



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES

Babbtown & Schubert, MO

THE FESTIVAL OF PENTECOST

June 8, 2025

Order of Worship: Printed below
(with P for Pastor, C for Congregation)

* * * * *

Our worship today marks Pentecost, the celebration of the fulfillment of Jesus' promise to send His Holy Spirit. We rely on the Spirit's power to bring us to faith, and walk with us in life.

Ringling Of The Bell – Prelude – Words of Welcome

Hymn of Invocation, TLH 224 "Come, Holy Ghost"

**Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord! Be all Thy graces now out-poured
On each believer's mind and heart; Thy fervent love to them impart.
Lord, by the brightness of Thy light Thou in the faith dost men unite
Of ev'ry land and ev'ry tongue This to Thy praise, O Lord, our God, be sung.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**Thou Holy Light, Guide Divine, Oh cause the Word of Life to shine!
Teach us to know our God aright And call Him Father with delight.
From ev'ry error keep us free; Let none but Christ our Master be
That we in living faith abide, In Him, our Lord, with all our might confide.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**Thou holy Fire, Comfort true, Grant us the will Thy work to do
And in Thy service to abide; Let trials turn us not aside.
Lord, by Thy pow'r prepare each heart And to our weakness strength impart
That bravely here we may contend Thro' life and death to Thee, our Lord, ascend.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Amen.**

The Invocation: *(Please stand)*

P: In the Name of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit.

C: The Spirit of the Lord fills the world. Hallelujah!

P: Let the righteous be glad; let them rejoice before God!

C: Let us exceedingly rejoice. Hallelujah!

P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C: As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen.

P: The Spirit of the Lord fills the world. Hallelujah!

ALL: Let God arise; let His enemies be scattered, let them also flee before Him.

Prayer for Pentecost *(spoken together)*

Lord God, who taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Savior. Strengthen your children with the gift of faith, revive your Church with the breath of love, and renew the face of the earth in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, together with the Father and the Son, now and forever. Amen

Confession Of Sins

P: You who are loved by God, come near to Him with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, asking Him in the Name of the Lord, Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

ALL: **Eternal God, I confess to You that I have tried to do right and still fail to accomplish Your will and daily I have also gone my own way. I confess that I have tried to hide from You, that I have done wrong. I have lived for myself. Often I have refused to bear the troubles of others and have turned from my neighbor in need. Too often I have ignored the pain of the world and have passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed. I have grieved Your Holy Spirit by trying to justify my actions and attitudes and fled from Your revealed will. Lord, in mercy, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, forgive my sin and free me from selfishness. Send Your Spirit to strengthen me that I can choose Your will and obey Your commandments; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, my Lord. Amen.**

P: Sons and daughters of God, be of glad heart, God has forgiven your sins for the sake of the innocent sufferings and death of His beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. So go in peace and dedicate your life to His glory! In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen. It is so!**

(Please be seated)

Hymn TLH 223 "Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest"

**Come, Holy Ghost, Creator blest, Vouchsafe within our souls to rest;
Come with Thy grace and heav'nly aid And fill the hearts which Thou hast made.**

**To Thee, the Comforter, we cry, To Thee, the Gift of God Most High,
The Fount of life, the Fire of love, The soul's Anointing from above.**

**The sev'n-fold gifts of grace are Thine, O Finger of the Hand Divine;
True Promise of the Father Thou, Who dost the tongue with speech endow.**

**Thy light to every thought impart And shed Thy love in every heart;
The weakness of our mortal state With deathless might invigorate.**

**Drive far away our wily Foe, And Thine abiding peace bestow;
If Thou be our protecting Guide, No evil can our steps betide.**

**Make Thou to us the Father known; Teach us the eternal Son to own
And Thee, whose name we ever bless, Of both the Spirit, to confess.**

**△ Praise we the Father and the Son And Holy Spirit, with them One;
And may the Son on us bestow The gifts that from the Spirit flow! Amen.**

The Old Testament Lesson: Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD." So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.' Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD."

P: This is the word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle Lesson: Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others mocking said, "They are filled with new wine." But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel: "'And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day. And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.'"

P: This is the word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

The Profession Of Faith: (Please stand)

Luther's Explanation of the Third Article of the Apostles' Creed which describes the work of the Holy Spirit.

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him, but the Holy Spirit has called me by the gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctifies and keeps me in the true faith; even as He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith; in which Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all sins to me and all believers, and will at the last day raise up me and all the dead, and give unto me and all believers in Christ eternal life. This is most certainly true. Amen.

Holy Gospel: John 15:26-27; 16:7-15

"When the Counselor has come, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will testify about me. You will also testify, because you have been with me from the beginning.

... I tell you the truth: It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I don't go away, the Counselor won't come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. When he has come, he will convict the world about sin, about righteousness, and about judgment; about sin, because they don't believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to my Father, and you won't see me any more; about judgment, because the prince of this world has been judged.

"I still have many things to tell you, but you can't bear them now. However, when he, the Spirit of truth, has come, he will guide you into all truth, for he will not speak from himself; but whatever he hears, he will speak. He will declare to you things that are coming. He will glorify me, for he will take from what is mine and will declare it to you. All things that the Father has are mine; therefore I said that he takes of mine and will declare it to you.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to You, O Christ.** (Please be seated)

Sermon Hymn, TLH 514 "God Moves in a Mysterious Way"

**God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform;
He plants His footsteps in the sea And rides upon the storm.**

**Deep in unfathomable mines Of never-failing skill
He treasures up His bright designs And works His sovereign will.**

**Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take; The clouds ye so much dread
Are big with mercy and shall break In blessings on your head.**

**Judge not the Lord by feeble sense. But trust Him for His grace;
Behind a frowning providence He hides a smiling face.**

**His purposes will ripen fast, Unfolding every hour;
The bud may have a bitter taste, But sweet will be the flower.**

**Blind unbelief is sure to err And scan His work in vain;
God is His own Interpreter, And He will make it plain. Amen.**

Sermon - "What God Sees" Ezekiel 37:1-6

Introduction – People don't always see themselves as they really are

1. We live in this world
 - a. We see ourselves in the mirror
 - b. We observe the world around us
 - c. God sometimes appears to be in the background
2. God sees us quite differently
 - a. Ezekiel was given a "look" at what God sees
 - b. Without God in us we and our world are dead
 - c. The Spirit must be in us and with us to give us life
3. When Christ is in us we look quite different
 - a. The Holy Spirit alone can give us this new look
 - b. When Christ is in us, we are eternal
 - c. God's desire is to put life back in a dead world

Conclusion – The Holy Spirit helps us see through the eyes of faith

Hymn TLH 508 "Thou Whose Almighty Word" *(Stand for last verse as offerings are brought forward)*

**Thou whose almighty word Chaos and darkness heard And took their flight,
Hear us, we humbly pray, And where the Gospel day
Sheds not its glorious ray, Let there be light!**

**Thou who didst come to bring, On Thy redeeming wing, Healing and sight,
Health to the sick in mind, Sight to the inly blind,
Oh, now to all mankind Let there be light!**

**Spirit of Truth and Love, Lifegiving, holy Dove, Speed forth Thy flight;
Move on the water's face, Bearing the lamp of grace,
And in earth's darkest place Let there be light!**

△ **Holy and blessed Three, Glorious Trinity, Wisdom, Love, Might!
Boundless as ocean's tide, Rolling in fullest pride,
Thro' the earth, far and wide, Let there be light! Amen.**

The Prayers and The Lord's Prayer *(Please stand)*

**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.**

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

[We invite those who are communicant members in the fellowship of the LCMS, and are penitent, to commune with us.]

The Canticle - "Worthy Is Christ" *(Used with permission from CPH – LSB Copyright 2006)*

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, Whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

[Short Interlude]

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation;
Blessing, honor, glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alle-lu-ia.

The Invitation and The Words of Consecration *(Please be seated)*

Distribution Hymns: TLH 227 "Come, Holy Ghost, In Love"

**Come Holy Ghost, in love Shed on us from above Thine own bright ray.
Divinely good Thou art; The sacred gifts impart
To gladden each sad heart. Oh, come today!**

**Come, tend'rest Friend and best, Our most delightful Guest, With soothing pow'r.
Rest which the weary know, Shade mid the noon-tide glow,
Peace when deep griefs o'erflow, Cheer us this hour.**

**Come, Light serene and still, Our inmost bosoms fill, Dwell in each breast.
We know no dawn but Thine: Send forth Thy beams divine
On our dark souls to shine And make us blest.**

**Exalt our low desires, Extinguish passion's fires, Heal every wound.
Our stubborn spirits bend, Our icy coldness end,
Our devious steps attend While heav'nward bound.**

**Come, all the faithful bless; Let all who Christ confess His praise employ.
Give virtue's rich reward, Victorious death accord
And, with our glorious Lord, Eternal joy. Amen.**

TLH 235 "O Holy Spirit, Enter In"

O Holy Spirit, enter in, And in our hearts Thy work begin,
Thy temple deign to make us. Sun of the soul, Thou Light Divine,
Around and in us brightly shine, To joy and gladness wake us
That we In Thee Truly living, To Thee giving Prayer unceasing,
May be in love be still increasing.

Give to Thy Word impressive pow'r That in our hearts, from this good hour,
As fire it may be glowing; That we confess the Father, Son,
And Thee, the Spirit, Three in One, Thy glory ever showing.
Say Thou, Guide now, Our souls ever That they never May forsake Thee,
But by faith their Refuge make Thee.

Thou Fountain whence all wisdom flows Which God on pious hearts bestows,
Grant us Thy consolation That in our pure faiths' unity
We faithful witnesses may be Of grace that brings salvation.
Hear us, Cheer us By Thy teaching; Let our preaching And our labor
Praise Thee, Lord, and serve our neighbor.

Left to ourselves, we shall but stray; Oh, lead us on the narrow way,
With wisest counsel guide us, And give us steadfastness that we
May ever faithful prove to Thee Whatever woes betide us.
Come, Friend, And mend Hearts now broken, Give a token Thou art near us,
Whom we trust to light and cheer us.

Thy heav'nly strength sustain our heart That we may act the valian part,
With Thee as our Reliance; Be Thou our Refuge and our Shield
That we may never quit the field, But bid all foes defiance.
Descend, Defend From all errors And earth's terrors. Thy salvation
Be our constant consolation.

O mighty Rock, O Source of Life, Let Thy dear Word, mid doubt and strife,
Be strong within us burning That we be faithful unto death,
In Thy pure love and holy faith, From Thee true wisdom learning.
Thy grace And peace On us shower; By Thy power Christ confessing,
Let us win our Savior's blessing.

O gentle Dew, from heav'n now fall With pow'r upon the hearts of all,
Thy tender love instilling, That heart to heart more closely bound,
In kindly deeds be fruitful found, The law of love fulfilling.
Dwell thus In us; Envy banish; Strife will vanish Where Thou livest.
Peace and love and joy Thou givest.

Grant that our days, while life shall last, In purest holiness be passed,
Be Thou our Strength and Tower, From sinful lust and vanity
And from dead works set Thou us free In every evil hour.
Keep Thou Pure now From offenses Hearts and senses. Blessed Spirit,
Let us heav'nly life inherit. Amen.

The Thanksgiving *(Please stand)*

Closing Prayer and Benediction:

P: As you go on your way, God the Holy Spirit goes with you. May He go before you to show you Jesus as your Savior, and behind you to encourage you; beside you to befriend you; above you to watch over you; within you to give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

Closing Hymn TLH 234 "Holy Ghost, With Light Divine"

Holy Ghost, with light divine Shine upon this heart of mine;
Chase the shades of night away, Turn the darkness into day.

Let me see my Savior's face, Let me all His beauties trace;
Show those glorious truths to me Which are only known to Thee.

Holy Ghost, with pow'r divine Cleanse this guilty heart of mine;
In Thy mercy pity me, From sin's bondage set me free.

Holy Ghost, with joy divine Cheer this saddened heart of mine;
Yield a sacred, settled peace, Let it grow and still increase.

Holy Spirit, all divine, Dwell within this heart of mine;
Cast down every idol throne, Reign supreme, and reign alone.

See, to Thee I yield my heart, Shed Thy life through every part;
A pure temple I would be, Wholly dedicate to Thee. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Announcements

Postlude

Have A Blessed Week!

* * * * *

Cover pic artwork: Allan Forbis

The Lutheran Hymnal: St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, © 1941.

Hymn #224: Scripture: Acts 2:4; Komm Heiliger Geist, Herr Gott; Come, Holy Ghost, God And Lord; Author: Martin Luther (1524); Translation: Composite; Tune: Komm Heiliger Geist, Herr Gott; Source: 15th Century Melody.

Hymn #233: Scripture: John 14:26; Veni, Creator Spiritus, Mentis; Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest; Author: Rhabanus Maurus (†856), asc.; Translator: Edward Caswall (1849, alt.); Tune: Komm, Gott Schöpfer; based on "Veni, Creator Spiritus", c. 600.

Hymn #514: Scripture: John 13:7; God Moves in a Mysterious Way; Author: William Cowper (1774); Tune: Dundee; Source: "Scottish Psalter", 1615.

Hymn # 508: Scripture: Genesis 1:3, John 1:1-14; Thou Whose Almighty Word; Author: John Marriott (c. 1813, alt.); Tune: Italian Hymn; Composer: Felice de Giardani (1769).

Hymn #227: Scripture: Ezekiel 36:26; Latin: Veni, Sancte Spiritus; Come Holy Ghost, In Love; Latin Author unknown (c. 1200); Translator: Ray Palmer (1858)); Tune: Italian Hymn; Composer: Felice deGiardeni (1769).

Hymn #235: Scripture: Isaiah 11:2; O Heiliger Geist, kehre bei uns ein; O Holy Spirit, Enter In; Author: Michael Shirmer (1640, alt.); Translator: Catherine Winkworth (1866, alt.); Tune: Wie schon leuchtet; Composer: Philipp Nicolai (1599).

Hymn #234: Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Holy Ghost With Light Divine; Author: Andrew Reed (1817); ; Tune: Light Divine; Composer: Orlando Gibbons (1623).

Lutheran Service Book: St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, © 2006.

Divine Service Setting One: "This Is The Feast (Worthy Is Christ)"; Scripture: Revelation 5:12-13; 19: 5-9; Composer: Richard Hillert.

Bible Readings: The Holy Bible, English Standard Version. ESV® Text Edition: 2016. Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers.