

10:00 WORSHIP/COMMUNION  
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
MAY 3, 2026

**Prelude**  
**Announcements**  
**Please Stand**

**Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness**

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

**C: Amen**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

**Opening Hymn**

*“Come, Thou Fount”*

BOB 37

**Greeting and Response—Psalm 146**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Praise the LORD!

**C: Praise the LORD, O my soul!**

P: I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

**C: I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

P: Put not your trust in princes,

**C: in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.**

P: When his breath departs, he returns to the earth;

**C: on that very day his plans perish.**

P: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

**C: whose hope is in the LORD his God,**

P: who made heaven and earth,

**C: the sea, and all that is in them,**

P: who keeps faith forever; who executes justice for the oppressed,

**C: who gives food to the hungry.**

P: The LORD sets the prisoners free;

**C: the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.**

P: The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

**C: the LORD loves the righteous.**

P: The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless,

**C: but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.**

P: The LORD will reign forever,

**C: your God, O Zion, to all generations.**

**All: Praise the LORD!**

**Prayer of the Day:** *“O God, form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.” Amen*

**Praise Song**

*“Our God Reigns”* vs. 1,2,3,5

**Children’s Message**

*“I Am Jesus’ Little Lamb”* vs. 1

**First Reading: Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60**

Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith. And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. And Stephen said: “Brothers and fathers, hear me. “You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.” Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

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

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation—if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy



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## 2026 LWLC Council Contacts

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President: Jackie Olson

Vice President: David Kruger

Secretary: Julie Berger

Treasurer/Finance: Shannon Vietmeier

Youth & Education: Laurie Maas

Sharon Hyde

Worship & Evangelism: Deb Buttke

David Kruger

Property Management: Tim DeJong

Kyle Schwandt

Newsletter: Nancy Kruger

Email: [livingword@itcmilbank.com](mailto:livingword@itcmilbank.com)

Website: [livingwordmilbank.com](http://livingwordmilbank.com)

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## Living Word Lutheran Women Officers

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Coordinator: Sandy Christensen

Vice-Coordinator: Teri Hjelle

Secretary: Lori Kasuske

Treasurer: Annette Redepenning

Mission Action: Gloria Cooley

Mission Growth: Linda Wagner

Mission Community: Marcia Heinje

Advisor: Brenda Seehafer

Pastor: Melanie Reiners

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## Living Word's Calendar

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SUNDAY (today)	8:45	Sunday School
	9:00	Coffee Fellowship
	10:00	Worship/Communion
TUESDAY (5/5)	11:00	“What About Me” Study
WEDNESDAY (5/6)	1:00	Romans Bible Study
	3:30	Confirmation
	3:30	Dynamic Disciples
THURSDAY (5/7)	9:00	Community Coffee Fellowship
	4:00	Grief Support Group at Visitor Center
SATURDAY (5/9)	9:30	Mother, Daughter, Sister, Friend Event
SUNDAY (5/10)		MOTHER'S DAY/SENIOR RECOGNITION
	8:45	Last Day of Sunday School
	9:00	Coffee Fellowship
	10:00	Worship
	11:00	Chapel Communion

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## Announcements

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**Prayers** for Jenna Johnson, Hailey Heinje, Keaton Johnson, Myles Maas, Bob Hornstein, Jon Liebe, Bob Johnson, Heather Zimny, Heather Dorsey, and Jenny and Sid Lien.

**Radio Broadcast** is sponsored today by the family of Bruce Larson in loving memory of Bruce.

**Sympathy and prayers** to the family of Betty Kloster who passed away on Sunday, April 26. Funeral services are pending.

**Sympathy and prayers** to the family of Shirley Kindt whose funeral was at the church last Monday.

**Sleep in Heavenly Peace** is the May mission project of the women of the church. Donated items of twin size blankets, quilts, comforters, sheet sets, and pillows can be placed in the baskets in the fellowship hall.

**Senior Recognition** will be next Sunday, May 10. A table will be set up in the fellowship hall where you can drop off cards or gifts for the five seniors who will be graduating from Milbank High School on May 17.

With all the excitement surrounding our new playground addition, we have had several congregation members express interest in contributing in a special way! **Opportunities are available to give memorials or donations** toward benches and picnic tables in the playground area—creating a welcoming space for families to gather and enjoy. If you would like more information or are interested in participating, please contact the church office or Laurie Maas.



## Mark Your Calendars

- May 24**      **Summer Worship Begins**  
Worship 9 a.m.  
Coffee Fellowship 10 a.m.
- May 31-June 4**    **VBS Rainforest Falls 5:00-7:30 p.m.**  
Volunteers and registration are needed.  
More information is available in the fellowship hall.
- July 8**      **Valley Fair Trip**  
Central Church is planning a bus trip for youth starting grade 7 and up. The ticket and bus ride will be \$60.  
More information to follow.



## Radio Broadcast

Prayerfully consider sponsoring a **Radio Broadcast** of our church service on KMSD Sunday mornings at 8:00 AM. The cost is \$65. Signup sheets for the radio broadcast and/or for providing flowers on the altar are on the table in the fellowship hall.

## Noisy Change

Noisy Change for the month of May is designated for Grace Christian Academy in Chicago, Illinois. The mission for the school is to be a beacon for Christ in the Little Village neighborhood that educates students in a loving community with high academic standards, a commitment to personal attention, and a strong foundation of Christian values.



Noisy Change collected in the month of April for the Mission Trip to Vietnam totaled \$986.43.

## Servant Team

**June Servant Team.** Servant Teams help usher, greet, furnish and/or serve treats for coffee fellowship, help with weddings if scheduled during the month, and help and/or furnish for funerals that may occur during the month. If every member who is able volunteers for several areas of service during their month, the work of the church will be easily accomplished throughout the year. Your help is greatly appreciated. Please prayerfully consider being a co-chairman for your Servant Team.

*“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.” (1 Peter 4:10)*

**\*\*Co-chairs**

Berger, Jeffrey & Julie  
Campbell, Angel  
Dockter, Randy & Lori  
Forster, Terry  
Lewno, Jessica  
Maze, Jay & Sally  
McCrea, Orgene & Kaen  
McMahon, Adam & Amanda

Meister, Gary & Marsha  
Meister, Terry & Heidi  
Pekelder, Jamie & Hope  
Peschong, Troy & Tamra  
Randleman, Craig & Carolyn  
Schell, Lisa  
Wagner, Dave & Linda  
Weinkauf, Deven & Jessica

## Welcome Visitors

**Welcome visitors.** Please sign our guest book located in the fellowship hall. Thank you for worshiping with us at Living Word Lutheran Church. We hope your worship experience is a blessing. If you live in the area and wish to know more about Living Word and the salvation found in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, please pick up a tote that contains a brochure with more information. Thanks for visiting Living Word, and come back often.

## Shut-ins

**Living Word Lutheran Church shut-ins** would welcome a visit or phone call.

**St. William’s Care Center:** Larry Brook, Lil Colberg, and Rita Raffety

**Avantara:** Lane Lindquist

**Fairway View-Granite View:** Bob Hornstein