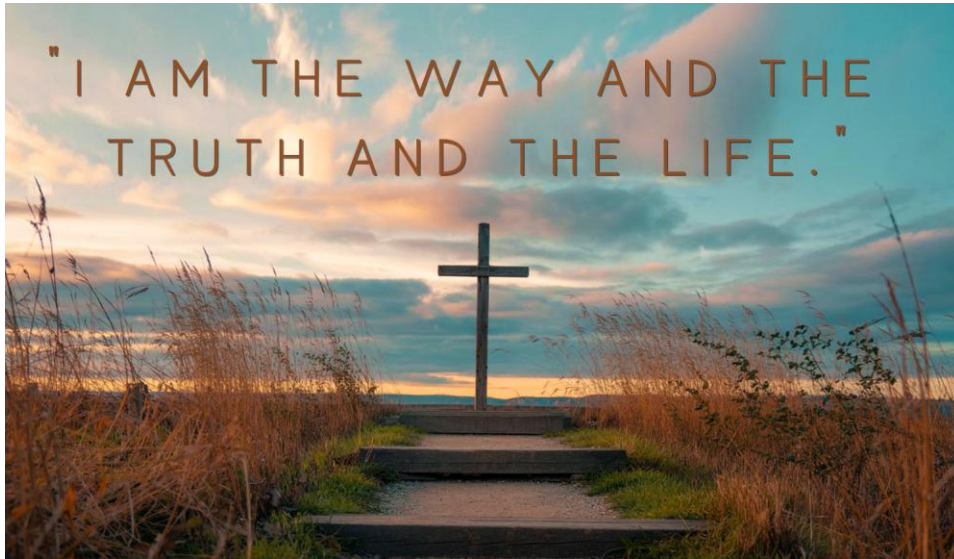


5th Sunday of Easter: (Chosen to Build)

May 3, 2026



“Chosen to Build”. It is said **"God doesn't just call us he chooses us to build his church his people and his kingdom"**. A man once told his friend "My house is falling apart, the walls are cracked, the roof leaks and everything is shaking". His friend asked "So what are you doing about it?" The other friend replied "I put a beautiful photo frame on the wall. Now I don't see the cracks anymore". That sounds funny but isn't that what we sometimes do with life. We try to cover cracks instead of fixing foundations.

Today's readings invite us not to decorate the cracks but to rebuild the foundation of our lives in Christ. In the first reading we read "The early church faces division but instead of breaking, it organizes and appoints servants filled with the Holy Spirit. Through their service and unity, the church grows stronger, we are chosen to build God's church through humble service and shared responsibility.

The second reading presents that Christ is the living cornerstone and we are living stones, chosen and precious in God's sight. Together we are built into a spiritual house with a mission. We are chosen to build not just structures but a holy life and community in Christ.

In the gospel Jesus invites us to trust him as the Way, the Truth and the Life. Assuring us of a place with Him, He calls us to continue his mission and do

greater works. We are chosen to build by following Christ and carrying forward his work in the world.

what's our takeaway from today's liturgy of the word? First do not let your hearts be troubled God is preparing something greater.

In the Gospel Jesus says "**Do not let your hearts be troubled I go to prepare a place for you**". Jesus does not say "You will never have problems". He says "**Do not let your hearts be troubled**". There is a difference, it means troubles may come, confusions may come, even loss may come. But inside there can still be peace why? because Jesus is preparing something bigger than what we are going through.

A broken brick was thrown aside during construction later the builder picked up and placed it at the corner of the building. Someone asked him why use a broken brick? The builder replied, because this one fit perfectly where others don't. We may feel broken but in God's plan we are perfectly placed. So, let's not be troubled.

Second, **I am the way the truth and the life** not a Map but a person. Thomas is asking a question which we do ask sometimes, Lord we do not know where you are going how can we know the way and Jesus gives one of the most powerful answers in the bible, **I am the way the truth and the life**. Jesus does not say "I will show you the way". He says "I am the way." A traveler got lost in a dense forest he tried using a map but nothing made sense. Finally, he met a local villager and asked "Can you tell me the way out? The villager said "It's too complicated but I'll walk with you". The traveler replied "That's even better". Similarly, Jesus doesn't just give us directions he says "**I am the way**." We are not given a map we are given a companion

Third: **The living stones**. we are not useless but we are essential. In the second reading St peter says "You are living stones built into a spiritual house. Not dead stones but living stones". That means we are not random, we are not useless, we are not forgotten. We are part of God's building.

Today Jesus tells us, **don't be troubled**. We need to trust that he is preparing something beautiful. Follow the way not rules but a relationship with Jesus. Be a living stone, our life matters in God's plan.

Are we ready for the same? Have a building Sunday. Live Jesus. **Amen**