



Reach out to all

Embrace His Gifts

Announce His coming

Commit to Christian Living

Honor His Word



St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Communion Sunday, May 3, 2026

Pastor Ron Moritz, Deacon Ed Smallcombe

Opening Hymn: "Christ Is Our Cornerstone"

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

P: Let us then confess our sins to God the Father

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.



5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 6:1-9- In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews^[a] among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. ² So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, “It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. ³ Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them ⁴ and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.” ⁵ This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. ⁶ They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. ⁷ So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.⁸ Now Stephen, a man full of God’s grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹ Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called)—Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia—who began to argue with Stephen.

Epistle- 1 Peter 2:2-10: ² Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, ³ now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴ As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— ⁵ you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house^[a] to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For in Scripture it says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame. ⁷ Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,^[8] and, “A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for. ⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Gospel: John 14:1-14 “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God[!]; believe also in me. ² My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴ You know the way to the place where I am going.”

⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

⁶ Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really know me, you will know^[b] my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”

⁹ Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰ Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. ¹¹ Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

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.

Sermon Hymn: "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

Sermon: Living Stones Built into A Spiritual House" 1 Peter 2:4-10



Pray for our country, for our military, for our healthcare workers & first responders, for those that are sick, for those in need, for those who have lost loved ones, for our home-bound, for wisdom for our leaders, and for all of your concerns. Prayers of Strength and Comfort for the Ukrainian People and wisdom for all NATO Members. Pray for all your concerns.

Service of the Sacrament

The Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Closing Hymn: "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

SERMON REVIEW FOR MAY 3, 2026

"Living Stones Built into A Spiritual House" 1 Peter 2:4-10

Introduction: Government's 'Institute of S _____
L _____ Phenomena'

I. Understanding the Word "Church"

- A. The variety of ways we use the word
- B. The ultimate Biblical meaning: Church is God's P _____!
- C. Peter's analogy of the Church as 'living' stones built on J _____!
- D. "I know I'm somebody, because God didn't make J _____!"

Illustration: Sparta - "every man a B _____"

II. Living stones built into a spiritual house (a healthy tension)

- A. Faith is P _____ (but not private)
- B. Faith is C _____ (The 'communion of saints')

III. "We are being build" (ongoing process)

- A. Thirds Article: the Holy spirit, "calls, gathers, enlightens, sanctifies"
- B. In B _____ we become 'A Part of God's spiritual house'
- C. In C _____ we declare we will not grow "Apart from God's Spiritual house."

ADULT BIBLE CLASS today'



Sunday School meets today as well as:

Classes will meet May 3rd, 17th & 31st.

**Our
Church
Mission**

May - Lutherans for Life

Lutherans For Life exists to equip Lutherans and their neighbors to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life. An effective For Life message is one that is spoken with truth in love.



The ground level door will be open on Sunday mornings for those who wish to avoid climbing the hill. Also shortly after service begins both doors will be locked for security reasons.



LWML/Ladies Aid will meet on May 12th at 10:00 am.

Belize Missionary



There is a newsletter out on the table in the Narthex.
You may read it or take one with you.



Alleluia