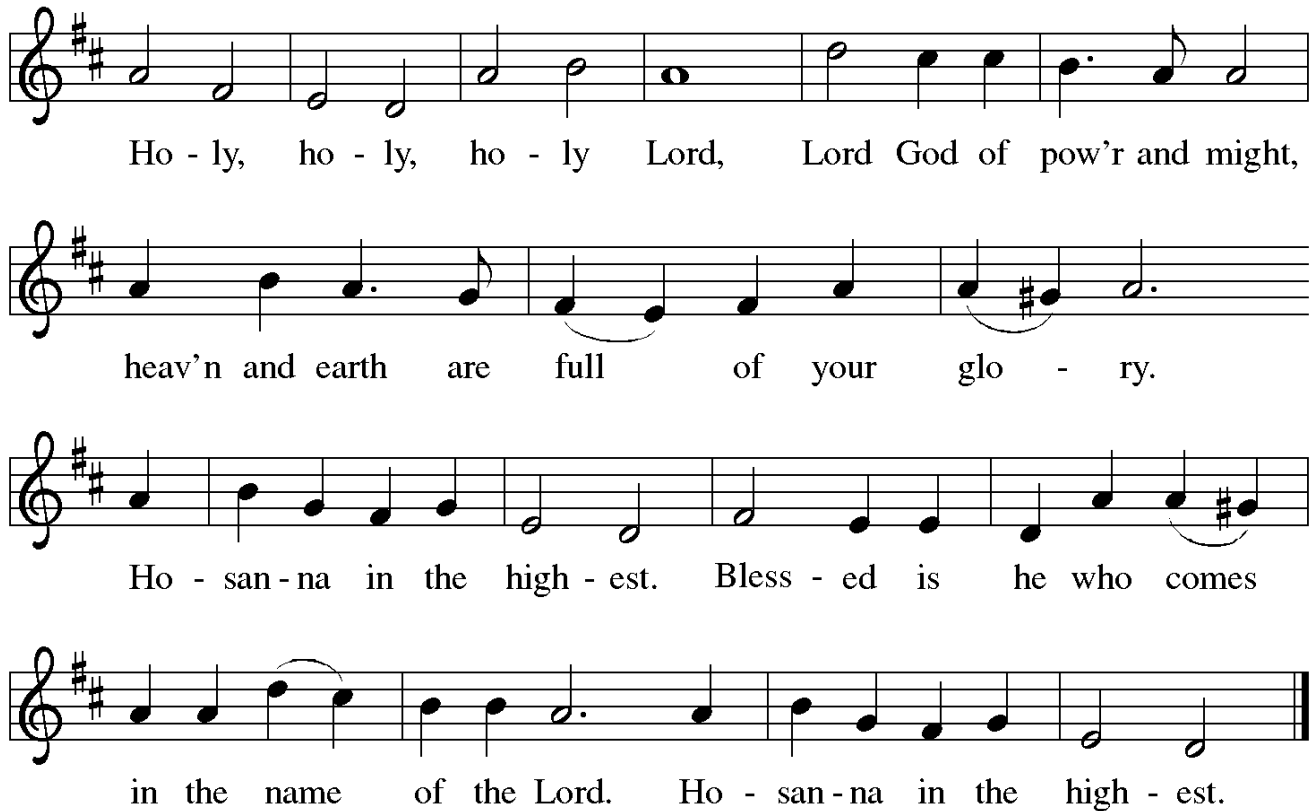
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise ... *here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding ...* we praise your name and join their unending hymn.



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.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, ...

... as we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Grace our table with your presence. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

... we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray ...

**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 THE MEAL

Come to the table of new life.

Receive the risen Lord.

<We sit.>

## COMMUNION

*Participation in Holy Communion is open to all the baptized of this and other Christian congregations. We come in faith that Christ is truly present in, with, and under the bread and the wine. We receive this gift knowing that we are forgiven and are nourished to be sent to proclaim God's love to the world. You are invited to come to the altar to receive the bread and wine. You may dip the bread into the chalice of wine. If you are not able, the meal will be brought to you. A gluten-free wafer is available, upon request for those who need it.*

<We stand.>

## THE TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## POST COMMUNION

### CANTICLE

*Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise*



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



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

## 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.**

..... ✚ **SENDING** ✚ .....

**SUNG BLESSING**

In the name of the Father.  
**In the name of the Father.**  
In the name of the Son.  
**In the name of the Son.**  
In the name of the Spirit.  
**In the name of the Spirit.**  
The Three-in-One.  
**The Three-in-One.**

May the Lord bless you and keep you.  
**May the Lord bless you and keep you.**  
May God’s face shine upon you.  
**May God’s face shine upon you.**  
May God’s blessings be with you.  
**May God’s blessings be with you.**  
And give you peace.  
**And give you peace.**

**SENDING HYMN**

**In Christ There Is No East or West**

*ELW Hymn 650*

**DISMISSAL**

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

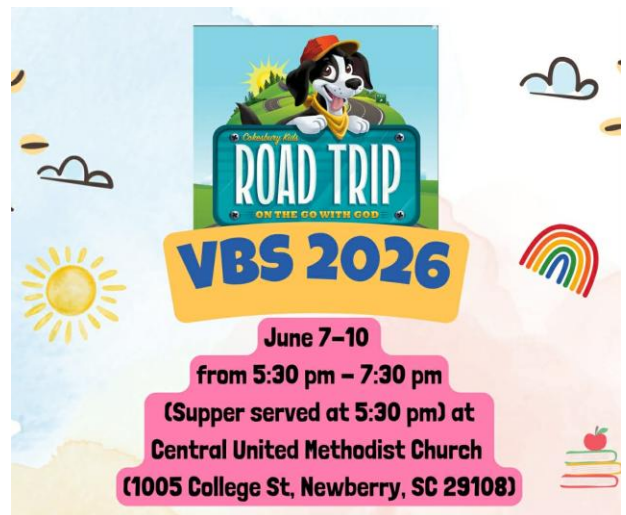
**VOLUNTARY**

*Trumpet Tune*

John Stanley

.....  
**The Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Doggett’s birthday by  
Christie Whitaker.  
.....

If you are interested in joining us at VBS or would like to volunteer, register online with the QR Code below or fill out a sign-up sheet in the narthex and place in the offering plate.



We’re grateful you’ve joined us in worship during this holy season. If you would like to support the ongoing ministry and life of this congregation, you can do so by scanning the QR code. May God’s blessings be with you today and always.



..... ANNOUNCEMENTS .....

**Altar Guild** training session will be offered on Wednesday, May 13 at 6:00 pm. If you are interested in learning more about communion preparation or want more information about our paraments, banners, and linens, please plan to attend. There will be a morning session offered this summer.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
3 <b>Property Committee Mtg - 9am</b>  <b>Sunday School - 9:30am</b>  <b>Worship - 10:30am</b>  <b>WELCA &amp; LMM Luncheon - 11:30am</b>	4	5	6  <b>Handbell Rehearsal - 6pm</b>  <b>Senior Choir Rehearsal - 7pm</b>	7	8	9	10 <b>Sunday School - 9:30am</b>  <b>Worship - 10:30am</b>

**Worship Leadership - Today**

**Worship Asst:** Ben Bowers  
**Acolyte:** Rosealynn Sexton  
**Crucifer:** Ellie Nguyen  
**Comm Prep:** Robert Kneece & Eve Kneece  
**Altar Flowers:** Doggett & Christie Whitaker  
**Ushers:** Chad Cary, Norris Long, Zeb Reid, Dennis Caughman

**Sunday, May 10, 2026**

**Worship Asst:** Robert Kneece  
**Acolyte:** Adam Boozer  
**Crucifer:** Miriam Titus  
**Comm Prep:**  
**Altar Flowers:** WELCA  
**Ushers:** Susan Thomasson, Walter Jacobs, Justin Guy, Dennis Caughman

**Numbers for April 26, 2026:**

**Attendance:**

SS: 20  
 In-Person: 69  
 Online: 214  
**Total: 283**

**Offering:**

Gen Operating Account: \$ 19,296.16  
 Major Maintenance: \$ 245.00  
Dedicated Accounts  
 Roof Repair Fund: \$ 12,500.00

**The Rev. Matthew Titus, Pastor · Haley McBride-Stuhr, Office Assistant & Bookkeeper**  
**Dr. Huger Caughman, Jr., Organist · Nicholas Todd Shumate, Choir Director**  
**A/V Team: Annette Belcher, Wayden Caughman, Nikki Chapman, and Matt Bowers**

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Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America