

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, Kelowna – “At Home”

Sunday, May 31, 2020 - Day of Pentecost, Year A

Introduction - 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.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the leader begins.)

**Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are raised with him to new life.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
(Water may be poured into a specially chosen bowl as we give thanks ☺)

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning you created us in your image
and planted us in a well-watered garden.
In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched,
and you gave us water from the rock.
When we did not know the way,
you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.
At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side,
and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.
We praise you for your salvation through water,
for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere.
Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.
Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.
To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

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.**

Readings and Psalm

Acts 2:1-21 - *Filled with the Spirit to tell God's deeds*

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b - Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. *(Ps. 104:30)*

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 - *Varieties of gifts from the same Spirit*

John 20:19-23 - *The Spirit poured out*

Gospel Acclamation - *Alleluia.* Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts | of your faithful,* and kindle in us the fire | of your love. *Alleluia.*

Sermon/Reflection – choose one of the texts for today...read it over...notice your reaction...read it a second time...ask yourself, “How is God speaking to me today?” “Where is God leading me?”

Prayers – We offer prayers for the world, for creation, for those in leadership and authority, for community and faith, for those who are ill and troubled in any way, for those we name before God either silently or aloud.

The Lord’s Prayer: Our Father in heaven...

Offering Prayer - Merciful God, our ordinary gifts seem small for such a celebration, but you make of them an abundance, just as you do with our lives, strengthening us for service in your name, in the strength of the risen Christ. **Amen.**

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

Dismissal

Receive the Holy Spirit, Alleluia!

Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Sunday, June 7, 2020 - The Holy Trinity, Year A

Introduction - Though the word *trinity* is not found in the scriptures, today’s second reading includes the apostolic greeting that begins the liturgy: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. In the gospel Jesus sends his disciples forth to baptize in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. More than a doctrine, the Trinity expresses the heart of our faith: we have experienced the God of creation made known in Jesus Christ and with us always through the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity in word and sacrament, as we profess the creed, and as we are sent into the world to bear witness to our faith.

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. **Amen.**

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Reconciling God,

**we confess that we do not trust your abundance,
and we deny your presence in our lives.**

**We place our hope in ourselves
and rely on our own efforts.**

We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.

We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.

**We fear difference and do not welcome others
as you have welcomed us.**

We sin in thought, word, and deed.

**By your grace, forgive us;
through your love, renew us;
and in your Spirit, lead us;
so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day - God of heaven and earth, before the foundation of the universe and the beginning of time you are the triune God: Author of creation, eternal Word of salvation, life-giving Spirit of wisdom. Guide us to all truth by your Spirit, that we may proclaim all that Christ has revealed and rejoice in the glory he shares with us. Glory and praise to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Readings and Psalm

Genesis 1:1--2:4a - *The creation of the heavens and the earth*

Psalm 8 - How majestic is your name in all the earth! (*Ps. 8:1*)

2 Corinthians 13:11-13 - *Paul's farewell to the church at Corinth*

Matthew 28:16-20 - *Living in the community of the Trinity*

Gospel Acclamation - *Alleluia.* Holy, holy, holy is the | Lord of hosts;* God's glory fills | the whole earth. *Alleluia.* (*Isa. 6:3*)

Sermon/Reflection – choose one of the texts for today...read it over...notice your reaction...read it a second time...ask yourself, "How is God speaking to me today?" "Where is God leading me?"

Prayers – We offer prayers for the world, for creation, for those in leadership and authority, for community and faith, for those who are ill and troubled in any way, for those we name before God either silently or aloud.

The Lord's Prayer: Our Father in heaven...

Offering Prayer - God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Water and word, wine and bread: signs of your abundant grace. Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. **Amen.**

Blessing - Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. God, the creator, Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love. **Amen.**

Dismissal - Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God!**

Sunday, June 14, 2020 - Lectionary 11, Year A

Introduction - Moses tells the Israelites that they are called to be a priestly kingdom and a holy people. Jesus sends out the disciples as laborers into the harvest. In baptism we too are anointed for ministry, sharing God's compassion with our needy world. From the Lord's table we go forth to proclaim the good news, to heal the sick, and to share our bread with the hungry.

Prayer of the Day - God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**
Confession and Forgiveness OR Thanksgiving for Baptism (both optional)

Readings and Psalm

Exodus 19:2-8a - *The covenant with Israel at Sinai*

Psalm 100 - We are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture. (*Ps. 100:3*)

Romans 5:1-8 - *While we were sinners, Christ died for us*

Matthew 9:35--10:8 [9-23] - *The sending of the Twelve*

Gospel Acclamation - *Alleluia.* The kingdom of God | has come near;* repent, and believe in | the good news. *Alleluia.* (*Mark 1:15*)

Sermon/Reflection – choose one of the texts for today...read it over...notice your reaction...read it a second time...ask yourself, "How is God speaking to me today?" "Where is God leading me?"

Prayers – We offer prayers for the world, for creation, for those in leadership and authority, for community and faith, for those who are ill and troubled in any way, for those we name before God either silently or aloud.

The Lord's Prayer: Our Father in heaven...

Offering Prayer - God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Water and word, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. **Amen.**

Blessing - Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. God, the creator, Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love. **Amen.**

Dismissal - Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God!**

Sunday, June 21, 2020 - Lectionary 12, Year A

Introduction - God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.

Thanksgiving for Baptism or Confession and Forgiveness – (Optional)

Prayer of the Day - Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Readings and Psalm

Jeremiah 20:7-13 - *The prophet must speak despite opposition*

Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18 - Answer me, O Lord, for your love is kind. (Ps. 69:16)

Romans 6:1b-11 - *Buried and raised with Christ by baptism*

Matthew 10:24-39 - *The cost of discipleship*

Gospel Acclamation - *Alleluia.* Jesus says, The Spirit of the Lord will testify on | my behalf,* and you also | are to testify. *Alleluia.* (John 15:26, 27)

Sermon/Reflection – choose one of the texts for today...read it over...notice your reaction...read it a second time...ask yourself, "How is God speaking to me today?" "Where is God leading me?"

Prayers – We offer prayers for the world, for creation, for those in leadership and authority, for community and faith, for those who are ill and troubled in any way, for those we name before God either silently or aloud.

The Lord's Prayer: Our Father in heaven...

Offering Prayer - God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Water and word, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. **Amen.**

Blessing - Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. God, the creator, Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love. **Amen.**

Dismissal - Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God!**