

The Lord's Service

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2026



COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PCA

Post Tenebras Lux

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCRIPTURE MEDITATION: Psalm 37:8-9

Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath! Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil. For the evildoers shall be cut off, but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.

SILENT PRAYER

GOD CALLS US INTO HIS PRESENCE

† SALUTATION

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

Amen.

The Lord be with you!

Ruth 2:4

And also with you!!

† CALL TO WORSHIP: Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

†* HYMN OF PRAISE, NO. 2: "O Worship the King"

† PRAYER OF ADORATION

† Congregation stands, if able | * Seating for latecomers at this time | All Scripture readings are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®). ESV® Text Edition: 2016. Copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Assistive listening devices are available for use during worship services. Please inquire at the sound booth.

GOD CLEANSSES US OF OUR SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION: Colossians 3:8-11

But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

CORPORATE CONFESSION: (kneel as able)

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

[Silent prayer of personal confession] **Amen.**

† **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

† **THE PEACE**

† **GLORIA PATRI** (with hands lifted)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning,
Is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, amen.**

† **HYMN OF PRAISE, NO. 356: "How Beautiful the Sight"**

GOD CONSECRATES US BY HIS WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Numbers 35:9-21

The grass withers, the flower fades,

But the Word of our God will stand forever! *Isaiah 40:8*

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Ephesians 4:25-32

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

† **PSALM 24, NO. 68:** "The Earth, with All That Dwell Therein"

† **GOSPEL READING: Matthew 5:21-26** (sermon text)

This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ

Praise be to you, O Christ!

PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD:

Everyday Murder

1. Anger (vv. 21-22)

2. Reconciliation (vv. 23-26)

† **CONFESSION OF FAITH: Apostles Creed**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic* church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**catholic=universal*

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

OFFERTORY

† **DOXOLOGY** (with hands lifted)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

GOD COMMUNES WITH US AT HIS TABLE

+ SURSUM CORDA

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and good, and a joyful thing, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore with angels and arch angels and with all the company of heaven we praise and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing ...

+ SANCTUS

Sung in unison

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord God of Hosts Heav'n and earth are full_of your Glo - ry. Ho

san - na, ho-san-na in the high - est. Bles - sed is he_ who_ comes_

in_ the name of the Lord our God. Ho - san - na, ho-san-na in the High - est.

† PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE 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 debts,
 As we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation,
 But deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom,
 And the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC MEDITATION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Distribution of the Bread and Communion in the Body of Christ
 Communion Meditation Silence
 Distribution of the Cup and Communion in the Blood of Christ
 Communion Song, NO. 420: "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"

PRAYER OF BLESSING

GOD COMMISSIONS US TO GO INTO THE WORLD

† HYMN OF PRAISE, NO. 585 "Take My Life, and Let It Be"

† BENEDICTION: Hebrews 13:20-21

Now 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 us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

† THREE-FOLD AMEN

† POSTLUDE

AT THE LAMB'S HIGH FEAST WE SING

**1 AT THE LAMB'S HIGH FEAST WE SING
PRAISE TO OUR VICTORIOUS KING,
WHO HAS WASHED US IN THE TIDE
FLOWING FROM HIS PIERCED SIDE;
PRAISE WE HIM WHOSE LOVE DIVINE
GIVES HIS SACRED BLOOD FOR WINE,
GIVES HIS BODY FOR THE FEAST,
CHRIST THE VICTIM, CHRIST THE PRIEST.**

**2 WHERE THE PASCHAL BLOOD IS Poured,
DEATH'S DARK ANGEL SHEATHES HIS SWORD;
ISRAEL'S HOSTS TRIUMPHANT GO
THROUGH THE WAVE THAT DROWNS THE FOE.
PRAISE WE CHRIST, WHOSE BLOOD WAS SHED,
PASCHAL VICTIM, PASCHAL BREAD;
WITH SINCERITY AND LOVE
EAT WE MANNA FROM ABOVE.**

**3 MIGHTY VICTIM FROM THE SKY,
POWERS OF HELL BENEATH THEE LIE;
DEATH IS CONQUERED IN THE FIGHT,
THOU HAST BROUGHT US LIFE AND LIGHT:
HYMNS OF GLORY AND OF PRAISE,
RISEN LORD, TO THEE WE RAISE;
HOLY FATHER, PRAISE TO THEE,
WITH THE SPIRIT, EVER BE.**