

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
May 3rd, 2026
in the
GREAT FIFTY DAYS OF EASTER
to Celebrate Jesus Rose from the Dead!

These days are a season of one great celebration
of the resurrection of our Lord,
marking the bringing forth with joy and power
the glory of Christ's death on the cross!

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!



CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
PARISH OF LANCASTER

<i>Bishop</i>	Archbishop David Edwards
<i>Incumbent</i>	The Rev'd Christopher Ketch
<i>Church Wardens</i>	Paul Desjardins, Chris Titus
<i>Parish Administrator</i>	Lori Maker
<i>Organist & Choir Director</i>	David Mitchell
<i>Sexton</i>	Larry Totton

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(506) 635-8145 Church Office e-mail: goodshep@nb.sympatico.ca
www.goodshepherdsj.ca



We acknowledge that the land on which
we gather is the traditional unceded
territory of the Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet)
and Mi'kmaq Peoples.

The liturgy is according to *The Book of Alternative Services* (adapted).

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

Resurrection Introductory Response

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**He gave us new life and hope by raising Jesus
from the dead.**

Rejoice, then, even in your distress.

**We shall be counted worthy when Christ
appears.**

God has claimed us as his own.

**He called us from our darkness into the light of
his day.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Processional Hymn “How Firm a Foundation” CP 527

- 1 How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in his excellent word!
What more can he say than to you he hath said,
to you who to Jesus for refuge have fled?
- 2 “Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dismayed!
For I am thy God and will still give thee aid;
I’ll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.
- 3 When though the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow;
for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless.
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

- 4 When through fiery trails thy pathway shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply;
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.
- 5 The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose
I will not – I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavour to shake,
I'll never – no never – no never forsake!”

*William Walsham How (1823-97)
Used under permission of CCLI # 2319023*

Greeting

Alleluia! Jesus has risen from the grave.
The Lord is alive and he is here. Alleluia!

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
**He gave us new life and hope
by raising Jesus from the dead.**

Rejoice, then, even in your distress.
We shall be counted worthy when Christ appears.

God has claimed us as his own.
**He called us from our darkness
into the light of his day.**

May his grace and peace be with you.
May he fill our hearts with joy.

Collect for Purity

While still standing, as you're able, let us pray.

Almighty God,
**to you all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
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 Lord. Amen.**

“Glory to God on high” CP 365

- 1 Glory to God on high, and peace to all on earth.
 We worship you, we give you thanks, our heavenly king.
 We give you praise,
 almighty God and Father blessed in glory bright.

- 2 Our Saviour, Jesus Christ,
 the Father’s only Son. the sacrificial Lamb,
 who saves the world from sin, have mercy Lord.
 Beside the Father’s hand enthroned, now hear our prayer.

- 3 You only are the Lord. You only are most high.
 You only are the holy one, Lord Jesus Christ.
 And now you reign
 with Father and with Spirit one in glorious light.

*Text Glory to God; para. Paul Gibson (1932-2022)
Music DARWALL, John Darwall (1731-1789)*

Collect of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life.
Give us grace to love one another
and walk in the way of his commandments,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD IS READ AND PROCLAIMED

First Reading Acts 7:55-60

A reading from Acts.

⁵⁵ But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ 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. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' ⁶⁰ 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.

[NRSV-A]

Hear God's word for God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 31:1-5

- 1 In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame; *
deliver me in your righteousness.
- 2 **Incline your ear to me; ***
make haste to deliver me.
- 3 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.
- 4 **Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for**
me, *
for you are my tower of strength.
- 5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, *
for you have redeemed me,
O Lord, O God of truth.

Second Reading 1 Peter 2:2-10

A reading from First Peter.

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and ⁵ 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. ⁶ 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.’

⁷ 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’,

⁸ 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.

⁹ 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 marvellous light.

¹⁰ 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. [NRSV-A]

Hear God’s word for God’s people.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn “*Praise Him, Praise Him*”

1 Praise Him, praise Him! Jesus our blessed Redeemer!
Sing, O earth His wonderful love proclaim!
Hail Him! hail Him! Highest archangels in glory;
strength and honour give to his holy name!
Like a shepherd, Jesus will guard His children,
in His arms He carries them all day long.
Praise Him, praise Him!
Tell of His excellent greatness;
Praise Him, praise Him!
Ever in joyful song!

- 2 Praise Him, praise Him! Jesus our blessed Redeemer!
 For our sins he suffered, and bled, and died:
 He-our rock, our hope of eternal salvation,
 Hail Him! Hail Him! Jesus the crucified!
 Sound His praises, Jesus who bore our sorrows,
 Love unbounded, wonderful, deep and strong.
- 3 Praise Him! Praise Him! Jesus our blessed Redeemer!
 Heavenly portals, loud with hosannas ring!
 Jesus, Saviour, reigneth for ever and ever;
 Crown Him, crown Him! Prophet, and Priest and King!
 Christ is coming, over the world victorious,
 Power and glory unto the Lord belong.

Frances van Alstyne (1820-1915)

(Fanny J. Crosby)

used with permission, CCLI # 2319023

Gospel Acclamation and Reading

John 14:1-14

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.

Alleluia.

He has defeated the powers of death.

Alleluia.

Jesus turns our sorrow into dancing.

Alleluia.

He has the words of eternal life.

Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
 according to John

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

¹‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In 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? ³And 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. ⁴And you know the way to the place 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 know

me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.'

⁸ Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' ⁹ 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"? ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ 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. ¹² 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. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it. [NRSV-A]

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Fr. Chris Ketch

The Nicene Creed

Let us confess our faith, as we say,

**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.
With the Father and the Son
he is worshipped 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.**

The Prayers of the People

In joy and hope let us pray to the Father, while kneeling or seated.

Pause

That our risen Saviour may fill us with the joy of his glorious and life-giving resurrection ...
we pray to the Father.
Hear our prayer.

That isolated and persecuted churches
may find fresh strength in the good news of Easter ...
we pray to the Father.
Hear our prayer.

That God may grant us humility
to be subject to one another in Christian love ...
we pray to the Father.

Hear our prayer.

That he may provide for those who lack food, work,
or shelter ...
we pray to the Father.

Hear our prayer.

That by his power war and famine may cease through all the
world ...
we pray to the Father.

Hear our prayer.

That he may reveal the light of his presence to the sick, the
weak and the dying, to comfort and strengthen them ...
we pray to the Father.

Hear our prayer.

That, according to his promises, all who have died in the faith
of the resurrection may be raised on the last day ...
we pray to the Father.

Hear our prayer.

That he may send the fire of the Holy Spirit upon his people,
so that we may bear faithful witness to his resurrection,
we pray to the Father.

Hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, you have delivered us from the power of
darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant
that, as his death has recalled us to life, so his continual
presence in us may raise us to eternal joy; through Christ our
Lord. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
he welcomes sinners
and invites them to his table.
Let us confess our sins,
confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Most merciful God,
**we confess that 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 neighbours as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PLEASE STAND, AS ABLE

The Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples
and said, 'Peace be with you.'
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory *"The Lord is my Shepherd"*

Susan Taylor

Prayer over the Gifts

O God, Creator of all,
you wash away our sins in water,
you give us new birth by the Spirit,
and redeem us in the blood of Christ.
As we celebrate the resurrection,

renew your gift of life within us.
We ask this
in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.
The Spirit of God is with us.

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.

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise,
holy Father, heavenly King,
almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you
for the glorious resurrection of your Son
Jesus Christ our Lord;
for he is the true Paschal Lamb,
who was offered for us,
and has taken away the sin of the world;
who by his death has destroyed death,
and by his rising to life again has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

PLEASE KNEEL OR BE SEATED.

Hear us, heavenly Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
through him accept our sacrifice of praise;
and grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and blood;

Who in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying,
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying,
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins,
Do this as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

We then proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Therefore, Lord and heavenly Father,
having in remembrance his death
once for all upon the cross,
his resurrection from the dead,
and his ascension into heaven,
and looking for the coming of his kingdom,
we make with this bread and this cup
the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Accept through him this offering of our duty and service;
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
fill us with your grace and heavenly blessing;
nourish us by his body and blood,

that we may grow into his likeness
and made one by your Spirit,
become a living temple to your glory.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
from all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Saviour 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,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread *(for the Easter Season)*

Lord, we died with you on the cross.
Now we are raised to new life.

We were buried in your tomb.
Now we share in your resurrection.

Live in us, that we may live in you.

The Communion

Come, humbly, with joy in your hearts:
receive bread, the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
broken for you.

Drink wine, his blood shed for you.
Eat and drink with faith and thanksgiving.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Communion music

“How Sweet the Name of Jesus”

- 1 How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
 In a believer’s ear!
 It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds,
 And drives away our fear.
 It makes the wounded spirit whole,
 And calms each heart oppressed;
 It’s manna to the hungry soul,
 And to the weary, rest,
 And to the weary, rest.

- 2 Dear name, the rock on which I stand,
 My shield and hiding place,
 My never failing treasury, filled
 With boundless stores of grace!
 Jesus! my Shepherd, Saviour, Friend,
 My Prophet, Priest, my King,
 My Lord, my Life, my Way, my End,
 Accept the praise I bring,
 Accept the praise I bring.

- 3 Weak is the effort of my heart,
 And cold my warmest thought;
 But when I see you as you are,
 I’ll praise you as I ought.
 I would your boundless love proclaim
 With every fleeing breath.
 So shall the music of your name
 Refresh my soul in death,
 Refresh my soul in death.

John Newton (1725-1807)
(Public Domain)

“With My Heart, I Worship You”

With my heart I worship You, Jesus,
Jesus, with my heart I worship You,
Jesus, Jesus:
You gave all in love for me,
saved me for eternity;
With my heart I worship You.

With my lips I praise you...

With my life I serve you...

*Norman Warren © 1980 Jubilate Hymns
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AFTER COMMUNION

Post Communion Anthem (spoken) *“The disciples knew the Lord”*

The disciples knew the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread.
**The disciples knew the Lord Jesus
in the breaking of the bread.**

The bread which we break, alleluia,
is the communion of the body of Christ.
**The disciples knew the Lord Jesus
in the breaking of the bread.**

One body are we, alleluia,
for though many we share one bread.
**The disciples knew the Lord Jesus
in the breaking of the bread.**

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life:
grant us to walk in his way,
to rejoice in his truth,
and to share his risen life;
who is alive and reigns, now and forever. **Amen.**

Blessing

May the God of peace
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
the great shepherd of the sheep,
by the blood of the eternal covenant,
equip you with everything good
that you may do his will,
working in you that which is pleasing in his sight,
through Jesus Christ,
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit
be upon you now and forevermore. **Amen.**

THE CHURCH DEPARTS TO WITNESS AND TO SERVE

Dismissal

Alleluia! Go in the joy of the risen Lord!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Recessional Hymn “*King of Love, O Christ, We Crown You*” **CP 451**

Postlude

Those serving today’s worship and learning:

<i>Bulletin preparation</i>	Lori Maker (Parish Office)
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Sherry Desjardins & Marilyn G.
<i>Sunday School</i>	Laura Janes
<i>Sound system</i>	Chris Titus
<i>Greeter</i>	Lori McGovern & Carol Patterson
<i>Layreader & First Reader</i>	Brenda Clayton
<i>Second Reader</i>	Marilyn Galbraith
<i>Prayer Leader</i>	Layreader
<i>Organist & Choir Director</i>	David Mitchell
<i>Presider & preacher</i>	Chris Ketch
<i>Guitarist</i>	Shayne Galbraith
<i>Counters</i>	Terry Ricketts & Janet Brown
<i>Building care</i>	Chris Titus

Those serving in our outreach this week:

Sun, May 3, 11:45 am HVHS Lunch Programme preparation (Large Hall kitchen)	No Lunch School is closed.
Mon, May 4, 11:30 am HVHS Lunch Programme delivery (from Large Hall)	No Lunch School is closed.

Who's serving next week is on the Narthex bulletin board.

THIS WEEK

- Wed, May 6, 10:00 am** Saint John and District Senior's Shuffleboard (Large Hall) For more info contact Pauline Wilson at 506 738-8677
- Wed, May 6, 7:00 pm** Choir practice (Small Hall) For more info contact David Mitchell at 506 738-2798

FOR OUR WORSHIP and LEARNING

Next Sunday – May 10 *Sixth Sunday of Easter* Scripture readings Acts 17:22-31; *Psalm 66:7-18*; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

NOTICES

Food Bank

Please remember the **West Side Food Bank** with a toonie or a loonie in the can in the Narthex, or a donation in a special envelope marked with your name or number. We aim to support the Food Bank by at least \$ 200/month!

Alongside Hope Diocesan Gathering – June 20, 2026

Representatives from every parish are encouraged to attend a day of networking, learning, and reconciliation workshops at Christ Church Cathedral Hall in Fredericton (9:00 am – 4:00 pm). Learn about our partners in Kenya, participate in the "Mapping the Ground We Stand On" exercise, and connect with other volunteers.

Travel mileage and Friday night accommodation (for those traveling 2+ hours) are covered.

RSVP by May 8: Email deborahcollicott@gmail.com with your details, food allergies, and any accommodation needs.

Happy Birthday this Week to:



Kim Dunlop, May 3
Judy Mae Gallant, May 7

“Remember you are a Child of God through Baptism”

PRAYER

Prayer for folks in nursing or special care homes

Ginny Abbott, Frances Finley, Ann Hoben, Ruth Northeast, Arlene Trask

Prayer for those in hospital or sick at home

Andrew Aalund, Diane Basque, Margaret Boyer, Edith Chilton, Shelly Clark Collins, Linda Cunningham, Jo-Ann Diamond, Bonnie Dean, Wendy DeWitt, Ernest Ellingwood, Barb Ellis, Debbie Green, Kaye Mallory, Pam Melanson, Michael Penchoff, Susan Penchoff, Carol Price, Margaret Ann Reid, Lois Shaw, Bob Sherwood, Mykayla Spinney, Norm Toole, Dennis Totton, Joe Totton, Robbie Wong.

Parish Cycle of Prayer for Week of *May 3-9*

- Mon:** Jeremy & Wendy Ricketts, Jocelyn and Dillan
- Tue:** Tim and Terry Ricketts
- Wed:** Asley Ricketts-Szo and Family
- Thur:** Stephen and Pamela Ring
- Fri:** Our Organist and Choir Director, David Mitchell

Please pray for these parishioners and ministry this week.

Saint John Mission to Seafarers Prayer Cycle:

In May, we give thanks for the naval and merchant personnel who in the wars kept the sea-lanes open, shipped food and vital supplies; and we pray for the ships and personnel who defend our coasts and those vessels that sail upon our waters, and when disaster strikes we pray that those who engage in search and rescue operations will be successful.

OUR PARISH PRAYER TREE

A team of volunteers is available upon request, to pray for you or your loved one (with their permission) daily, for two weeks. These prayers will be treated with the strictest confidence. Prayer-requests should be short and to the point and will be passed on verbatim. The Lord knows best what we need! A follow-up of thanks or an update encourages our intercessors in their ministry.

To initiate the prayer-tree ministry please call your request to our “Captain”, Ngaire Nelson 672-8666