

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MORNING WORSHIP ~ May 3, 2026 ~ 9:30 AM
First Christian Reformed Church, Sioux Center, Iowa

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude: *"May the Mind of Christ, My Savior"* Jack Schrader
"The Church's One Foundation (O Praise God's Name Together)" Mary McDonald
"Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer" Paul Manz / Robert A. Hobby / Wilbur Held

Welcome

*Hymn of Preparation: **"O Praise God's Name Together" LUYH #558:1-4 (PFAS 135B)**

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

*Call to Worship

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Pastor: Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: He has given us new life and hope. He has raised Jesus from the dead.

Pastor: God has claimed us as his own.

People: He has brought us out of darkness. He has made us light to the world.

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

—based on 1 Peter 1:3-5

*God's Greeting

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Grace, mercy, and peace are yours, from God the Father Almighty,
from the Lord Jesus, and from the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen!

Sunday School Choirs:

Recitation - Heidelberg Catechism Lord's Day 10, Q & A 27

"He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"

"God is Over All"

*Hymn of Praise: **"May the Mind of Christ, My Savior" LUYH #334:1,2,5**
(*Young Children are invited to Children and Worship*)

GOD RECONCILES US TO HIMSELF

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

God's Will for Our Lives

*Song of Response: **"You Are Before, Lord" PFAS #139D:1,2,5 (LUYH 336)**

GOD COMES TO US THROUGH HIS WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Reading of Scripture: Romans 1:16-17 (New Testament p. 184)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: **THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD IS REVEALED THROUGH FAITH FOR FAITH**

*Song of Response: **"To God Be the Glory" LUYH #604:1-3**

WE RESPOND IN PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING

Prayers of the People

Offertory: *"Shine on Us"* (Congregation to join on vs. 3)

Michael W. Smith and Deborah D. Smith

Offerings: (1) First CRC Ministry Fund; (2) Christian Education Fund

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

*Hymn of Dedication: **"May the Lord Walk With You Always"** (*1st time: Graduates; 2nd time: All*)

*Sending and Benediction

*Doxology: **"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" Grey Psalter Hymnal #638**

*Postlude: *"God, the Father of Your People"*

Donald Hustad / Raymond H. Haan

**indicates that those who are able are invited to stand*

Worship Leader: Rev. Kurt Monroe

Organist: Carla Nibbelink | Pianist: Kim Vander Berg

Vocalists: Children's and Youth Choirs directed by Sarah Sjoerdsma & Liz Van Maanen

Vocalists: Doug, Lorie, & Natalie DeStigter; Katherine & Anastasia Fulkerson; Kevin, Karen, & Katy Timmer;

Tim, Melissa, & Brylee Klein; Jevon, Carrie, & Levi Groenewold; Jason, Tami, & Alyssa Koelewyn;

Randy, Marsha, & Kaeley Meyer; Mike, Heidi, Addie, & Miles Ochsner

Accompanists: Tami Koelewyn, Gloria Brown, Jennifer Monroe

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EVENING WORSHIP ~ May 3, 2026 ~ 6:00 PM
First Christian Reformed Church, Sioux Center, Iowa

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude: *“Psalm 47: Nations, Clap Your Hands”* Toon Hagen / Wouter van den Broek
“Prayer of Christ Ascending towards His Father, from L’Ascension” Olivier Messiaen
Father, (...) I have manifested thy name unto men (...)
And now I am no more in the world,
but these are in the world, and I come to thee. (John 17: 1, 6, 11)

Welcome

*Song of Preparation: **“Crown Him with Many Crowns” LUYH #223:1-4**

*Call to Worship

Pastor: We love you, O Lord, our strength.

People: The Lord is our rock, our fortress, and our deliverer.

Pastor: Our God is the rock in whom we take refuge,
our shield, and the horn of our salvation, our stronghold.

**People: We will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised,
so shall we be saved from our enemies.**

—adapted from Psalm 18:1-3

*God’s Greeting

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Grace, mercy, and peace are yours, from God the Father Almighty,
from the Lord Jesus, and from the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen!

WE SING GOD’S PRAISE

Psalm of the Day: **“Psalm 31:1-5, 9-16, 19-24 A Responsorial Setting” PFAS #31C**

Song of Praise: **“Across the Lands” LUYH #775:1-3**

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Reading of Scripture: Acts 1:6-11 (New Testament p. 141)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Statement of Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Lord’s Day 18 (*What We Believe* Vol. 1, p. 33)

Sermon: *HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN*

*Sermon Response: **“Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise” LUYH #209:1,3-5**

WE OFFER OURSELVES TO GOD

Congregational Prayer

Offertory: **“Christ Our Wisdom”**

Bob Kauflin, Jonathan Althoff, Nathan Stiff

1- Christ our wisdom we are humbled
When You hide Your ways from us
You have purposes unnumbered
Each one good and glorious
Help us trust when we grow weary
Free us from our anxious thoughts
Give us grace to see more clearly
You are God and we are not

2- Christ our wisdom be our gladness
When we fail to understand
You ordain all joy and sadness
To fulfill Your perfect plan
Help us know You rule with power
Over every raging flood
In our most uncertain hour
You are God and we are loved

3- Christ our wisdom we will follow
Though the way ahead is veiled
As we journey through the shadows
Grant us faith where sight has failed
Help us cling to Your commandments
Strengthened by Your faithful Word
We will never be abandoned
You are God and we are Yours

4- Christ our wisdom we adore You
For the beauty of the cross
Once in foolishness we scorned You
But Your blood has ransomed us
Help us sing the endless mercies
Of Your humble heart to save
Christ our wisdom Christ our glory
You are God forever praised

Offering: Hope Haven (Wheelchair Ministry)

WE ARE SENT TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD

*Hymn of Dedication: **“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” LUYH #208:1,3,4**

*Sending and Benediction

*Moment of Meditation

*Postlude: **“Grand Chœur in G”**

Théodore Salomé

*indicates that those who are able are invited to stand

Worship Leader: Rev. Kurt Monroe

Organist: Leendert van Beek

Reader: Tami Koelewyn | Prayer Leader: Darrel Raih

Vocalists: Trent & Julie Geleynse | Accompanist: Chris Geleynse

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