May 24, 2026 ☩

Pentecost Sunday

We welcome you to First Lutheran Church!

"God's Work. Our Hands. To serve ALL people."

An asterisk * invites you to stand in body or in spirit, and you are invited to read aloud responses found in **bold.**

P: Indicates the Presider. AM: Indicates the Assisting Minister.

We Gather

Prelude - "Holy Spirit, Rain Down" setting, Lynette Maynard

Words of Welcome

***Gathering Hymn** - "Holy Spirit Rain Down" Russell Fragar

*__Thanksgiving for Baptism__

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!** Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb! **Amen.** Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you. **You guide us to springs of the water of life.** Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you. **You guide us to springs of the water of life.** Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you. **You guide us to springs of the water of life.** Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever. **Amen.**

***Apostolic Greeting** P**:** 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** – page 184, *ELW Setting Eight*
***Hymn of Praise** - page 185, *from ELW Setting Eight*

***Prayer of the Day** -

P: 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.**

We Listen to God's Word

First Reading: Acts 2:1-21

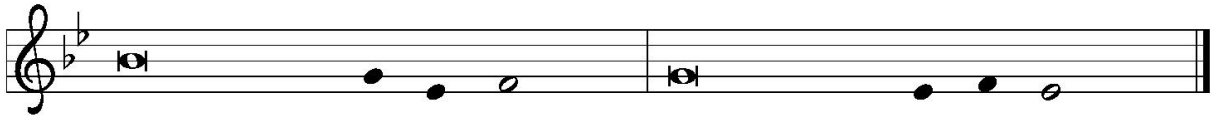
1 When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. 2 And
suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire
house where they were sitting. 3 Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue
rested on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other
languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.
5 Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. 6 And at
this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in
the native language of each. 7 Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are
speaking Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native
language? 9 Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia,
Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene,
and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages
we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." 12 All were amazed and perplexed, saying to
one another, "What does this mean?" 13 But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new
wine."

14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and
all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. 15 Indeed, these are
not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. 16 No, 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.
18 Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit,
and they shall prophesy.
19 And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.
20 The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.
21 Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'"

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm - *the psalm will be sung responsively by whole verse* Ps 104:24-34, 35b



24 How manifold are your | works, O LORD!
In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full | of your creatures.
25 Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too man- | y to number,
living things both | small and great.
26 There go the ships | to and fro,
and Leviathan, which you made for the | sport of it.
27 All of them | look to you
to give them their food | in due season.
28 You 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.
30 You 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.
32 You 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.
34 **May these words of | mine please God.**
I will rejoice | in the LORD.
35b Bless the LORD, | O my soul.
Hal- | lelujah!

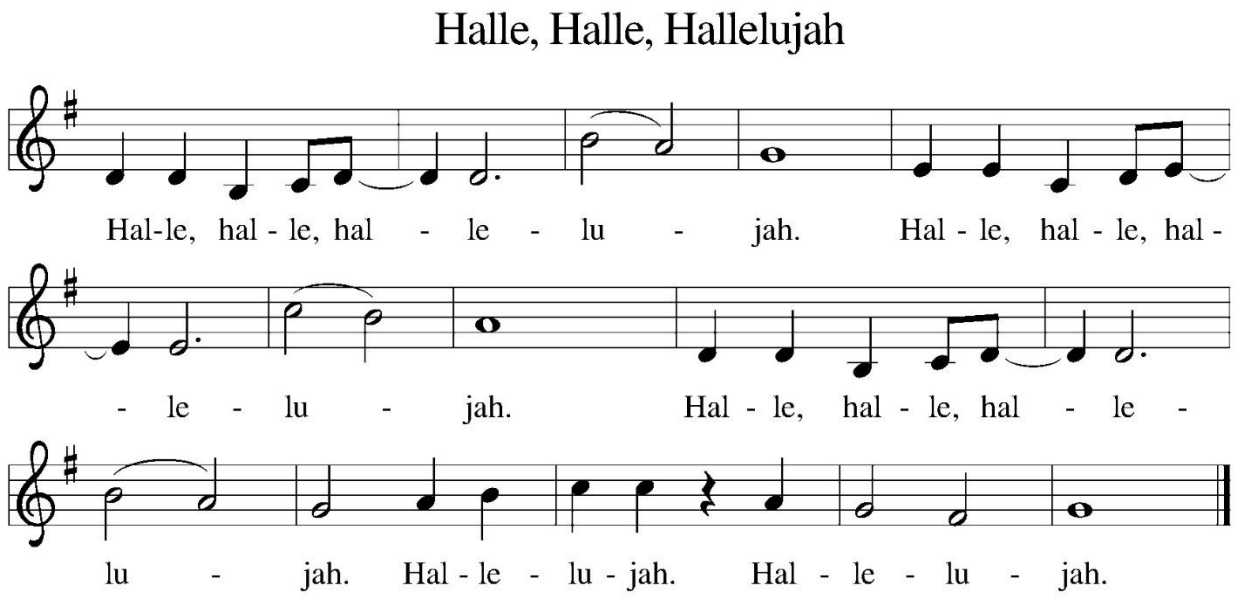
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12: 3b-13

3b No one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

4 Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, 5 and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, 6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. 7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 8 To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10 to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation** – ELW 172 "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah"

***Gospel:** John 20: 19-23

The Gospel of John, the 20th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where
the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be
with you." 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples
rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father
has sent me, so I send you." 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them,
"Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the
sins of any, they are retained. "

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon – Pastor Chris Culuris

***Hymn** – see insert "Send Down the Fire"

***The Nicene Creed** –
Together let us profess our faith:

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__
AM: Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation. *After each petition*: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

AM: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

*__Sign of Peace__ P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**
Please offer one another some sign of Christ's peace.

Offering – For electronic giving please scan the QR on acknowledgement page and ***Thank you!***

Offering music – "Spirit, Open my Heart" setting, James Biery

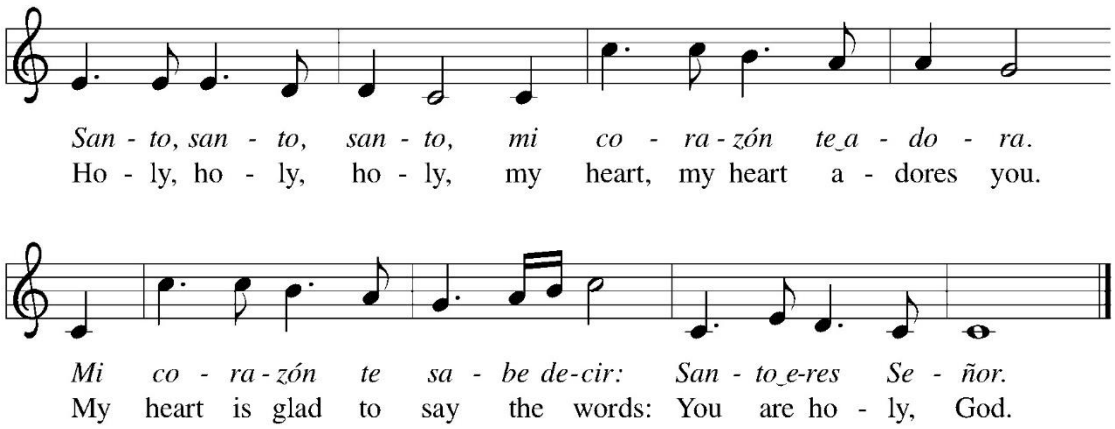
*__Offering Prayer__

AM: Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

We Share God's Holy Meal

*__Great Thanksgiving and Preface__ – page 152, *ELW Setting Four*

*Holy, Holy, Holy – **"Santo, Santo, Santo"**



***Words of Institution** – page 111, *from ELW Setting One*

***The 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 the Table** – P: Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

Distribution of Communion - *we will be serving communion continuously today.*

Hymn - no. 195 "Lamb of God"
Hymn – no. 786 "O Holy Spirit, Enter In"
Hymn - no. 627 "O Day Full of Grace"

Prayer After Communion

P: Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

We Go in Peace

Announcements

*__Sending Hymn__ – no. 400 "God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind"

*__Blessing & Dismissal__

P: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

AM: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

*__Postlude__ – "Wie Schon Leuchtet" setting, Charles Callahan

In Worship Today
Pastor: Chris Culuris
Organist: Brenda Handel-Johnson
Assisting Minister: John Bipes
Flute: Becca Carpenter
Cello: Lori Smart

Ushers: Tom Thorkelson
Communion Preparers: Susan Paul
Communion Servers: Annalise Rivas, Dave Kennedy
Readers/Linguists: Gordon Long, Garrett Paul, Annalise Rivas, Pr. Chris Culuris

Tech: Brett Petersen
Bread Baker: Mary Long

Prayers: We pray for those on our long-term list: Joan Williams, Betty Gustafson, Paul Aasen, Shirley Storkson, Lenore Schnobrich, Gloria Kane, Harvey Kane, Karen Handel, Erika Schuldt, Ruth Edberg, Bob Lamb, Dorothy and Paul Lutz, Steve Erickson, Barbra Grabowski (Ted Kunze's sister), Garrett Paul, Mary Ann Scharf, David Ribar, Nate Tuener (family friend of Bob and Rhoda Stenson), Leah Crosby and baby (niece of Aileen Bipes).

- Ann Friederichs died on May 18. Please pray for her family and friends.

Acknowledgments

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FLC Refrigerator Page

Worship, Education and Service:

- **Fellowship** servers are Carolyn Trnka and Nancy Timm from the Fellowship Committee. Join us after service today.
- **Flowers** at the altar are in memory of Elgene Lund on her 102nd birthday given by her children.
- **The church office** will be closed tomorrow in observance of Memorial Day.
- **From the Green Committee:** we have resumed collecting plastic in the entry way. Also, please consider donating produce from your personal gardens to the SPFS.
- We are looking for a new **Director of Choirs and Handbells**. Sarah Chambers did a great job conducting FLC choirs but is unable to continue due to her teaching load. So, if you are interested in applying for this position to lead Youth and Adult Choirs, or Handbells, please contact Kaari Bly, Pastor Chris, or Deacon Brenda.
- **Rental Assistance:** The need for emergency funds continues as many of our immigrant neighbors have not returned to work or are working part-time hours. If you would like to contribute, you can leave a check (to Good Neighbor Diversity Council," emergency fund" in memo line) or cash in an envelope marked "rental assistance" and all money collected will be dispersed through the Good Neighbor Diversity Council's Emergency Fund.

Events at FLC and around the area:

- **Summer Hike or Bike dates are on the last Wednesday of each month.** May 27, 6:30-7:30 pm is Hiking night. We start and end at FLC and will enjoy roasting marshmallows over our new stove. Wear your walking shoes and bring a friend.
- **Festival of Nations:** Sat., May 30, from noon until 5pm on the Nicollet County Fairgrounds.
- **Summer of Service:** The last Sunday of each summer month will give everyone an opportunity to serve our neighbors. On May 31, following worship, we will be packing pet food for the St Peter Area Food Shelf. Everything will be provided – just bring your willing hands and spirits.
- **Habitat for Humanity** South Central MN is holding its second annual BikeBuildHome500 Bike ride in mid-July this year. You can financially support two FLC riders – Keith Stelter or Deacon Brenda by writing Checks can be made out to Habitat for Humanity South Central MN with the rider's name in the memo line.
- **Adult BWCA** trip is slated for June 28th- July 2 if interested, call Mark Szybnski at 507-380-9180 or email him at markszybnski@gmail.com
- On Sunday, June 7th the Social Justice committee will coordinate a **spring cleanup at the Union Street Shelter in St. Peter**. After worship on the 7th, we travel to Union Shelter to clean out gutters, plant flowers, and complete other outdoor cleanup projects. Bring work gloves, tall ladders, trowels, rakes, tarps, clippers and other tools for yard cleanup. Contact Mary Spear (507-317-1817) if you can help.
- **Saint Peter 2050 Comprehensive Plan – Community Survey**
  The City of Saint Peter has begun work on its 2050 Comprehensive Plan, which will guide community growth, development, and investment over the next 20 years. Residents are invited to share their ideas by completing a short survey at:
  https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SP2050COMPPLAN
  Paper copies are also available at City Hall (227 S Front St).