

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

A New Thing in This Old World

April 5 & 6, 2025

AS WE GATHER

There is a hymn that refers to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, calling it an “old, old story” (“I Love to Tell the Story” by Arabella Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911). The fact that God’s plan of salvation began thousands of years ago, and that the Bible is the record of events in ancient history, does not mean that old equals irrelevant. Today, God says through His prophet Isaiah, “Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old” (Isaiah 43:18). But before you throw away your old Bible, your old catechism, or your old hymnal, listen up! “Behold, I am doing a new thing; . . . do you not perceive it?” (v. 19). In the pattern of the exodus of old and the deliverance from the Babylonian captivity of old, and as “the old rugged cross” of Christ made His resurrection from the dead possible, the “new thing” of God’s doing today is all about freeing you from the slavery of sin, death, boredom, worry, and fear; re-creating you “that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness” (explanation of the Second Article of the Apostles’ Creed, Small Catechism); renewing your life today by the forgiveness of your sins and in the sure and certain hope of new bodies for old in the new creation that awaits, as that old hymn concludes,

And when in scenes of glory I sing the new, new song,
'Twill be the old, old story That I have loved so long.
I love to tell the story; 'Twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story Of Jesus and His love.

Reception of Holy Communion: If you are planning to receive Christ's supper today, please read through the words of exhortation in the fellowship folder. For members, it is a good review of important spiritual matters for gathering at the table. For guests, it explains our stance on confession of faith, doctrinal unity, and proper spiritual preparation to receive the Supper for your benefit.

WELCOME

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. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. Hebrews 12:2-3

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #868 “Awake, My Soul, and With the Sun”

Awake, my soul, and with the sun Thy daily stage of duty run;
Shake off dull sloth and joyful rise To pay thy morning sacrifice.

In conversation be sincere, Thy conscience as the noon day clear;
Think how the all seeing God thy ways And all thy secret thoughts surveys.

All praise to Thee, who safe hast kept And hast refreshed me while I slept;
Grant, Lord, when I from death shall wake, I may of endless light partake.

Lord, I my vows to Thee renew; Disperse my sins as morning dew;
Guard my first springs of thought and will And with Thyself my spirit fill.

Direct, control, suggest this day All I design or do or say
That all my pow’rs with all their might In Thy sole glory may unite.

(Rise)

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.

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: But now thus says the LORD, He who created you, . . . “Fear not, for I
have redeemed you;

People: I have called you by name, you are Mine.”

Pastor: The LORD has done great things for us;

People: we are glad.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: As the Lord God delivered His chosen people from Egyptian slavery through the sea yet on dry ground, and as He delivered His chosen people from their captivity in Babylon of old, so has He now delivered His chosen people to this day from slavery to sin and death through the cross and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ. Remembering that your Holy Baptism is still a present reality today, let us return to the Lord our God in true repentance and faith.

People: Lord God, we confess that we have sinned against you and have fallen back into our old ways of neglecting you and our love for our neighbor. Create a new heart and spirit within us and make us to be your new creation by faith in your Son, Jesus Christ, that we may live under Him and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness both today and forever.

Pastor: But now thus says the LORD, He who created you and formed you, “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are Mine.” Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, you have delivered your chosen people of old from all manner of captivity of body and soul. According to your promise, make us to be your chosen people today, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for your own possession, that we may proclaim your praises to one another and to the world; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

(Be seated)

☩ WORD ☩

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 43:16–21* (“Behold, I am doing a new thing.”)
¹⁶ Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷ who brings forth chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: ¹⁸ “Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. ¹⁹ Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. ²⁰ The wild beasts will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, ²¹ the people whom I formed for myself that they might declare my praise.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *Philippians 3:4b–14* (Righteousness through faith in Christ)

If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more:
⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷ But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰ that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹² Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

5:00 BELLS

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 20:9–20* (The parable of the wicked tenants)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twentieth chapter.

People: Glory be to you, O Lord.

⁹And he began to tell the people this parable: “A man planted a vineyard and let it out to tenants and went into another country for a long while. ¹⁰When the time came, he sent a servant to the tenants, so that they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. ¹¹And he sent another servant. But they also beat and treated him shamefully, and sent him away empty-handed. ¹²And he sent yet a third. This one also they wounded and cast out. ¹³Then the owner of the vineyard said, ‘What shall I do? I will send my beloved son; perhaps they will respect him.’ ¹⁴But when the tenants saw him, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Let us kill him, so that the inheritance may be ours.’ ¹⁵And they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? ¹⁶He will come and destroy those tenants and give the vineyard to others.” When they heard this, they said, “Surely not!” ¹⁷But he looked directly at them and said, “What then is this that is written: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone’? ¹⁸Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.” ¹⁹The scribes and the chief priests sought to lay hands on him at that very hour, for they perceived that he had told this parable against them, but they feared the people. ²⁰So they watched him and sent spies, who pretended to be sincere, that they might catch him in something he said, so as to deliver him up to the authority and jurisdiction of the governor.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to you, O Christ.

(Be seated)

CHILDREN’S SONG & CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

“Do You Know Who Died For Me?”

Do you know who died for me? Jesus did, Jesus did,
Lovingly He died for me, Yes, He really did.

Do you know who rose for me? Jesus did, Jesus did,
Lovingly He rose for me, Yes, He really did!

Do you know who lives for me? Jesus does, Jesus does,
Lovingly He lives for me, Yes, He really does!

Do you know who cares for me? Jesus does, Jesus does,
Lovingly He cares for me, Yes, He really does.

SERMON HYMN #430 “My Song Is Love Unknown”

St. 1-5

My song is love unknown, My Savior’s love to me,
Love to the loveless shown That they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I That for my sake
My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?

He came from His blest throne Salvation to bestow;
But men made strange, and none The longed for Christ would know.
But, oh, my friend, My friend indeed,
Who at my need His life did spend!

Sometimes they strew His way And His sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day Hosannas to their King.
Then “Crucify!” Is all their breath,
And for His death They thirst and cry.

Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these
Themselves displease And ‘gainst Him rise.

They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save, The Prince of Life They slay.
Yet cheerful He To suff’ring goes
That He His foes From thence might free.

SERMON “Sharing in the Sufferings and Resurrection of Christ” Philippians 3:4b-14

(Rise)

HYMN #430 “My Song Is Love Unknown” St. 6-7

In life no house, no home My Lord on earth might have;
In death no friendly tomb But what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav’n was His home
But mine the tomb Wherein He lay.

Here might I stay and sing, No story so divine!
Never was love, dear King, Never was grief like Thine.
This is my friend, In whose sweet praise
I all my days Could gladly spend!

5:00 & 8:00 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.

(Be seated)

OFFERING As your offering is collected, **please sign our fellowship folder** located
at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone.
After you are finished, please pass the folder along to others in your pew, and
return it to the center aisle. You may check the folder to see names of those to
greet after the service.

SONG DURING OFFERING #422 “On My Heart Imprint Your Image”

On my heart imprint Your image, Blessed Jesus, King of grace,
That life’s riches, cares, and pleasures Never may Your work erase;
Let the clear inscription be: Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope’s foundation, And my glory and salvation!

10:30 ADULT CONFIRMATION AND RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

(Rise)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all
people according to their needs.

O Lord, your Son spoke the truth before His enemies even as they
sought to trap Him in His words and deliver Him up to death. Rescue
your people from fear, and grant them courage to confess the truth,
assuring them of deliverance in time of trouble. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O Lord, you have called us to follow Jesus and carry our cross day by
day. Bless us to die to sin and pride, to willingly suffer in bearing up
under sinful trials, and to look to joining with Christ in the resurrection
of the dead and the life of the world to come. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O Lord, you gave your Son to be rejected by sinners, that we may be
welcomed into your kingdom. Preserve your Church in this salvation
won by Christ, crucified and risen. Give faithfulness to the preaching of
your Word and the administration of your Sacraments, and move your
people receive these gifts with penitence and faith. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O Lord, salvation belongs to you. Grant your blessing be on your
people. Endow parents with every good gift to teach their children your
ways, that they may live in the confidence of your grace and salvation.
Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O Lord, we rejoice in the growth of our church family and the members
who are being received into membership this weekend. Bless Gabriel,
Ciosie, Jake, and Tylerr to grow with us in faith and fellowship and grant
us to receive them warmly. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O Lord, you shield us and lift our heads. Provide for us civil authorities
who punish evil and encourage good, but keep us ever mindful that our
hope is in you alone. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O Lord, show your compassion to Katherine, Wendy, Jack, Kay, Rhonda, Harland, Liz, Jerry, June, Sharon, John, Debbie, Bob, Judy, Carole, Audrey, Janice, David, Helga, Dick, Margie, Anna, Charlene, Marlene, Ardis, Noah, Guy, Mike, Jill, Janet, Cathy, Sarah and all who suffer in our midst. Remind them continually of your benefits, forgive all their iniquities, heal all their diseases and crown them with steadfast love. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O Lord, St. Paul counted all things as rubbish in order that he might gain Christ. Give us repentant hearts, that we would abandon all confidence in our flesh, confess our sins and failings, and receive your Son's body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O Lord, help us to count all things as loss and treasure above all Jesus and Him crucified. Fill us with confidence that His grace is sufficient for all things in life. Move us to rejoice in the righteousness that comes through faith in Jesus, that we may forget what lies behind us and press on toward the goal. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O Lord, in Baptism you have shared Christ's suffering, death and resurrection with us, that we might be raised from the dead. Preserve us from taking His sacrifice for granted. Encourage us to forget what lies behind and strain forward to what lies ahead, until we attain the resurrection from the dead; through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly meet, right, and salutary 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, by whose death, burial, and resurrection from the dead He now enables the faithful to walk in newness of life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB p. 208

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

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 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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

Page 210

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

HYMN #644 "The Church's One Foundation"

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.

Elect from every 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 every grace endued.

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.

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.

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.

HYMN #452 "O Perfect Life of Love"

O perfect life of love! All, all, is finished now,
All that He left His throne above To do for us below.
No work is left undone Of all the Father willed;
His toil, His sorrows, one by one, The Scriptures have fulfilled.
No pain that we can share But He has felt its smart;
All forms of human grief and care Have pierced that tender heart.
And on His thorn-crowned head And on His sinless soul
Our sins in all their guilt were laid That He might make us whole.

In perfect love He dies; For me He dies, for me.
O all atoning Sacrifice, I cling by faith to Thee.

In ev'ry time of need, Before the judgment throne,
Thy work, O Lamb of God, I'll plead, Thy merits, not mine own.

Yet work, O Lord, in me As Thou for me hast wrought;
And let my love the answer be To grace Thy love has brought.

HYMN #439 "O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken"

O dearest Jesus, what law hast Thou broken
That such sharp sentence should on Thee be spoken?
Of what great crime hast Thou to make confession,
What dark transgression?

They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;
With cruel mocking to the cross they urge Thee;
They give Thee gall to drink, they still decry Thee;
They crucify Thee.

Whence come these sorrows, whence this mortal anguish?
It is my sins for which Thou, Lord, must languish;
Yea, all the wrath, the woe, Thou dost inherit,
This I do merit.

What punishment so strange is suffered yonder!
The Shepherd dies for sheep that loved to wander;
The Master pays the debt His servants owe Him,
Who would not know Him.

The sinless Son of God must die in sadness;
The sinful child of man may live in gladness;
Man forfeited his life and is acquitted;
God is committed.

There was no spot in me by sin untainted;
Sick with sin's poison, all my heart had fainted;
My heavy guilt to hell had well-nigh brought me,
Such woe it wrought me.

O wondrous love, whose depth no heart hath sounded,
That brought Thee here, by foes and thieves surrounded!
All worldly pleasures, heedless, I was trying
While Thou wert dying.

But since my strength will nevermore suffice me
To crucify desires that still entice me,
To all good deeds O let Thy Spirit win me
And reign within me!

I'll think upon Thy mercy without ceasing,
That earth's vain joys to me no more be pleasing;
To do Thy will shall be my sole endeavor
Henceforth forever.

And when, dear Lord, before Thy throne in heaven
To me the crown of joy at last is given,
Where sweetest hymns Thy saints forever raise Thee,
I, too, shall praise Thee.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

People: and His mercy endureth forever.

Pastor: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have made us your own people, a new creation in Jesus Christ, our Lord. By His body and blood you have strengthened our faith, thus enabling us to tell forth your praises. Enlighten our paths and guide our steps that we may live according to your gracious will in faithfulness to you and love for one another; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

Pastor: Bless we the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #839 "O Christ, Our True and Only Light"

O Christ, our true and only light, Enlighten those who sit in night;
Let those afar now hear Your voice and in Your fold with us rejoice.

Fill with the radiance of Your grace The souls now lost in error's maze;
Enlighten those whose inmost minds Some dark delusion haunts and blinds.

O gently call those gone astray That they may find the saving way!
Let ev'ry conscience sore oppressed In You find peace and heav'nly rest.

Shine on the darkened and the cold; Recall the wand'ers to your fold.
Unite all those who walk apart; Confirm the weak and doubting heart.

That they with us may evermore Such grace with wond'ring thanks adore
And endless praise to You be giv'n By all Your church in earth and heav'n.

Preacher
Liturgist
Lectors
Organist

Pastor Harold Bender
Pastor Josh Grotelueschen
Dalen Heinzen, Jim Laux, Katie Scepanski
Deaconess Carole King