



New Apostolic Church
Divine Service Experience Information
May 2025

How does each sermon connect to this theme?

The early Christians not only remembered Christ, but continued to experience Him following Ascension Day. His life was not just a beautiful story to be remembered with gratitude - He was living, redemptive, and present then and there in their lives. They went out with the joyful cry, "Christ lives!" **And He still lives!**

We cannot merely talk about Christ - we must bring Him in! Into every situation, into every decision, into every relationship. He must be a living vital reality - closer to me than my breathing and nearer to me than my own hands and feet. We must be "Christ-bearers."

In the first sermon of May, we will search and find, along with the disciples on the road to Emmaus, the living presence of Christ **in revelation**.

We will come to understand, in the second sermon, Christ's resurrection as a catalyst **in praise**.

In the third sermon, we will learn to say, with Job, "I know that my Redeemer lives" and see that because He lives we can face tomorrow, fear is expelled, and our future is secure. Christ lives **in every situation** in our lives, both the joyful and the difficult.

On the fourth Sunday, we will experience Christ **in the church**, through the activity of the Holy Spirit, in word, sacrament, and blessing.

And finally, on Ascension Day, like the disciples, we will know what it means to go out and live in Christ and bear witness to Christ **in the Spirit**. May we bring Christ everywhere we go and to every person we meet!

Wishing you a joyful Eastertide and a most blessed Confirmation season,

John S. Schnabel

Sunday May 4 2025

Theme: He still lives

Title: He still lives...in revelation

Message: In faith we experience the presence of the Risen One.

So it was, while they conversed and reasoned, that Jesus Himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were restrained, so that they did not know Him. [Luke 24: 15–16](#)

Summary

- The realization that Jesus is risen is always accompanied by an act of faith.
- Through the activity of the Holy Spirit, Jesus is present in our daily lives and in the divine service.
- In Holy Communion we experience that the risen Lord is truly among us.

Sunday May 11 2025

Theme: He still lives

Title: He still lives...in praise

Message: Our lives should be filled with the praise of God.

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul! While I live I will praise the Lord; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being. [Psalm 146: 1–2](#)

Summary

- Praise of God is rooted in the experience that God helps and protects us.
- God is not only Lord over life, but also over death.
- The certainty that Jesus Christ has conquered death fills us with joy and gratitude.
- The resurrection of Jesus encourages us to integrate the praise of God into our daily lives and to act as the gospel demands.

Sunday May 18 2025

Theme: He still lives

Title: He still lives...in every situation

Message: Jesus Christ commands love for God and love for our neighbor.

I know that my Redeemer lives. [Job 19: 25 \(excerpt\)](#)

Summary

- Although upright and blameless, Job experienced a life of suffering and was so desperate that he ultimately quarreled with God.
- While Job was spared from death, Jesus actually had to die, and because of this very fact became the author of salvation.
- Through faith we share in the power of the resurrection and new life.

Sunday May 25 2025**Theme:** He still lives**Title:** He still lives...in the church**Message:** We experience God's presence in the activity of the Holy Spirit..

Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. [John 16: 7](#)

Summary

- Jesus emphasizes that His departure to the Father is necessary because only then can the Holy Spirit come to humankind in His fullness.
- The sending of the Holy Spirit marks the beginning of a new phase in salvation history.
- The Holy Spirit is at work within the church, where word and sacrament are provided for the salvation of humankind.

Thursday May 29 2025 (Ascension Day)**Theme:** He still lives**Title:** He still lives...in the Spirit**Message:** Jesus Christ ascended to heaven. We too await our ascension.

And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven." [Acts 1:10-11](#)

Bible reading: [Acts 1:4-12](#)

Summary

- Jesus Christ was able to rejoin His Father because He was perfect.
- He is present in His church through the Holy Spirit.
- In His love and grace, He will return in person to take us to Himself.
- We seek fellowship with Him.