**All Saints Lutheran Church, ELCA**

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## Sunday, June 08, 2025

## Day of Pentecost

## *You are absolutely invited into this sacred space.  We welcome all who are seeking God’s love and grace.  All Saints recognizes that we are all unique and beloved children of God.  We celebrate and give thanks for the many diverse gifts that God has given us.  We affirm the sacredness of people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions.  We affirm the sacredness of all those who have experienced exclusion because of race, ability, age, or culture. We are committed to working towards anti-racism in ourselves and our community. We affirm the sacredness of all those who wrestle with addiction, physical or mental health, imprisonment, socio-economic circumstances, or anything that too often divides us.  We believe that through our openness we all grow in our faith through Christ’s teaching to love one another as God loves us.  We need each other and our sincere hope is by being in community together, we will experience God’s presence in new and real ways.*

*The offering plate is by the main door to the sanctuary for your convenience.*

*We practice open communion at All Saints Lutheran Church. What does that mean? It means that if you believe and trust that Christ offers his body and blood For You, you are welcome at the table. At All Saints, we believe that Christ invites all people to the feast. “Come to the banquet for all is now ready.”*

***\*\*Stand as you are comfortable***

***Prelude***

***Announcements***

*\** **Recognition of Baptismal Birthdays**

**\*\**Call to Worship***

God of Power, bless us with your presence today as we gather in this place.

**Light in us the spark of your Spirit.**

Renew the fire of our baptism.

**Wash us in the waters of your abiding love.**

**God of Inspiration,**

**Empower us…**

**To pay attention to those who suffer.**

**To hear those whose voices go unheard.**

**To see those who go unseen.**

**To care for those whose prayers are groans,**

**Sighs too deep for words.**

**To advocate for your whole creation.**

**To be your presence with those who are not certain that you are with them,**

**no matter what they face.**

God of Salvation,

**Be with us as we move through your world.**

We are your children;

**We are led by your Spirit.**

Beloved Children of God,

Christ is with us at all times.

Feel the presence of the Spirit;

Follow the Spirit’s lead.

The love of Christ + burns within you.

**Amen.**

***\*\*Entrance Hymn God is Here! ELW#526***

***\*\*Greeting***

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,

and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**\*\*Kyrie ELW#157**

**\*\*Now the Feast and Celebration ELW#167**

***\*\*Prayer of the Day***

**Loving God, instill in us the desire to tend the holy flame of our baptism. Inspire us with the freedom of Christ: love for you, love for our community, and care for each other and the world. Empower us to live by your Spirit. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.**

***Reading:*** **Acts 2:1-4**

1When the day of Pentecost arrived, they all met in one room. 2Suddenly they heard what sounded like a violent, rushing wind from heaven; the noise filled the entire house in which they were sitting. 3Something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each one. 4They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as she enabled them.

**Galatians 4:1-7; 5:16-26**

1What I am saying is that as long as the heir remains a child, it’s no different from being a slave—even if the child owns everything—2since the child is under the supervision of guardians and trustees until the time set by the parents. 3In the same way, before we came of age, we were enslaved to the elemental principles of the world. 4When the designated time had come, God sent forth the Christ—born of a woman, born under the Law—to deliver from the Law those who were subjected to it, 5so that we might receive our status as adopted heirs. 6The proof that you are children of God is the fact that God has sent forth into our hearts the Spirit of the Child who calls out “Abba!” 7You are no longer slaves, but children! And if you are children, you are also heirs, by God’s design.

13Siblings, you were called to freedom; but be careful, or this freedom will provide an opening for self-indulgence. Rather, serve one another in works of love, 14since the whole of the Law is summarized in a single command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” 15If you go on snapping at one another and tearing each other to pieces, be careful, or you may end up destroying the whole community.

16Let me put it this way: if you are guided by the Spirit, you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence. 17Since our flesh is at odds with the Spirit—and the Spirit with our flesh—the two are so opposed that you cannot do whatever you feel like doing. 18If you are guided by the Spirit, you are not under the Law.

19It’s obvious what proceeds from the flesh: lewd conduct, impurity, licentiousness, 20idolatry, sorcery, hostility, arguments, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish rivalries, dissensions, factions, 21envy, drunkenness, orgies and so forth. I warn you as I have warned you before: those who do these sorts of things won’t inherit the kingdom of God!

22By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patient endurance, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, 23gentleness and self-control. Against these sorts of things there is no law! 24Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified their ego, with its passions and desires. 25So since we live by the Spirit, let us follow her lead. 26We must stop being conceited, contentious and envious.

Word of God, Word of Life

**Thanks be to God**

***\*\*Gospel Acclamation***

**\*\*Halle, Halle, Hallelujah ELW#172**

*Announcement of the Gospel*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

***Gospel:* Luke 11:11-13**

11[Jesus said,] “What parents among you will give a snake to their child when the child asks for a fish, 12or a scorpion when the child asks for an egg? 13If you, with all your sins, know how to give your children good things, how much more will our heavenly Abba give the Holy Spirit to those who ask?”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon "Tending the Fire"**

***Hymn of the Day* O Day of Rest and Gladness ELW#521**

\*\***Affirmation of Faith – Immigrant’s Creed by Jose Luis Casal**

**I believe in Almighty God, who guided the people in exile and in exodus, the God of Joseph in Egypt and Daniel in Babylon, the God of foreigners and immigrants.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, a displaced Galilean, who was born away from his people and his home, who fled his country with his parents when his life was in danger. When he returned to his own country he suffered under the oppression of Pontius Pilate, the servant of a foreign power. Jesus was persecuted, beaten, tortured, and unjustly condemned to death. But on the third day Jesus rose from the dead, not as a scorned foreigner but to offer us citizenship in God’s kingdom.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the eternal immigrant from God’s kingdom among us, who speaks all languages, lives in all countries, and reunites all races.**

**I believe that the Church is the secure home for foreigners and for all believers. I believe that the communion of saints begins when we embrace all God’s people in all their diversity. I believe in forgiveness, which makes us all equal before God, and in reconciliation, which heals our brokenness. I believe that in the Resurrection God will unite us as one people in which all are distinct and all are alike at the same time. I believe in life eternal, in which no one will be foreigner but all will be citizens of the kingdom where God reigns forever and ever. Amen.**

***\*\*Prayers of Intercession***

**God of Love, hear the prayers that we lift before you. Hold close to you all those for whom we pray.**

We pray for the church. Continue to inspire our sharing of the gospel and equip us to tear down the barriers we have erected. Make our welcome expansive, intentional, and open to loving challenge. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You call us by name and form us. Nurture the baptized to receive your Spirit and proclaim boldly the grace, justice, and mercy of your reign. Hear us, O God,

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for creation. Allow fire to burn safely in habitats where it’s needed and quench flames when they threaten to run wild. Protect forests, prairies, and grasslands from destruction by natural forces or human misdeeds. Safeguard firefighters and rescuers in their dangerous work. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for courts and legislatures. Write your commandments on our hearts, and inspire all who govern to lead with love over retribution. Unite judges, lawyers, and systems of justice in a desire for reconciliation. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the sick in body, mind, or spirit especially Monty, Paul, Linda, Betty F, Carla, Becky H., Becky W., David, William and family, Helen, Larry, Stephen, Jennifer, Otto, Fran, Tammy, families in our community who endure hunger, the victims of the terror attack in Colorado, those who seek asylum or citizenship, and our beloved for whom death is near. Comfort all those impacted by the tornadoes in the Midwest. Embrace all who are far from home or estranged from loved ones, and all who live with regret. Embolden your people to offer and to seek forgiveness. May all who weep now sing songs of joy again. Wipe away every tear. Lift up all who have been bowed low by circumstances or internal strife. Bring to wholeness those who cry out to you in need. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for this congregation. Raise up in us a deep desire to live out our baptismal promises and to support those of all ages in our shared journey of faith. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for Border Servant Corps and all ministries and volunteer organizations whose mission is to care for those on the margins, and whose purposes are being challenged and budgets cut. Empower us, your people, to rise up in support. Hear us, O God,

**Your mercy is great.**

We offer thanks for the faithful departed who now rest in you. Let their lives encourage our own daily living. Console us with the promise of eternal life. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

**Good and loving God, we give everyone we have prayed for into your care. Amen.**

*\*\** ***Sharing of the Peace***

### *\*\*Offering is brought forward*

### *\*\** *Offertory Response*

### *As the Grains of Wheat (Refrain Only) ELW#465*

### *\*\*Offertory Prayer*

**Good and loving God, thank you for the gifts you give us. Bless our time, our money, and our possessions to your service. Send us out in love to show your presence in the world. Amen.**

**Dialogue**

Christ is with you!

**And also with you!**

Lift up your hearts in joyful praise!

**We lift them up to God in joy!**

**\*\*Preface:** Holy Spirit, we celebrate your presence…this hymn of praise:

**Holy, Holy, Holy ELW#191**

***\*\*Words of Institution***

**\*\*LORD’S PRAYER**

**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.**

***Invitation to Communion***

# ***Communion Hymn Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart ELW#800***

### *\*\*Sending Song*

### *Praise to you, O God of Mercy ELW#208*

### *\*\*Prayer After Communion*

**Divine Spirit, you have fed us with your body and blood, strengthening us for your service. Now bless us with your presence as we go out to share your good news with the world. Channel your love through us to those who most need to hear your message of saving hope. Amen.**

### *\*\*Blessing*

### *\*\*Closing Hymn O Day Full of Grace ELW#*627

### *\*\*Dismissal*

Go in peace to serve our Risen Christ. Alleluia!

**THANKS BE TO GOD!**

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**Weekly Attendance**

***Week of June 01***

***23***

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**Calendar of Events**

***Today***

* ***Pentecost***
* ***Recognition of Baptismal Birthdays***
* ***Tyler Melton’s Graduation Party after Worship***

***This Week***

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| --- | --- |
| ***June 10*** | ***Creative Friends 1:00 pm*** |
| ***June 14*** | ***Men’s Breakfast 8:00 am Perkins by Walmart*** |

***Upcoming Events***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***June 15*** | ***Father’s Day*** |
| ***June 17*** | ***Creative Friends 1:00 pm*** |
| ***June 18*** | ***Council Meeting 6:30 pm*** |
| ***June 19*** | ***Juneteenth-Office Closed*** |
| ***June 22*** | ***Coffee with Council*** |
| ***June 24*** | ***Creative Friends 1:00 pm*** |
| ***June 28*** | ***Project Comfort 9:00 am-Noon*** |
| ***June 29*** | ***Fifth Sunday of Conversation*** |
| ***July 01***  | ***Creative Friends 1:00 pm*** |
| ***July 04*** | ***Independence Day-Office Closed*** |
| ***July 06*** | ***Blessing of CSL Contributions*** |
| ***July 08*** | ***Creative Friends 1:00 pm*** |
| ***July 13*** | ***Baptismal Birthdays*** |
| ***July 13*** | ***Installation of Church Council/Ice Cream Social after Worship/Photo OP*** |
| ***July 15*** | ***Creative Friends 1:00 pm*** |

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The book of Leviticus has kind of a bad reputation. We often think of it as being excessively rules-based, really strict, with regulations that don’t really apply to us any longer in our modern world. So much so that it seems like Leviticus has two purposes in modern Christianity – either to be ignored and set aside, or to have verses pulled out of context to be used to condemn others. But neither of those are a fair treatment of Leviticus. When we dive into it, we discover a text that we can wrestle with and learn from. A text that has much to teach us about faithfulness to God and to each other.

We will be exploring this book in a **7-part sermon series** this summer, starting on **Holy Trinity Sunday.**

* **June 15: Introduction/Holiness**
* **June 22: Sacrifices**
* **June 29: Worship (5th Sunday Conversation)**
* **July 06: Purification**
* **July 13: Holiness Code part 1**
* **July 20: Holiness Code part 2**
* **July 27: Sabbath/Conclusion**

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**“The New Colossus” by Emma Lazarus (1849-1887)**

Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,
With conquering limbs astride from land to land;
Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand
A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name
Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand
Glows world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command
The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.
“Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!” cries she
With silent lips. “Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!”

*(poets.org)*

This poem was written by Lazarus in 1883 as part of the fund-raising efforts for a base for the Statue of Liberty. It is cast on a plaque that is mounted on the inside of the base of the statue. Lazarus was an activist and advocate for Jewish refugees fleeing from Russian pogroms in the 1800s, and wrote the poem as a way to express empathy for Russian Jewish refugees to the US.

The statue was intended to be a symbol of republican (anti-imperialist) values; however, Lazarus’ poem gave it a new purpose, turning it into a symbol of welcome for immigrants and refugees at the front door of the country. *(Wikipedia article on “The New Colossus”)*

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*You may recall that there has been an announcement in the bulletin over the past year directing you to Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services (LIRS) if you wish to support the people of Ukraine. LIRS has changed its name to Global Refuge and can be found at* ***globalrefuge.org****. Although their name has changed, their mission remains the same: to assist and support refugees in the United States and around the world. Visit their website to see all the ways you can support this important work.*

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**BLUE SPRINGS COMMUNITY SERVICE LEAGUE** *is very appreciative of your continued support of your neighbor.*

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**Questions for Reflection and Discussion**

1. Our reading from Acts in the only place in the New Testament where speaking in tongues is a gift of language that others understand. In the initial coming of the Spirit is the proclamation of the gospel. In all other places where the gift of speaking in tongues is granted, it’s a language that no person understands. What do you make of that?
2. The freedom that Jesus brings is the freedom for relationship - with God and with others. We have, in society, an understanding of moral and ethical obligations to take care of each other; our code of laws is, at least in part, built on this. But freedom in Christ means that our actions to take care of each other aren’t based on any sort of moral or ethical code, but on a DESIRE to take care of one another, grounded in love. What’s the difference in this, to you? Is there one?
3. Our text from Paul’s letter to the Galatians today is full of nuance. The excerpted part from chapter 4 is about the difference between being a slave and being an heir, and being a child and an adult who inherits; but essentially what he’s saying is that the Spirit shifts our relationship with God from one of obedience out of necessity to one where we do what we are asked to do because we love the person who asks us. (A really simplistic version of this argument is the difference between my parents telling my sister and I to do the dishes when I was 12 and she was 10, vs. now when we go home for holidays, if our parents ask us to do the dishes, there is no obligation. We do it out of love.) Is this how you understand the Spirit?
4. Paul talks about the fruit of the Spirit (singular) vs. what proceeds from the flesh. “Flesh” is a tricky word. We sometimes assume Paul literally means “of the body,” which is only partly true. It means the body, as opposed to the spirit or soul; it’s a symbol of external motivators or factors, or of the frailty of human nature, as opposed to God’s eternal nature. But the most important thing to point out is that neither of these are comprehensive lists, things to check off and make sure we’ve done (or not done). They are attitudes, ways of being in the world.
5. One of the great things that I heard this week, in reference to the fruit of the Spirit, is that it’s kind of like a cherry tree: it intrinsically knows how to produce cherries; it doesn’t need to be taught. The Spirit is like that, with the fruit, which are aspects of God’s character. The Spirit knows, and by extension, we already know now to be loving, joyful, peaceful, etc. We do have to work at it to get better, like cherry trees have to be fertilized and pruned to produce their best crop. But the fundamentals are already there. It’s not a bunch of rules; it’s the attitude and perspective that shapes our lives.

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***Birthdays***

***June 12 Terri Lee***

***June 12 Taylor Via***

***Anniversaries***

***June 12 Gordon & Gloria Wiltse***

***Baptismal Birthdays***

***June 07 Janet Cooper***

***June 11 Becky Wilson***

***June 25 Sharon LeVasseur***

***Greeter –*** **June 08*-******Donna Taylor***

***Usher –* June 08*-Paul Blixrud***

***Altar Guild-* June 08-*Mary Ann***

***Tech-* June 08*-Gary Antes***

**Prayer Requests**

***Monty Health Concerns (May 15)***

*Paul Health Concerns (May 31)*

*Mary Health Concerns (May 15)*

*Carla (Pr. George’s wife) Health Concerns (June 26)*

*James & Family Health Concerns (September 11)*

*Betty F (Sara’s friend) Health Concerns (September 23)*

*William and Family Health Concerns (September 25)*

*Becky H Health Concerns (October 28)*

*David Health Concerns (November 18)*

*Becky W Health Concerns (November 18)*

*Larry Health Issues (December 16)*

*Helen Health Issues (January 14)*

*Stephen Health Concerns (February 27)*

*Jennifer Health Concerns (February 27)*

*Otto Health Concerns (April 23)*

*Fran Health Concerns (April 23)*

*Tammy Daughter’s death (May 21)*

***Prayers the victims of the terror attack in Colorado.***

***Please pray for Border Patrol Servants***

***Please pray for the people of Haiti, Ukraine, Israel and Palestine.***

***Please pray for the people of the Sudan.***

***Please pray for the Homeless.***

***Please pray for legal & illegal immigrants & those seeking asylum or citizenship.***