



The Monthly Newsletter Publication of Triune Lutheran Church
“Set Free to Serve One Another”
June 2025

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Worship Schedule:

Sundays 11AM (traditional)

Ministers.....All People

Pastor..... Kathryn Rackley

Administrative Assistant.....Jan Piskac

Organist.....Edith Schatt

Council President.....Tim Mize

Council Vice-President...Bonnie Piskac

Council Secretary.....Tina Schwab

Council Treasurer.....Jack Schwab

Pentecost

A couple of weeks ago I was having a conversation with a friend of mine and he made the comment that he dreaded Pentecost. His comment intrigued me since Pentecost is one of the major feast days of the church. On Pentecost everyone wears red. We add kites and streamers to the procession. We read the lessons in different languages. In fact, most churches today approach it as the celebration of the church's birthday, complete with a cake during coffee hour. When I asked my friend to clarify his disconsolate view of Pentecost, he responded that he always felt that God would call him to a way of life he wasn't ready to embrace. His candor struck me. I realized that his view of Pentecost was perhaps the most authentic view I have ever heard expressed.

When we consider the account of the first Pentecost in the Book of Acts, we realize that Pentecost is the commissioning of the disciples to continue God's work in the world. With the coming of the Spirit, the lives of the disciples are utterly transformed — being empowered to incarnate God's presence in the world. Remaining secluded in the safety of locked rooms or returning to the familiarity of their former lives is no longer an option.



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**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Now the disciples are being sent out — called to embrace the unknown, the new, and all that is possible. In short, the disciples are to be nothing less than the Body of Christ in the world — called to do “greater works than these.” And so, my friend’s response is far more insightful than our red laced liturgical festivities. Pentecost is actually about accepting our responsibility as followers of Christ and accomplishing the work of God in the world.

Liturgically Pentecost is the bridge between Eastertide and the season commonly referred to as Ordinary Time. And Ordinary Time is perhaps the most significant season of the year (not to mention the most aptly named). For you see, the whole point of the life and ministry of Jesus is the incarnation — the coming of Emmanuel, God with us. It is in the life

of Jesus that God is revealed as immanent — present in the midst of the everyday, ordinary,

experiences of life. The good news of Christ is not that God is transcendent — out there somewhere, only to be encountered in some indeterminant future or with our physical demise. Rather, it is as we go about our daily lives that we encounter God. It is in the face of the other that we perceive the face of God. Jesus made no distinction between secular and sacred, mundane and holy. According to the teaching and example of Jesus, all of life is

permeated with God’s presence. It is in the ordinary that we encounter the extraordinary. The good news of the gospel and the reality of Easter is that God meets us where we are — not in perfection or holiness but in our doubts and uncertainty. In other words, God meets us in our humanity — in the ordinariness of life.

Jesus of Nazareth revealed this God to the world not by remaining in the sacred precincts of

the Temple or in the synagogues. Jesus revealed God by hanging out with all the wrong people — the disenfranchised and the marginalized. Jesus entered into relationship with gentiles, sinners, tax collectors, collaborators, prostitutes, Samaritans, fisher folk, carpenters, women, children, immigrants, and folks from every walk of life and even people

who denied him. In his relationships with every day, ordinary people Jesus perceived God and revealed God. And this good news was confirmed by the risen Christ who met the disciples where they were (over and over and over again), embraced them in their

questioning and imperfection, and welcomed them into the relationship he shares with God.

Yes, my friend is correct — Pentecost should be approached with a bit of trepidation because if we are truly open to the Spirit, our lives will be transformed and we will be changed. We will no longer be comfortable with our former ways of being in the world.

We will no longer be able to remain “comfortably numb” with the status quo mandated by our culture, society, or religion. Like the disciples, we are called to proclaim and manifest the good news of God’s abiding presence and love in the world. By the power of the Spirit we too will be a light in the darkness.

We ask you to keep the following siblings in Christ in your prayers:

Niki Grigsby
Patty Gurka
Phil Pesko
Jack Schwab

Annie Slaughter
Mardell Weiss
Clara Wilcox



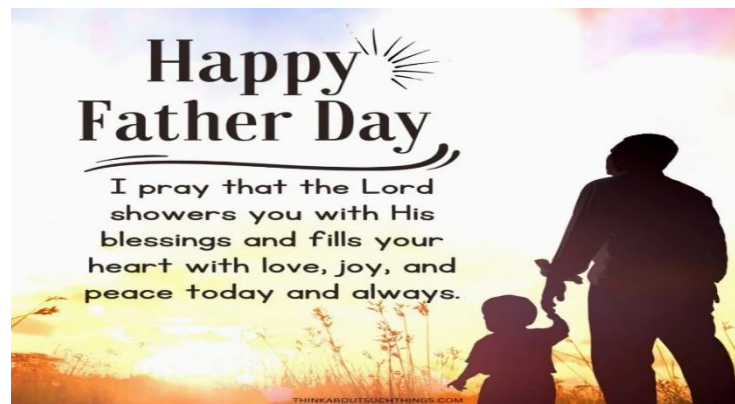
If you wish to send any cards, please send them, or drop them off, to the church office, and we will be sure to deliver them.



21st Richard & Ellen Schmidt
26th Alan & Elaine Siggelkow

The Monday Discussion Group

Monday discussion group will be taking a summer break due to busy-ness of regular participants. They will make the decision about the dates. Any one wishing to join our study of the book of Isaiah can email ngress@sbcglobal.net.



JUNE 2025

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|----------------------------|----------------|-----------|-----------------|--------|----------------|
| 1 | 2 Bible Study @ 1pm | 3 | 4 | 5 AA @ 8 pm | 6 | 7 |
| 8 WORSHIP <u>@11 AM</u> | 9 Bible Study @ 1pm | 10 AA @ 7pm | 11 | 12 AA @ 8 pm | 13 | 14 FLAG DAY |
| 15 WORSHIP <u>@11 AM</u> FATHER'S DAY | 16 Bible Study @ 1pm | 17 AA @ 7pm | 18 | 19 AA @ 8 pm | 20 | 21 |
| 22 WORSHIP <u>@11 AM</u> | 23 Bible Study @ 1pm | 24 AA @ 7pm | 25 | 26 AA @ 8 pm | 27 | 28 |
| 29 WORSHIP <u>@11 AM</u> | 30 Bible Study @ 1pm | | | | | |