



Pentecost

Sunday, May 23, 2021

*An asterisk * invites you to stand in body or in Spirit.
For in-person worshippers, you are invited to listen
as the Cantor sings the music.*

Gathering in God's Presence

Prelude — “Spirit in the Wind”

Setting by Lee J. Afdahl
Handbell Choir

Pentecost Call to Worship

We are an Easter people, living in a season of light
We know that Christ is raised and calls us to be full of life.

We are called once again to be people of Pentecost.
We are called to live lives ignited by the power of the Spirit.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful,
and kindle in us the fire of your love.

Come, Holy Spirit of God. Enliven our worship,
that our prayers and our singing will energize our living and our loving.

Gathering Hymn —

“Faithful God, You Sent Your Spirit”
Sung to the tune NETTLETON

Faithful God, you sent your Spirit
Long ago at Pentecost.
You gave life and said to share it,
All as one, beneath your cross.
May we see your wondrous blessing
When your people everywhere
Work together, all confessing
Faith that binds us, faith to share.

God of hope, you daily nurture
Those who seek to follow you.
You're not bound by any culture;
You love rich and poor ones, too.
In an ever-changing nation,
May your churches welcome in
Every child of your creation,
Giving hope to all again.

God of love, may we in worship
Welcome our diversity.
May we reach in trust and friendship
To the poor and refugee.
May we see Christ in the stranger,
Breaking bonds of hate and fear.
By your Spirit, may we offer
Glimpses of your kingdom here.

Welcome & Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Sustaining God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Hearing & Responding to Scripture

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles — Acts 2:1-21

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.”

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷‘In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.

¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,

before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.

²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’”

Psalm Interpretation

“Your Works Are Amazing” based on Psalm 104, *online only*

From *Spark Story Bible Psalm Book: Prayers and Poems for Kids*

A Reading from the Epistles — Romans 8:22-27

22We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; 23and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. 24For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? 25But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

26Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. 27And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation —

“Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ”

Setting by Anne Krentz Organ, handbell reflection

*Gospel — John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15

The Gospel of John, the 15th chapter.

Glory to you, O God.

[Jesus said,] 26“When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. 27You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

16:4b“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. 5But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ 6But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. 7Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. 8And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: 9about sin, because they do not believe in me; 10about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; 11about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

12“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. 14He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. 15All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon — “The Holy Spirit: A First-Hand Experience”

Interim Pastor Bill Nelsen



- 1 Lov - ing Spir-it, lov - ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—
- 2 Like a moth-er you en - fold me, hold my life with - in your own,
- 3 Like a fa - ther you pro - tect me, teach me the dis - cern - ing eye,
- 4 Friend and lov - er, in your close-ness I am known and held and blessed:
- 5 Lov - ing Spir-it, lov - ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—



you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.
 feed me with your ver - y bod - y, form me of your flesh and bone.
 hoist me up up - on your shoul - der, let me see the world from high.
 in your prom - ise is my com - fort, in your pres-ence I may rest.
 you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931

Music: RESTORATION, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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*Affirmation of Faith — Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the power of the Holy
 Spirit,
 born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the
 dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen**

Prayers of Intercession

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

Gracious God, you give the Holy Spirit to your church, filling it with many and varied gifts. In the church throughout the world, strengthen us in our visioning and dreaming, that it may discover anew the Spirit's creative work. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of life, your mighty works are too numerous to count. The earth is full of your creatures, living things both great and small. Open your hand and give them the necessities of this life. Send your fresh Spirit over the face of the earth. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of the nations, at the sound of the rushing wind, people speaking different languages proclaimed and heard together your deeds of power. Fill the leaders of nations with your Holy Spirit, so that they exercise your gracious will in the lives of people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of faithfulness, you tend to the needs of your people, even the sighs of our hearts. Hear those who cry out to you in distress. Restore to wholeness all who are in any need this day. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of love, fill First Lutheran Church with gratitude for the gifts we have received from you. Renew our ministries, heal our divisions, and open us to the needs of our neighbors. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of hope, those who have died in you raise their eternal song of praise. We give you thanks for the many gifts of your people and rejoice in the witness of your saints. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Theodore Larson Award —

Recognition of Newest and Former Recipients of the award for Dedication and Service in Christian Education
Cindy Nadeau, Chair, Lifelong Learning Committee

Offering

Please remember to give financially to support our ministry.

You can write a check and mail it to the church office or give online at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=283920>.

Departing to Serve God's World

Announcements

Benediction

As you go forth from this place, may the wind of the Spirit startle your senses and blow through your life; may the fire of the Spirit scorch your complacency and light your way. And may the blessing of the Holy One—Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer—rest with you now and forever more. Amen.

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed.

Go in peace. Experience the Holy Spirit in your life. Serve the Lord. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!



1 God of tem - pest, God of whirl - wind, as on Pen - te -
2 God of blaz - ing, God of burn - ing, all that blocks your
3 God of earth - quake, God of thun - der, shake us loose from
4 God of pas - sion, God un - sleep - ing, stir in us love's



cost de - scend! Drive us out from shel - tered com - fort;
pur - pose, purge! Through your church, Christ's liv - ing Bod - y,
leth - ar - gy! Break the chains of sin a - sun - der,
rest - less - ness! Where the peo - ple cry in an - guish,



past these walls your peo - ple send! Sweep us in - to cost - ly ser - vice,
let your flam - ing Spir - it surge! Where de - ceit con - ceals in - jus - tice,
for earth's heal - ing set us free! Crum - ble walls that still di - vide us;
may we share your heart's dis - tress. Rouse us from con - tent with e - vil;



there with Christ to bear the cross, there with Christ to bear the cross!
kin - dle us to speak your truth, kin - dle us to speak your truth!
make us one in Christ our Lord, make us one in Christ our Lord!
claim us for your king - dom's work, claim us for your king - dom's work!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007
Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932
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Online Assistants

Pastor/Presider: Pastor Bill Nelsen
Director of Music: Cantor Emily Bruflat
Lector/Assistant: Kim and Katie Bovee
Psalm reader: Ivy McHugh
FLC Handbell Choir

In Person Assistants

Pastor/Presider: Pastor Bill Nelsen
Director of Music: Cantor Emily Bruflat
Greeter/Reader: Dan Polzin
Ushers: Kim Bovee, Tom Thorkelson
FLC Handbell Choir

Language Readings (online, created in 2020)

Vera Berglund, Spanish
James Dontje, Indonesian & Moore (West African)
Audrey Dontje Lindell, French
David Fienen, German
Patricia Freiart, Latin
Will Freiart, Greek
Jos Hajos, Hungarian
Margaretha Kramer, Dutch
Laura Lindell, Swahili
Dan Polzin, English
Annalise Rivas, Russian

Language Readings (in person)

David Fienen, German
Patricia Freiart, Latin
Will Freiart, Greek
Dan Polzin, English
Annalise Rivas, Russian

Announcements

Call Committee Selected!

- Congratulations to the Call Committee, approved by the council to select our next pastor:
 - Mark Roemhildt, Izzy Avant, Kaari Bly, Aileen Bipes, Michelle Doose, Garrett Paul, and Dawn Wenner

Bible Study with Garrett Paul

- A study of Isaiah begins Monday, June 7 at 9:30 AM.
- The study will continue weekly on Mondays at 9:30AM in the conference room at the church.

Prayer Chain Getting A Fresh Start

- Inreach/Outreach Committee invites members to become part of a prayer chain.
- We will also offer a brief training for prayer chain volunteers.
- Please contact Amy Pehrson at amyrpehrson@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer on our prayer chain team.

Prayer Concerns

- We are called to remember Tom Johnson, Tom Michels, Dick Muesing, Abigail Christenson, Betty Gustafson, Elgene Lund, Tom Stenson, Chuck Petry, Paul Aasen, Bob Cady, Marion Peterson, Joan Williams, Myrene Bunge, Urusla McRostie, and one another in prayer.
- We lift-up prayers of healing for all others in our personal prayers this week including Amy Ronnkvist's mother, Kathy Matthews.
- We also pray for all the families who mourn the loss of loved ones, including the family of Cole Turriffin and the family of Barbara Ylinen, whose services were held this weekend.