

## **Collects for Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2026 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Almighty God,  
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ  
have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:  
grant that, as by your grace going before us  
you put into our minds good desires,  
so by your continual help  
we may bring them to good effect;  
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen

(or)

Risen Christ,  
your wounds declare your love for the world  
and the wonder of your risen life:  
give us compassion and courage  
to risk ourselves for those we serve,  
to the glory of God the Father. Amen

## **Readings for Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May - 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

### **Acts 7:54-end**

#### **The Stoning of Stephen**

<sup>54</sup> When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. <sup>55</sup> But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup> 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' <sup>57</sup> But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup> Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

<sup>59</sup> While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, ‘Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.’ <sup>60</sup> Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, ‘Lord, do not hold this sin against them.’ When he had said this, he died. This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **John 14:1-14**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**14** Jesus said ‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup> And you know the way to the place where I am going.’

<sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ <sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup> If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.’

<sup>8</sup> Philip said to him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.’

<sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, “Show us the Father”?’ <sup>10</sup> Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup> Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves.

<sup>12</sup> Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup> I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.



This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**