

May 2 - 3, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter Readings

First Reading

A Reading from Acts

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.

(pause)

Reader: **Word of God, word of Life.**

Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ.

Second Reading

A Reading from First Peter

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."

This honor, then, is for you who believe,
but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner," 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 people, a royal priesthood,
a holy nation, God's own people,
in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of
darkness into his marvelous light.

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.

(pause)

Reader: Word of God, word of Life.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Gospel

A Proclamation of the Holy Gospel According to John

Jesus said to the 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.

Pastor: **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Congregation: Thanks be to God.