



WELCOME IN THE FESTIVAL OF PENTECOST

Sunday, May 31th, 2020, Pentecost

Pentecost derives its name from the Jewish festival celebrating the harvest and the giving of the law on Mount Sinai fifty days after Passover. Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the Holy Spirit as God's presence within and among us. In Acts the Spirit arrives in rushing wind and flame, bringing God's presence to all people. Paul reminds us that though we each have different capacities, we are unified in the Spirit that equips us with these gifts. Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit on his disciples, empowering them to forgive sin. We celebrate that we too are given the breath of the Holy Spirit and sent out to proclaim God's redeeming love to all the world.

PRELUDE **Variations on "Come Down O Love Divine"** **Ralph Vaughn Williams /arr. Jan Bender**
See video link on website.

ENTRANCE HYMN

Come Holy Ghost, God, and Lord

395

1 Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord,
with all your graces now outpoured
on each believer's mind and heart;
your fervent love to them impart.
Lord, by the brightness of your light
in holy faith your church unite;
from ev'ry land and ev'ry tongue,
this to your praise, O Lord, our God, be sung: Alleluia! Alleluia!

2 Come, holy Light, guide divine,
now cause the word of life to shine.
Teach us to know our God aright
as loving Father, our delight.
From ev'ry error keep us free;
let none but Christ our teacher be,
that we in living faith abide,
in him, our Lord, with all our might confide. Alleluia! Alleluia!

3 Come, holy Fire, comfort true,
grant us the will your work to do
and in your service to abide;
let trials turn us not aside.
Lord, by your pow'r prepare each heart
and to our weakness strength impart,
that bravely here we may contend,
through life and death to you, our Lord, ascend. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Text: German hymn, 15th cent., st. 1; Martin Luther, 1483-1546, sts. 2-3; tr. composite

GREETING

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

Jesus Christ is risen! **He is risen indeed!**

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

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God in the highest, the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God in the highest, the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. Glory to God in the highest, the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen. Amen. Amen. Glory to God in the highest, the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Glory to God in the highest, the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 2:1-21

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷"In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.

¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' "

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

^{3b}No one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel

John 20:19-23

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

Tanya Cartwright

SERMON

Pastor David Rowe

HYMN OF THE DAY

Baptized In Water

456

- 1 Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
cleansed by the blood of Christ our king:
heirs of salvation, trusting his promise,
faithfully now God's praise we sing.
- 2 Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
dead in the tomb with Christ our king:
one with his rising, freed and forgiven,
thankfully now God's praise we sing.
- 3 Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
marked with the sign of Christ our king:
born of the Spirit, we are God's children;
joyfully now God's praise we sing.

Text: Michael Seward, b. 1932 Text © 1982 Jubilate Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace we have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. May almighty God strengthen us with power through the Holy Spirit that Christ may live in our hearts through faith. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.*

We call on your spirit of unity, giving thanks for our different vocations. Activate and utilize the diverse gifts present in your church, that they reveal your love for all. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We call on your spirit of life, to inspire our witness, and to sustain your church during this time when the pandemic prevents us from gathering closely together to sing and receive Christ's Communion. Heal with your breath the whole creation, especially those who struggle with the coronavirus. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We call on your spirit of righteousness. Wherever either the world or this nation is divided, unite us. Wherever we are prideful, humble us. Give each one of us a heart for justice and empathy. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We call on your spirit to create and nurture faith within our young people, especially those who continue to prepare to publicly affirm their baptisms in the Rite of Confirmation. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We call on your spirit of healing. Bless nurses, doctors, midwives, chaplains, counselors, and hospice workers as they care for those in need. We pray for all who long for comfort, especially all whom we now raise in prayer before you... Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We call on your spirit of wisdom to give graduates of every age from all kinds of schools the desire to use their knowledge and skills in the next chapter of their lives for the benefit of all. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We call on your spirit of friendship. As Elizabeth welcomed Mary to her home, give us a spirit of welcome to those whom we meet in this congregation and outside these doors. Surprise us daily with unexpected grace, that we rejoice in every blessing you send. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We call on your spirit of hope. As you have led your saints in all times and places, stir in us the desire to follow their example, leading us from death to new life in you. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,**

on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

Call, text, or email a friend to pass the peace.

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

If you are able please mail your offering to Jerusalem Lutheran Church, 252 Dock Street, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972.

BLESSING

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead
raise you to new life, fill you with hope,
and turn your mourning into dancing.
Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

O Day Full of Grace

627

- 1 O day full of grace that now we see
appearing on earth's horizon,
bring light from our God that we may be
abundant in joy this season.
God, shine for us now in this dark place;
your name on our hearts emblazon.
- 2 O day full of grace, O blessed time,
our Lord on the earth arriving;
then came to the world that light sublime,
great joy for us all retrieving;
for Jesus all mortals did embrace,
all shame and despair removing.
- 3 For Christ bore our sins, and not his own,
when he on the cross was hanging;
and then he arose and moved the stone,
that we, unto him belonging,
might join with angelic hosts to raise
our voices in endless singing.
- 4 God came to us then at Pentecost,
the Spirit new life revealing,
that we might no more in death be lost,
its pow'r over us dispelling.
This flame will the mark of sin efface
and bring to us all true healing.
- 5 When we on that final journey go
that Christ is for us preparing,
we'll gather in song, our hearts aglow,
all joy of the heavens sharing,

and there we will join God's endless praise,
with angels and saints adoring.

Text: Scandinavian folk hymn; tr. Gerald Thorson, 1921-2001, alt. Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2016 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License with Video Streaming #20730. From CCLI. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Christian Copyright Licensing International, Inc. #11247411. Reprinted by permission under OneLicense Annual License w/Podcasting # 735134.

MINISTRY NEWS

PRAYER LIST

Joyce Freed, Shirley Foose, Lee Miller, Joanna Sirianni Edwards, Ed Freed, Pauline Crawshaw, Karen Tropp, Diane Buffington, Jack Harnock, Marie Harnock, Keith Shoener, Charles Gurski, Tom Gerber, Kelly Carl, Cheryl Feeser, Leslie R., Joel Koch, Mary Beth (Krater) Dinneen, Sam Huff, Stewart Haver, Sue Sigler, Cheryl Moyer, Kevin Seibert, Donna Evans, Joan Heckrote, Robert Schwartz, Craig Bracken, Kenny Noecker, Jeff Wolesschok, Nancy Reese, David Huff, Paul Calderone, Nicholas LaScala, Gail Kunkel, Lee Llewellyn, Dennis Heydt, Caroline Eister, Jeanette Stine, Christopher Payonk, Gemma Geary, Seth Ney, Nathan Resch, Renee Shade, Cathy Hale, Ben Moyer, Gaylene Ebling, Wally Foose, Craig Heffner, Jane Deibert, Denny Starr, Judy Reihman, Tom Cook, Sylvia Edling, Joe Dewald, Ronald Bromwell, Carla Zelinsky, Lisa Weiser, Janest Yost, Anna Mae Berger, Barry West, Madge Miller, Kathleen Kelleher, Ron Gill, Melissa Focht, Jason Brown, Teagan Brown, Brenda Phillips, Family of Keith Ramsey, Cecelia Kacmar, Nancy Cooper, Lois Pavelko, Edith Kriner, Melanie Hart, Janice Moore, Christie O'Dell, John Cooper, Florence Shay, Clarence Zweizig, Jayden Leiby, Melvin Rodriguez & family, Dorothy Moyer, Bruce Stees, JoAnn Baker Copley, Deanna Carl, Linda Bonfiglio-Boyer, Carlene Wenner, Christy Deaton Stocks, Maria Motto, Sherry and Kim Zulick

Those with Long-term health issues:

Bonnie Jean Foose, Michelle Ochenrider, Rich & Sandy Moyer, Ethan Yost, Elizabeth Taylor, Carol Landes, Maureen Moyer, Karen Cockill, Janice Barr, Donna Drenzo, Bill Gordon, Jim Musico, John Krater, Fawn Goodman, Bob Yanek, Rebecca Marshall, Sapphire Schaeffer, Mark Wyllie, Krysta Kolbe, Shirley Emrich, Kathrine Smiley, Mark Noecker, Michelle Moon, Anna Heffner, Molly Jones, David Wise, Joan Steficheck, Bill Everly, Donna Leashefski, Florence Clemens, Sara Berger, Chuck Copley, Jeff Kamar, Mary Sewalt, Pat Thomas, Kay LeBoeuf

Those serving in the Armed Forces:

Major Michael Shay, Staff Sgt. Joseph Moyer, Senior Airman Matthew Nettles, Airman Jackie Nettles, 2nd LT Heather Strouse, Sgt. Travis D. Miller, Sgt. Anthony Cooper, Private 3rd Class Caleb Levan

THE VIDEO OF OUR FINAL HYMN, "O Day Full of Grace," is a virtual compilation by the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians that through technology brings together over 960 singers and 364 instrumentalists from around the world (practicing social distancing!) to celebrate the Festival of Pentecost. This hymn that we sometimes use for festivals like Pentecost therefore comes to us today through God's gift to musicians of all ages throughout the world, who have been inspired to share its message with us today.

COMING TOGETHER AGAIN FOR WORSHIP? With the rate of infection slowing in Schuylkill County and it moving into a yellow phase, Jerusalem's leaders have been discussing how best to safely resume services.

- First of all, there is a lot of work to prepare for the resumption of worship, and we also want to make sure that with more freedom under the yellow phase that our community's infection numbers don't spike. Therefore we do not plan to resume services until at least Sunday, June 14.
- And second, using ELCA and CDC guidelines, we rejoice that even though our congregational worship will by necessity look and feel different, we will be able to assemble with Christ among us ("...where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them" Matthew 18:20) as we gather around the reading, preaching, and praying of God's Word ("How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!" Psalm 119:103). However, much of what we enjoyed and took for granted in the past cannot yet be done safely – instead of customary hugs, handshakes, and mingling, we will sit, stand, and walk at least six feet apart; we will not be able to sing together because communal singing can vastly increase the spread of coronavirus; we will wear masks to protect and love each other in contrast to the mask debate that polarizes our country; and we will not yet share Holy Communion. Now of course, some other congregations in our area with either a different theology or world view may do things like congregational singing or Holy Communion, but we will refrain from them in harmony with ELCA worship guidelines.
- Third, we are planning to offer at least three, but smaller services, not just in light of state guidelines, but also taking into account ELCA recommendations to limit the size of worship gatherings. This means that we may offer services at 8:00, 9:15, and 10:30, while encouraging people to be flexible and register in advance so that

we can spread the ourselves across three smaller groups. Meanwhile, the sanctuary will be marked off for distancing, and a different section used for each service.

- Finally, when we gather, anyone who feels ill out of love needs to stay home until fully covered, and anyone who is in high risk category needs to consider continuing to participate in worship through either our weekly worship mailing, or our website (jerusalemlutheran.com).

WHEN WE COME TOGETHER AGAIN FOR WORSHIP, and we might be at least a little disappointed that worship is not yet like it was before, BUT we will gather – and the crucified and risen Christ will be among us as we pray and savor the Word of God together.

THE PRESIDING BISHOP OF THE ELCA has called a national day of mourning to be observed on Monday, June 1st, 2020 to honor the more than 100,000 people who have died from COVID-19.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS:

For imminent danger call 911.

For crisis or mental health help call 877-9wehelp

Schuylkill Women in Crisis 570-622-6220

Child Abuse Hotline 1-800-932-0313

Suicide Prevention Hotline 1-800-273-8255

Addiction 1-800-264-1290