Day of Pentecost

Affirmation of Baptism

May 23, 2021, 11:30 am



Saint Luke Lutheran Church and School 9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD

www.saintluke.us | 301-588-4363

Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Crossing all boundaries that would separate us, the Spirit brings the wideness of God's mercy to places we least expect it—to a crowd of strangers of different lands and tongues, to dry bones, to our weak hearts. Jesus promises his disciples that they will be accompanied by the Holy Spirit, and that this Spirit reveals the truth. We celebrate that we too have been visited with this same Spirit. Guided by the truth, we join together in worship, and then disperse to share the fullness of Christ's love with the world.



Gathering

Prelude

Improvisation on 'Veni Creator Spiritus'

Welcome

Thanksgiving for Baptism

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

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy. We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers. Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life. Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life. To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever. **Amen.**

John Cook (1918-1984)



Text: Bianco da Siena, d. 1434; tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1833–1890 Music: DOWN AMPNEY, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958 Music from *The English Hymnal*, outside the USA © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

Greeting

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever.

There is one body and one Spirit; There is one hope in God's call to us;

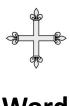
One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism; **One God and Father of all.**

Blessed be God who sustains and protects God's holy Church. And blessed be God who guides and confirms us in our faith. Amen. Alleluia! 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.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Mighty 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.**



First Reading

Acts 2:1-21

Originally Pentecost was a Jewish thanksgiving-type festival celebrated seven weeks after Passover. On this particular Pentecost, however, the Holy Spirit is poured out upon the entire community of believers just as Jesus had promised and the scriptures had prophesied. Empowered by the Spirit, the entire community bears witness to God's activity in multiple languages.

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

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

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. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

'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.

Even upon my slaves, both men and women,

in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'"

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

Romans 8:22-27

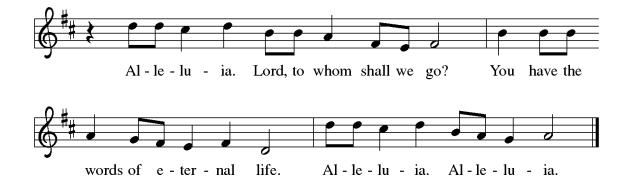
By pouring the Holy Spirit into our hearts, God gives us the promised first fruit of eternal life so that we await God's future in hope. In the meantime, the Spirit also intercedes for us by carrying the prayers of our weak human hearts to God.

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and 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. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Likewise 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. And 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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the fifteenth and sixteenth chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

While speaking to his disciples before his death, Jesus refers to the Holy Spirit as "the Helper" and describes the difference the Spirit will make in their lives and in the world.

[[Jesus said,] "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. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

"I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless 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. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When 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. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All 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

Pastor Zawistoski



Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell Text and music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell.Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Affirmation of Baptism—Confirmation Presentation

I present the following persons, who desire to make public profession of their faith and assume greater responsibility in the life of our Christian community and its mission in the world:

Charlize Cameron Allen-Myers Finn G. Brauer Eloise Bartlett Carter Richard Waddell Cobbs Diana Grace Kirk

Navek Rao Leonard Nathan Donald Moore Leslie Ann Spenser Bennett Lancaster Webb

Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for these persons whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

Individual Statements of Faith

Charlize Cameron Allen-Myers Philippians 2:5-7 Let the same mind be in you that was in Jesus Christ, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

Finn G. Brauer I John 4:20-21 *Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.*

Eloise Bartlett Carter Lamentations 3:22 *Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail.*

Richard Waddell Cobbs Proverbs 17:17 *A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.*

Diana Grace Kirk Joshua 1:9 *I hereby command you : Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed for the Lord your God is with you wherever you are.*

Navek Rao Leonard Micah 6:8 *He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.*

Nathan Donald Moore I John 4:7-8 *Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.*

Leslie Ann Spenser Psalm 17:8 Guide me as the apple of the eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings.

Bennett Lancaster Webb Revelation 3:20 *Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me.*

Profession of Faith

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? *I renounce them.*

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? *I renounce them.*

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? *I renounce them.*

Do you believe in God the Father? I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by 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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit? 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.

Affirmation In the Presence Of the Assembly

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The minister addresses the assembly: People of God, do you promise to support these persons and pray for them in their life in Christ? We do and we ask God to help and guide us.

Prayer

Let us pray. We give you thanks O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. **Amen.**

Parents lays hands on the head of Confirmand while a pastor speaks the prayer: Father in heaven, for Jesus sake, stir up in [name] the gift of your Holy Spirit confirm his/her/their faith, guide his/her/their life, empower him/her/them in his/her/their serving, give him/her/them patience in suffering, and bring him/her/them to everlasting life. Each person answers: *Amen*

Each Confirmand receives an Affirmation of Baptism candle, hearing the words spoken by their parents, words each Confirmand heard declared at their baptism, "[Name] let your light so shine before others."

Prayers of Intercession

Trusting the Spirit's power, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

After each portion of the prayers: Life-giving God, Send us your Spirit.

The prayers conclude:

Receive these prayers, gracious God, and those prayers known only to you. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Peace

The risen Christ stood among the disciples and said, "Peace be with you." The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**



Thanksgiving

Offering

We invite you to give your offering online at <u>saintlukegive.us</u> or on the Give Plus app. You may also mail your checks to:

> Saint Luke Lutheran Church 9100 Colesville Road Silver Spring, MD 20910

Music at the Offering Komm, Gott Schöpfer, heiliger Geist (Come, God Creator, Holy Ghost)

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Everlasting God, the whole universe sings a new song of praise; the rivers clap their hands, the hills ring out for joy. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, we offer to you these gifts, signs of your love you have first given us. Use these gifts and each of us to raise our voices and cry out for justice, proclaiming resurrection joy wherever your Spirit leads us. In Jesus' name we boldly pray. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Please pray in your own preferred language. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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. Padre Nuestro Que estas en los cielos Santificado sea tu Nombre Venga a nosostros tu Reino Hagase tu voluntad asi en la tierra como en el cielo Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada dia Perdona nuestras ofensas Como nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden Y no nos dejes caer en la tentacion mas libranos del mal Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder y la Gloria Por los siglos de los siglos. Amen

Sending

Blessing

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father, ✤ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen.

Sending Hymn

ELW 582



Text: Timothy Rees, 1874–1939, alt.

Music: IN BABILONE, Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse Boerenlities en Contradansen, 1710

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia! Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia! Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

Toccata on "Veni Creator"

Kenneth Lowenberg (b. 1939)

WORSHIP LEADERS

PRESIDING MINISTER The Rev. Connie A. Miller, *Senior Pastor*

PREACHING PASTOR The Rev. Rich Zawistoski, *Confirmation Pastor*

ASSISTING MINISTER The Rev. Franklin Morales, *Associate Pastor*

PRESENTER Melissa Groen, Director of Children's Ministries, Administrative Assistant, Confirmation Program

MUSICIAN Dr. Alain Truche, *Director of Music and Organist*

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR today are given by several people in honor of Confirmands and all who make the Confirmation Program possible.

By the Brauer family, especially in honor of Finn who is confirmed, "Finn, we are very proud of you as you take the next step in your journey of faith. Love mom and dad."

By the Webb family, in celebration of the growth of our Saint Luke Confirmands and the support of the congregation, and in honor of all those who've dedicated their time to Christian Education.

By Pastor Zawistoski and Pastor Miller in thanksgiving the privilege of seeing our Confirmands grow in faith, and the joy that is yet to come in their lives, and in thanksgiving for all the teachers and staff, and prayers of the congregation, making this part of Faith Formation possible

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