

# Worship Guide for May 3, 2026

## The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Don't let  
your  
hearts  
be troubled

— John 14:1 —

### Welcome and Announcements

*Let us prepare our hearts for worship.*

### Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid 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 Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Brief silence for reflection.*

Gracious God, *have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. *Amen.*

### Gathering Hymn

### Making Their Way



1 Mak-ing their way down through the a - ges, sin - ners and saints have  
 2 Mak-ing their way all the world o - ver, Chris - tians as - sem - ble  
 3 Mak-ing our way sea - son by sea-son, pil - grims, we jour - ney



heard God's call: wealth - y and poor, pow - er - ful, low - ly,  
 on this day, hear - ing the Word, shar - ing the Ban - quet,  
 till life's end, trav - el - ing light, shar - ing the rich - es,



Je - sus' dis - ci - ples, one and all. Gath - ered for wor - ship, of - fer - ing thanks,  
 learn - ing to walk in Je - sus' way. Mem - bers of Christ, u - nit - ed in love,  
 car - ing for strang - er as for friend, till in the joy of long - ing ful - filled,



the great - est with the least have come to share this feast.  
 they seek our God to know, and so to - geth - er grow.  
 to - geth - er we will come to our e - ter - nal home.

### Prayer of the Day

Together we pray: ***Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.***



## Reading of the Word

### First Reading: Acts 7:55-60

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

Word of God, Word of Life. ***Thanks be to God.***

### Psalm: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

<sup>1</sup> In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup> **Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.**

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> **Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.**

<sup>5</sup> Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O Lord, God of truth.

<sup>15</sup> **My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

<sup>16</sup> Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.”

### Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

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

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

<sup>7</sup> 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. <sup>9</sup> 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.  
<sup>10</sup> 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.

Word of God, Word of Life. ***Thanks be to God.***

### Children's Message

#### Gospel Acclamation

#### Halle, Halle, Hallelujah (sing 3X)

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -

- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -

lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

#### Gospel: John 14:1-14

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup> “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> 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? <sup>3</sup> 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. <sup>4</sup> And you know the way to the place where I am going.” <sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” <sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup> If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

<sup>8</sup> Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” <sup>9</sup> 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’? <sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, O Christ.*

### Sermon

**Welcome to New Salem - We are blessed to have you worship with us today!**



If you are looking for a church home, please contact Traci Schanke in the church office at 218-586-2262 or via email at [newsalem@paulbunyan.net](mailto:newsalem@paulbunyan.net). If you are a visitor, please sign our guest book outside the church office.

Website: [newsalemlutheran.org](http://newsalemlutheran.org)

YouTube Channel: New Salem Lutheran Church, Turtle River, MN

### Worship Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to assist with various Sunday ministries here at New Salem! Ushers, readers/Communion assistants, helpers to set up Communion before the worship service and tidy up afterward, offering counters (we will train you!), and hosts for our coffee fellowship after worship. Sign up as a family or team up with a friend or two! **Signup sheets are available on the back table in the Fellowship Hall. Remember: If no one signs up to host coffee fellowship, there is NO coffee fellowship.**



### **New Salem's Food Shelf Volunteer Dates for May**

**Friday, May 8: 9 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**

**Monday, May 11: 9 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.  
and 12 noon-3:30 p.m.**

**For more information or to volunteer, contact Karin Snortland at [ksnortland5@gmail.com](mailto:ksnortland5@gmail.com) or 612-940-7312.**

**Hymn of the Day****Hope of the World**

1 Hope of the world, O Christ of great com - pas - sion,  
 2 Hope of the world, God's gift from high - est heav - en,  
 3 Hope of the world, a - foot on dust - y high - ways,  
 4 Hope of the world, who by your cross did save us  
 5 Hope of the world, Christ ris'n from death vic - to - rious,



speak to our fear - ful hearts by con - flict rent.  
 bring - ing to hun - gry souls the bread of life:  
 show - ing to wan - d'ring souls the path of light:  
 from death and deep de - spair, from guilt and sin:  
 who by this tri - umph con - quered grief and pain:



Save us, your peo - ple, from con - sum - ing pas - sion,  
 still let your Spir - it un - to us be giv - en  
 walk close be - side us lest the tempt - ing by - ways  
 we ren - der back the love your mer - cy gave us;  
 we would be faith - ful to your gos - pel glo - rious;



who by our own false hopes and aims are spent.  
 to heal earth's wounds and end all bit - ter strife.  
 lure us a - way from you to end - less night.  
 work through our lives to bring your pur - pose in.  
 you are our Lord and will for - ev - er reign!

**Prayers of the People**

Hear us, O God. *Your mercy is great.*

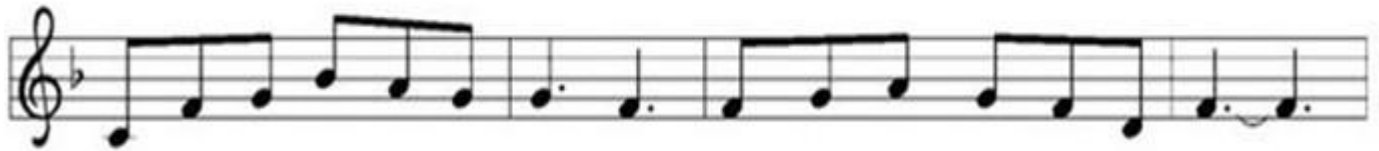
**Sharing the Peace****Tithes and Offerings**

Offertory Hymn

Come to the Table



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Offering Prayer

Together we pray: *Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Together we pray: *Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.*

Sharing Christ's Meal

**Communion Hymn #1****O Jesus, I Have Promised**

1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;  
 2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.  
 3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still  
 4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you



re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.  
 I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear.  
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.  
 that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.



I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,  
 My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;  
 Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;  
 And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.  
 but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.  
 now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.  
 oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

**Upcoming @ New Salem**

Wed, 5/6	Choir Practice	5 p.m.
Thurs, 5/7	Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
Fri, 5/8	New Salem Volunteers @ Food Shelf Luncheon Set Up for Naasz Service	9 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. 10 a.m.
Sat, 5/9	Jim Naasz Celebration of Life	11 a.m.
Mon, 5/11	New Salem Volunteers @ Food Shelf	9 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. & 12 noon – 3:30 p.m.

Communion Hymn #2

## Bring Many Names



1 Bring man - y names, beau - ti - ful and good,  
 2 Strong moth - er God, work - ing night and day,  
 3 Warm fa - ther God, hug - ging ev - 'ry child,  
 4 Old, ach - ing God, gray with end - less care,  
 5 Young, grow - ing God, ea - ger, on the move,  
 6 Great, liv - ing God, nev - er ful - ly known,



cel - e - brate, in par - a - ble and sto - ry, ho - li - ness in  
 plan - ning all the won - ders of cre - a - tion, set - ting each e -  
 feel - ing all the strains of hu - man liv - ing, car - ing and for -  
 calm - ly pierc - ing e - vil's new dis - guis - es, glad of good sur -  
 say - ing no to false - hood and un - kind - ness, cry - ing out for  
 joy - ful dark - ness far be - yond our see - ing, clos - er yet than



glo - ry, liv - ing, lov - ing God. Hail and ho -  
 qua - tion, gen - i - us at play: Hail and ho -  
 giv - ing till we're rec - on - ciled: Hail and ho -  
 pris - es, wis - er than de - spair: Hail and ho -  
 jus - tice, giv - ing all you have: Hail and ho -  
 breath - ing, ev - er - last - ing home: Hail and ho -



san - na! Bring man - y names!  
 san - na, strong moth - er God!  
 san - na, warm fa - ther God!  
 san - na, old, ach - ing God!  
 san - na, young, grow - ing God!  
 san - na,

6 great, liv - ing God!

Communion BlessingPost Communion Prayer

Together we pray: Life-giving God, *in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people.*

*Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.*

**Benediction****Sending Hymn****Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing**

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands  
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant  
 3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,  
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the  
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,  
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet  
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the  
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.  
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.  
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.  
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.  
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

**Today's Worship Leaders/Assistants**

Presiding Clergy: Pastor Terry R. Hagensen  
 Ushers: Karin Snortland and Donna Zelinsky  
 Reader/Communion Assistant: Sonya Kraft  
 Fellowship Host: Joy Wilander

Social Media Coordinator: Nora Illies  
 Setting the Lord's Table: Sonya & Paul Kraft  
 Pianist: Cheryl Durant  
 Cantor/Choir Director: Annalise Aakhus  
 AV Services: Traci Schanke

**New Salem Lutheran Church - Terry R. Hagensen, Pastor**

7491 Island View Drive NE, Turtle River, MN 56601

Office Tel: 218-586-2262/Office Email (Traci Schanke): [newsalem@paulbunyan.net](mailto:newsalem@paulbunyan.net)

Website: [newsalemlutheran.org](http://newsalemlutheran.org)

YouTube Channel: New Salem Lutheran Church, Turtle River, MN

**April Income vs Expenses (PRELIMINARY)****Total General Fund Income: \$18,653****SURPLUS for April \$2,775****Total Expenses: \$15,898****4.26 General Fund Offering: \$6,671****Attendance/Social Media Engagement (as of 4.30.26)****Sunday, April 19 (in person/online): 62/25****YouTube Views: 934****Facebook reach: 46,340****YouTube Subscribers: 142****Announcements for the Week of May 4, 2026****Make a Joyful Noise – Join the Choir!** If you like to sing, join the New Salem Choir!

We are a fun, friendly, supportive group, and the ability to read music is not necessary! The choir sings for worship on the first and third Sundays of each month, as well as presenting special music at Christmas and Easter, and participating in the summer Bemidji Area Church Musicians recital. Rehearsals are at 5 p.m. on Wednesdays – come join us!

**SAVE THE DATE – June 14 BBQ & Potluck Picnic:** Mark your calendars and help kick off summer at New Salem with a BBQ and Potluck Picnic following worship on Sunday, June 14. Keep an eye on future worship guides/emails for more details!

**Offering Reminder:** Please remember to indicate on your check/offering envelope how you wish your gift to be credited. Unmarked offerings/those marked “general” go toward New Salem’s annual operating expenses; gifts marked for other entities are credited as such in your giving record and sent to those organizations. Thank you for supporting the missions and good works of New Salem!

**Music Rights/Permissions for May 3**

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**Making Their Way** – Text: Dolores Dufner, OSB (b. 1939); © 2011 GIA Publications, Inc.

Music: A. Valerius, *Nederlandisch Gedenckclank*, 1626; arr. Adrian Engels (1906-2003)

Arr. © 1967Gooi en Sticht, BV, Baarn, The Netherlands; admin. OCP Publications

**Halle, Halle, Hallelujah** – Music: Caribbean traditional; arr. Mark Sedio (b. 1954)

Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

**Hope of the World** – Text: Georgia Harkness (1891-1974), alt.

Music: *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551; arr. Claude Goudimel (1514-1572)

Text © 1954, ren. 1982 The Hymn Society; admin. Hope Publishing Company

**Come to the Table** – Text: Claire Clonigen (b. 1942)/Music: Martin Nystrom (b. 1956)

Text/music © 1991 Integrity’s Hosanna! Music; Juniper Landing Music, admin. Word Music

**O Jesus, I Have Promised** – Text: John E. Bode (1846-1874), alt.

Music: *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meinengen, 1693

**Bring Many Names** – Text: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936)/Music: Carlton R. Young (b. 1926)

Text and music © 1989 Hope Publishing Company

**Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing** – Text: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936)

Music: T. Williams, *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789

Text © 1975, ren. 1995 Hope Publishing Company

## New Salem's May Mission Partner



**Evergreen**  
 Youth & Family Services  
*Strengthening Youth. Preserving Families.*

*New Salem's  
 Highlighted  
 Mission Partner  
 May 2026*



### OUR MISSION

Evergreen Youth & Family Services is a community-based organization committed to strengthening youth, preserving families and building relationships with an emphasis on those living in Northern Minnesota.

### OUR VALUES

Evergreen believes that communities are strongest when every individual is treated with dignity and respect and has support to achieve his/her full human potential. Evergreen chooses to remain client-centered with an emphasis on being responsive to each individual and families' needs while maintaining a high level of professionalism, compassion and empathy. We operate from a position of hope, faith and support. Our services and perspective are often grassroots in nature and it is because of our strong relationships and resources that Evergreen Youth & Family Services remains a catalyst in the region for proactive services, education and advocacy.

- ◆ Evergreen Youth & Family Services is a private, non-profit youth and family service provider.
- ◆ In the past 49 years, Evergreen has developed a safety net of services to strengthen youth, preserve families, and help support successful transitions to adulthood.
- ◆ Every year, over 1,000 children, youth, and young families come to us for emergency food and shelter, crisis intervention, mental health, and the skills and tools necessary to live a safe and healthy life.
- ◆ Youth and families of all backgrounds and walks of life are welcome. Approximately 60% of the youth we serve each year are Native American or mixed race, 30% are Caucasian, and 10% are African-American, Asian, Hispanic, or mixed race.

The Evergreen Youth & Family Services Shelter provides free shelter, coaching, and support services for **youth ages 9-17** who are experiencing an immediate personal or family crisis. The shelter can house up to 10 youth at a time and is **open 24 hours a day, 365 days per year**. Youth, their families, and other caregivers are also eligible to receive free drop-in counseling and/or family counseling services. All services are free.

### **God's Work, Our Treasure - May 2026**

This month New Salem is lifting up the work of Evergreen Youth & Family Services and urges you to consider the various ways you might support this valuable resource in our community. Please remember to indicate on your check or envelope that your gift is for Evergreen YFS. [evergreenyfs.org](http://evergreenyfs.org)

## **The Fifth Sunday of Easter**

The second reading for this coming Sunday likens us all to newborn infants who need the milk that only God can provide. Come to worship, and together we will receive the Spirit of the Risen Christ, who is the way, the truth, and the life.

### **The Readings**

**John 14:1-14**: In the first half of the gospel of John, Jesus enacts a sign and then explains its meaning in a discourse. In the second half, often called the Book of Glory, the order is reversed. In the discourses of chapters 14–17, the theologian John is explaining the meaning of the sign narrated in chapters 18–21, which is the death and resurrection of Christ. Jesus' death will return him to God, his Father; yet the post-resurrection community is comforted, since encountering the Son, which worshipers do weekly, is seeing the Father.

**Acts 7:55-60**: Luke's narrative in Acts now makes clear that besides idyllic success, the apostles encountered also hardship and death. The details of the story of Stephen's martyrdom parallel both Jesus' baptism and his crucifixion. Stephen was one of the seven men appointed by the apostles to fill the role of deacon, caring for the poor. Luke also places in his mouth a long speech in which Christ is seen as the replacement of the Jewish temple. Luke's reference to Jesus as the Son of Man allows the persecuted community to trust that at the end of time, Christ will return as apocalyptic judge to vindicate all who have suffered for their faith.

**1 Peter 2:2-10**: Because the author of 1 Peter hoped in the late first century to console Christians when they faced persecution, chapter 2 describes in a series of positive metaphors the communal life of the baptized. Believers are nursing infants, stones, priests, a unique nation, enlightened by baptism. Typical of early Christians hermeneutic, the author applied to Christ the Old Testament metaphor of the cornerstone. Although the early Christians did not share a political identity, they joined together in the merciful identity of God's people.

### **Images in the Readings**

For some Christians and pieties, the image of Christ as the Way has been used to condemn most other people. John's community did indeed think of itself as enjoying the greatest truth and life eternal. However, we are called to recognize the Way as the good news that God loves the whole world, as the wideness of God's mercy.

John's metaphor of the Father's house and its many dwelling places has been literalized for many Christians, as if heaven were a king's mansion with outbuildings provided for the lesser inhabitants. In a different application of this image, the house is the room in which we weekly gather: here God dwells. Here God serves up our meals. 1 Peter uses the image of house to be a metaphor for the believing community.

1 Peter is filled with images. Several medieval mystics used the image of the eucharist being milk. The central image of this passage is Christ as the cornerstone, the living stone, of the house that is the church. Many cornerstones are engraved with the date of construction. For Christians, this date is the year of our baptism. Perhaps those congregations that publish members' birthdays could replace these dates with their baptismal anniversary.

*(Gail Ramshaw, sundaysandseasons.com)*

