

**St. Mark's Presbyterian Church**  
**Fifth Sunday of Easter – May 3, 2025**

**Land Acknowledgement**

I acknowledge I am leading worship from Treaty 4 Territory the traditional homeland of the Cree, Ojibwe, Saulteaux, Dakota, Nakota, Lakota, and the Métis Nations

**Responsive Call to Worship**

God is our Rock and our Fortress.

**In God, we find refuge and strength.**

God's house has many dwelling places.

**We will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

Christ himself has gone to prepare a place for us.

**For us, Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. So let us  
worship God in Spirit and in Truth.**

**Hymn 746 What a friend we have in Jesus**

**1. What a friend we have in Jesus,  
all our sins and griefs to bear;  
what a privilege to carry  
everything to God in prayer.  
Oh what peace we often forfeit,  
oh what needless pain we bear,  
all because we do not carry  
everything to God in prayer.**

**2. Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged:  
take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful,  
who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness:  
take it to the Lord in prayer.**

**3. Are we weak and heavy laden,  
cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Saviour, still our refuge:  
take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?**

**Take it to the Lord in prayer;  
in his arms he'll take and shield thee;  
thou wilt find a solace there.**

### **Prayer of Praise (*minister*)**

#### **Hymn 240 Rock of ages, cleft for me**

**1. Rock of ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in thee;  
let the water and the blood,  
from thy riven side which flowed,  
be of sin the double cure:  
cleanse me from its guilt and power.**

**2. Not the labours of my hands  
can fulfil thy law's demands;  
could my zeal no respite know,  
could my tears forever flow,  
all for sin could not atone;  
thou must save, and thou alone.**

**3. Nothing in my hand I bring,  
simply to thy cross I cling:  
naked, come to thee for dress;  
helpless, look to thee for grace;  
foul, I to the fountain fly;  
wash me, Saviour, or I die.**

**4. While I draw this fleeting breath,  
when my eyelids close in death,  
when I soar through tracts unknown,  
see thee on thy judgement throne,  
rock of ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in thee.**

### **Prayer of Confession (*congregation*)**

**Gracious God, we confess we know Christ is the way,  
the truth, and the life but we haven't always followed  
him. We haven't always believed his truth nor lived the  
life he offers. We seem to prefer to make our own way,  
decide what to believe, and live a life that puts us first.  
Forgive us for the ways we have ignored what we know  
to be true.**

- silent confession -

## **The Lord's Prayer (Debts/Debtors)**

**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, the power, and the glory. For  
ever and ever. Amen.**

## **Assurance of Pardon (minister)**

### **Hymn 357 How sweet the name of Jesus sounds**

**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.**

**2. It makes the wounded spirit whole,  
and calms the troubled breast;  
'tis manna to the hungry soul,  
and to the weary rest.**

**3. Dear name! the rock on which I build,  
my shield and hiding place,  
my never-failing treasury,  
filled with boundless stores of grace.**

**4. Jesus, my shepherd, guardian, friend,  
my prophet, priest and king,  
my Lord, my life, my way, my end:  
accept the praise I bring.**

**5. How weak the effort of my heart,  
how cold my warmest thought,  
but when I see thee as thou art  
I'll praise thee as I ought.**

**6. Till then I would thy love proclaim  
with every fleeting breath,  
and may the music of thy name**

**refresh my soul in death.**

## **Responsive Reading Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 p. 480 NT & Psalms**

<sup>1</sup>O Lord, I have come to you for protection;  
don't let me be disgraced.

Save me, for you do what is right.

**<sup>2</sup>Turn your ear to listen to me;  
rescue me quickly.**

**Be my rock of protection,  
a fortress where I will be safe.**

<sup>3</sup>You are my rock and my fortress.

For the honor of your name, lead me out of this danger.

**<sup>4</sup>Pull me from the trap my enemies set for me,  
for I find protection in you alone.**

<sup>5</sup>I entrust my spirit into your hand.

Rescue me, Lord, for you are a faithful God.

**<sup>15</sup>My future is in your hands.**

**Rescue me from those who hunt me down relentlessly.**

**<sup>16</sup>Let your favor shine on your servant.**

**In your unfailing love, rescue me.**

New Living Translation (NLT)

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## **Scripture Lessons**

Acts 7:55-60 p. 214 NT & Psalms

1 Peter 2:2-10 p. 403 NT & Psalms

John 14:1-14 p. 187 NT & Psalms

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

***People: Thanks be to God!***

## **Sermon Stones and a builder**

### **Prayers of the People (*minister*)**

### **Prayer of Dedication (*congregation*)**

**Generous God, we bless you for life renewed through Christ's love and through springtime growth in fields and gardens. Use the gifts we offer to bring hope and renewal to the world you love in the name of Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord. Amen.**

## **Hymn 651 Guide me, O thou great Redeemer**

**1. Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,**

**pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty;  
hold me with thy powerful hand:  
bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me now and evermore,  
feed me now and evermore.**

**2. Open now the crystal fountain,  
whence the healing stream doth flow;  
let the fire and cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through:  
strong deliverer, strong deliverer,  
be thou still my strength and shield;  
be thou still my strength and shield.**

**3. When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death, and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side:  
songs of praises, songs of praises,  
I will ever give to thee,  
I will ever give to thee.**

### **Choral Blessing**

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid.  
God will be with you each hour of every day.  
God will be there, watching from above.  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

### **Benediction**

### **Three-fold Amen**

### **Piano Postlude**