

The Lutheran Church of the Covenant
“Reaching Out, Reflecting Christ, Renewing Lives”



Day of Pentecost
June 5, 2022



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



We welcome you to worship here at the Lutheran Church of the Covenant! Here are a few notes to make you feel more at home as we praise this God of new life together!

- Bulletins and Communion (wheat or gluten-free wafers, wine or grape juice options) are available to be picked up at the back of the sanctuary.
- Portions marked with * are when we invite you to stand as you are able to do so.
- We encourage you to participate throughout the worship by speaking the **bold** print and singing along with the hymns!
- There will not be a separate time for an offering, so a basket is placed in the back for those who wish to support our local ministry as well as the wider church.
- We will commune from our respective seats, where the presiding minister will invite you to open your respective cups with the Communion elements. We believe this meal is for everyone who wishes to partake, regardless of church affiliation or lack thereof. This tangible gift of God's love is meant for the world to enjoy!

Our Worship Leaders & Staff

Ministers
Presiding Minister
Organist
Lector
Parish Administrator
Custodian

All People
The Rev. Bradley Ross
Robin Crawford
Ted Lockmiller
Jennifer Lasher-Dobush
Vince Besednjak

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Day of Pentecost

On Pentecost, we celebrate that we have been given an Advocate to accompany us. Poured out in wind and fire, water, wine, and bread, the Holy Spirit abides in and among us. We give thanks that God speaks to each of us, no matter our origins, language, or life path. Filled with the Spirit of truth, we go out from worship to proclaim the saving power of Christ's love and the freedom of God's grace with all the world.

Prelude *Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart* (Larson)

Welcome & Greetings

*Thanksgiving for Baptism

You may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at our baptism, forever uniting us as one family in our Risen Lord, and calling us to serve as disciples of Jesus Christ for the sake of the world.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

In the waters of baptism,
we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ †,
and we are a new creation.
For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God,
who was, who is, and who is to come.

We thank you, God, for your river of life,
flowing freely from your throne:
through the earth,
through the city,
through every living thing.

You rescued Noah and his family from the flood;
You opened wide the sea for the Israelites.
Now in these waters you surround us with mercy,
and our sin is drowned forever.

You open the gate of everlasting life
and we pass safely through.
In Jesus Christ, you calm troubled waters.

You nourish us and enclose us in safety.
You call us forth and send us out.
In lush and barren places, you are with us.
You have become our salvation.

Now, breathe upon this water
and awaken our Covenant family, and your whole church, once more.
Claim us again as your beloved and holy people.
Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.
To you, our Beginning and our End,
our Shepherd and Lamb,
be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving,
now and forever!
Amen!

*Gathering Hymn *O Spirit, All Embracing*

ACS #944

(to the tune of O God beyond All Praising, ELW #880)



1 O Spir - it all - er - brac - ing and coun - sel - or all - wise,
2 O Beau - ty ev - er blaz - ing in flow - er, field, and face,
3 Come, pas - sion's pow - er ho - ly, your in - sight here im - part,



un - bound - ed splen - dor grac - ing a shore - less sea of skies:
you show your - self a - maz - ing in un - ex - pect - ed place.
and give your ser - vants low - ly an un - der - stand - ing heart



un - fail - ing is your trea - sure, un - fad - ing your re - ward;
We see you and re - mem - ber what once our dreams had been;
to know your care more clear - ly when faith and love are tried,



sur - pass - ing world - ly plea - sure, the rich - es you af - ford.
you fan the glow - ing em - ber and kin - dle hope with - in.
to seek you more sin - cere - ly when false i - deals have died:



Come, stream of end - less flow - ing, and res - cue us from death;
Come, fire of glo - ry gra - cious, bless all who trust in you;
for vi - sion we im - plore you, for wis - dom's pure de - light;



come, wind of spring - time blow - ing, and warm us by your breath.
un - dy - ing flame te - na - cious, burn in your church a - new.
in prayer we come be - fore you to wait up - on your light.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

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*Greeting

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

Canticle of Praise *This is the Feast*

ELW pg. 140

Prayer of the Day

God our creator, the resurrection of your Son offers life to all the peoples of earth. Kindle in us the fire of your love, empowering our lives for service and our tongues for praise, through Jesus Christ, our Risen Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen!**

First Lesson

Acts 2:1-21

Before Jesus ascended into heaven, he told his disciples they would be filled with the Holy Spirit. Now, amid signs of fire, wind, and a variety of languages, the people were amazed and astonished at Jesus' promise coming true.

[Acts 2:1-4: lector (English); vs. 5-8: Steve Dobush (Latin); vs. 9-13: Madeline Ptak (Slovak); vs. 14-17: Donna Franz (German); vs. 18-21: Pastor Brad (French)]

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."

²⁷**All of them | look to you**

to give them their food | in due season. Antiphon

²⁸You give it to them; they | gather it;

you open your hand, and they are filled | with good things.

²⁹**When you hide your face, | they are terrified;**

when you take away their breath, they die and return | to their dust.

³⁰You send forth your Spirit, and they | are created;

and so you renew the face | of the earth.

³¹**May the glory of the LORD en- | dure forever;**

O LORD, rejoice in | all your works. Antiphon

³²You look at the earth | and it trembles;

you touch the mountains | and they smoke.

³³**I will sing to the LORD as long | as I live;**

I will praise my God while I | have my being.

³⁴May these words of | mine please God.

I will rejoice | in the LORD.

^{35b}**Bless the LORD, | O my soul.**

Hal- | lelujah! Antiphon

Second Lesson

Romans 8:14-17

Here Paul speaks about the mystery of baptism: through the Holy Spirit we are claimed, gathered, and welcomed into Christ's body, the church. And we receive a new name in our adoption: child of God.

¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Word of God, word of life!

Thanks be to God!

*Gospel Acclamation



*Gospel

John 14:8-17

Though the disciples struggle with Jesus' nature and identity, they receive the promise that they too will be identified with God and God's mission. Though he must leave them now, Jesus promises the coming of the Advocate whom God will send to comfort and enlighten them.

The Gospel according to John 14th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord!

⁸Philip said to [Jesus,] "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹Jesus 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'?" ¹⁰Do 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. ¹¹Believe 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. ¹²Very 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. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

¹⁵"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

This is the holy Gospel of our Lord!

Praise to you, O Christ!

*Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

* Prayers of Intercession

For the Healing of Nations

(See Insert)

* Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection,
you pour out the fire of your Spirit,

uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,

and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy God,
 Breath of life and Fire of love:
 with a mighty wind you brought creation into being,
 and by a pillar of fire you led your people into freedom.
 We praise you for the gift of your Son,
 who brought forth the Holy Spirit on his disciples of every race and nation.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
 and gave it for all to drink, saying:
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
 shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,
his death, resurrection,
and the sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit,
we await his coming again to renew the face of the earth.

Holy Spirit, pour out your new life upon us and upon this meal:
anoint us with your gifts of faith, hope, and love,
that, with thankful hearts,
we may be witnesses to our Risen Lord.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
both now and forever.

Amen!

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

*Invitation to Communion

The risen Christ dwells with us here!
Taste and see the goodness of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

Communion

Music Interlude *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* (Hayes)

Prayer after Communion

We give you thanks, generous God,
for in this bread and cup
we have tasted the new heaven and earth
where hunger and thirst are no more.
Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection,
that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.
Amen!

*Blessing

We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.
Amen!

*Sending Hymn *Spirit of Gentleness*

ELW #396

*Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
Go in peace. Go and tell what God has done!
Thanks be to God!

Postlude *I Love Thy Kingdom* (McConnell)

We will start worshiping from our parking lot on Sunday, July 3 (9am), and will continue to do so through the months of July and August. In the meantime, we will continue worshiping in our sanctuary. When we worship outside, bulletins and Communion will be available to be picked up by the side office door, and you will be invited to remain in your car or bring your own lawn chair, and enjoy the Creation, as we praise the still-Creating God! If the weather does not cooperate for any of those Sundays in July and August, we will move into the sanctuary.

Praying Together

... for those who are homebound, ill, hospitalized or recuperating: Gayle Agg, Mary Kaye Bernardo, Annie Brown, Bob Buettner, Joan Clarke, John Crawford, Nicole Crawford, Barbara Fossa, Carolyn Frajter, Ken Frajter, Donna Franz, Nealie Gage, Barb Gaglione, Michelle Garnett, Rosa Garnett, Clare Hanusz, Alex Hohenstein, Judy Jones, Dylan King, Jason Lanese, Sara Mendes, Phyllis Nemeth, Steve Senderak, Gary Smith, Arlene Stoltz, Marie Storms, Tom Susaneck, Phyllis Treichel, Phyllis Welker, Wilma Dancy, Bill Helmick, Nancy Helmick, Robert Lambrecht, Kim (Novak) Leonhardt, Laura Mele, Judy Morgan, Kris Sandor, Bill Wilkens, Eugene Winfrey, the Copeland/Lane Family, the Peypo family.

Lectionary Blog: Oneness of Mission

Folks who have been reading this column for a while know that Pentecost is one of my favorite holidays. God's presence being made manifest to God's people with multiple voices, little fires and strong winds is a continuing occurrence in the Bible. At the first Christian Pentecost in Jerusalem, God repeated the earlier actions of the first Pentecost at Sinai (Exodus 20:18) by manifesting the divine Spirit with multiple voices and little fires (Acts 2:2-4). We shouldn't think at all that the God of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament is dissimilar from the God we encounter in the New Testament. God has always desired to reveal Godself to the Beloved Community. God the Parent, Jesus and the Spirit are unified by purpose and action and self-revelation, as this week's Gospel reading from John shows.

Philip, a disciple of great courage and devotion, asked Jesus to show God the Father to the disciples. He knew that Jesus was/is God's anointed one. Philip also knew that Jesus, if he wanted to, could show the disciples God's very self. But Jesus didn't give Philip what he had asked for, telling him that he had already seen God by seeing Jesus.

Jesus said he was in God the Father and the Father was in him, and he offered several proofs. First, Jesus referenced his words and teaching. He didn't speak the words of his repeated sermons and parables on his own, but only because God had given him them to speak (John 14:10). Further, he performed works and miracles because of God's power and presence in him (10-11). Finally, Jesus said the miraculous signs that the disciples would do in his name would be done to bring glory to God through the work of Jesus (13). When Jesus spoke, worked a miracle or empowered his disciples to work miracles,

it was God the Father acting, inspiring and empowering Jesus. When we see Jesus act, we see God acting, and vice versa.

This oneness of action doesn't just exist between Jesus and God the Parent, however. When Jesus promised to send the Spirit (16), he spoke of another *Paraclete* (advocate, intercessor, helper). If the Spirit is *another* Paraclete, who is the first? Well, it seems to be Jesus, in my reading. If Jesus intercedes for us at the right hand of God (Romans 8:34), he acts as Paraclete. Jesus promised his disciples that the Spirit of truth will abide in them (John 14:17), just as, a few verses later, he promised to abide in his disciples if they abide in him (John 15:4). At least here in John, Jesus and the Spirit do the same work (act as a Paraclete) in the same place (within the disciples).

God the Parent, Jesus and the Spirit are all in each other, doing the same work and mutually recognizable in it. God glorifies Godself in all of God's actions. Great! But what does that mean for us? Jesus' theological, Christological and pneumatological insights about how God shares work and mission led him to an observation about his followers: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments" (John 14:15).

Just as God is visible in Jesus through Jesus' actions, and just as Jesus and the Spirit are unified by their common work in interceding for and supporting the disciples, so Jesus is visible in us when we unite with him in his work. Jesus feasted with folks on the margins of polite society. He repeatedly engaged in conversations with religious leaders, again, over feasts, answering their questions and correcting their assumptions. He provided food for the hungry and healed the sick and injured. He insisted that his followers visit those in prison. Jesus calls us to do all of these things as well.

Having good trinitarian theology is worthless if we don't love Jesus by obeying his commandments to love and serve each other. And when we do, the Spirit of Pentecost, Jesus the Messiah, and God the Parent will be visible in our lives.

*This Lectionary Blog, and other resources for the journey of faith, available at
LivingLutheran.org.*

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