

Dear friends in Christ,

On this last Sunday in May we celebrate the Day of Pentecost! During these uncertain times, we continue to hold up in prayer all essential workers on the front lines including funeral directors, all those effected with COVID, those who lost loved ones, etc.



As you know, we are in a somewhat fluid time with announced changes in guidelines related to houses of worship. We will keep you posted as to any developments related to Holy Trinity. In the meantime, please know that what we are doing as church is "essential" and that the gospel is still being spread.

The service follows below with links for music and the sermon within the service. May the Holy Spirit fill you and your loved ones with patience, peace and wellness.

Pastor John

# Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

## The Day of Pentecost

May 31, 2020



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.

### **GREETING**

The grace of our risen Savior, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always. **And also with you.**

### **GATHERING SONG: *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms***

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qaKrYekopAU&list=OLAK5uy\\_nYKOnHcKsdcnYaLQ90b8eqNHd4oYYlkv0&index=16&t=0s&app=desktop](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qaKrYekopAU&list=OLAK5uy_nYKOnHcKsdcnYaLQ90b8eqNHd4oYYlkv0&index=16&t=0s&app=desktop)

### **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**

#### **Acts 2:1-21**

*Pentecost was a Jewish harvest festival that marked the fiftieth day after Passover. Luke portrays the Holy Spirit being poured out upon the disciples before the gathered and astonished people assembled in Jerusalem for the festival. Filled with the Spirit, the disciples were able to witness to the power of Christ's resurrection.*



<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup>Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup>Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup>Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." <sup>12</sup>All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup>But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

<sup>14</sup>But 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. <sup>15</sup>Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup>No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup>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.

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

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

<sup>20</sup>The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

<sup>21</sup>Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'"

## **Psalm 104:24-34, 35b** **1 Corinthians 12:3 -13b**

### **John 20:19-23**

*The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and

stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

### **SERMON: HOW CAN WE UNDERSTAND THE SPIRIT?**

<https://youtu.be/vL4xGdUfFtM>

### **HYMN: *As the Deer Longs for Running Streams***

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mk3uG50Oz0>

"As the Deer" is a well-loved praise and worship song written by Martin Nystrom in 1981. A graduate of Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Nystrom composed the song during a difficult time in his life, a "spiritual desert" of sorts. One day, in the midst of his pain and heartbreak, he found himself at a piano simply playing chord progressions. Then he noticed a Bible on the music stand open to Psalm 42. His eyes fell on the first verse of the chapter, and he began to sing its message right off the page!

Nystrom wrote the first verse and chorus of the song, practically straight through. Paraphrasing the first verse of Psalm 42:1...

***"And a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God."***

Psalm 42:1 (NRSV)

### **NICENE CREED**

With the whole church, let us confess 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**

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

We call on your spirit of unity, giving thanks for our different vocations. Activate and utilize the diverse gifts present in your church, that they reveal your love for all. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We call on your spirit of life, present in air, wind, humidity, storms, and oxygen in our atmosphere, breathing energy into all things. Heal with your breath the whole creation, especially those who struggle to breathe due to air pollution. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We call on your spirit of righteousness. Wherever we as a people are divided, unite us. Wherever we are prideful, humble us. Give each one of us a heart for justice and empathy. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We call on your spirit of healing. Bless nurses, doctors, midwives, chaplains, counselors, hospice workers, and all medical personnel as they care for those in need including those with COVID 19. We pray for all who long for comfort, all in need, including those on our parish prayer list. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We call on your spirit of friendship. As Elizabeth welcomed Mary to her home, give us a spirit of welcome to those whom we meet in this congregation and outside these doors. Surprise us daily with unexpected grace, that we rejoice in every blessing you send.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We call on your spirit of hope. As you have led your saints in all times and places, stir in us the desire to follow their example, leading us from death to new life in you. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your Kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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.**

## **BENEDICTION**

[https://youtu.be/QgePJFvj1\\_M](https://youtu.be/QgePJFvj1_M)

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace. **Amen. *Lean on Me***

## **SENDING SONG: *Lean on Me***

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2YapAxPfRyl&list=TLPQMjcwNTlwMjDD1Cn99Km0rQ&index=2>

## **DISMISSAL**

Christ is risen, just as he said. Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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We are praying for the following:

Dawne        Bev            John C.

Jean         John            Judi

Robert      Mary Ellen    Toby

Candy       Dick            Leo

John Jr.     Bobby          Ron

Dennis      Kathy E.      Alex

Tim          Pat             Melissa

Phyllis     Carol          family of Lois

Michelle    Bob            Zion Lutheran Church, Barnegat Light

Cody        Irene

Ann         Emit

Lynn        Alice

Dot         Sandy

