

Sunday of Pentecost

June 5, 2022

Introduction to the Day

On Pentecost, we celebrate that we have been given an Advocate to accompany us. Poured out in wind and fire, water, wine, and bread, the Holy Spirit abides in and among us. We give thanks that God speaks to each of us, no matter our origins, language, or life path. Filled with the Spirit of truth, we go out from worship to proclaim the saving power of Christ's love and the freedom of God's grace with all the world.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

In the waters of baptism,
we have passed over from death to life with Jesus
Christ,
and we are a new creation.

For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us
bless God,

who was, who is, and who is to come.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding
minister gives thanks.*

We thank you, God, for your river of life,
flowing freely from your throne:

through the earth,

through the city,

through every living thing.

You rescued Noah and his family from the flood;

You opened wide the sea for the Israelites.

Now in these waters you flood us with mercy,
and our sin is drowned forever.

You open the gate of righteousness
and we pass safely through.

In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters.

You nourish us and enclose us in safety.

You call us forth and send us out.

In lush and barren places, you are with us.

You have become our salvation.

Now breathe upon this water
and awaken your church once more.

Claim us again as your beloved and holy people.

Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away
every tear.

To you, our Beginning and our End,
our Shepherd and Lamb,

be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving,
now and forever.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn "Spirit of Gentleness"

#396, vs. 1,2

Greeting – The Grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

God our creator, the resurrection of your Son offers life to all the peoples of earth. By your Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love, empowering our lives for service and our tongues for praise, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Reading: 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.’”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children’s Message

Second Reading: Romans 8:14-17

⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ

Sermon

People of God, grace to you and peace from God, and from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. AMEN.

That weird feeling you have is the realization that we’re at the point in worship where a sermon as preached, and we haven’t heard the Gospel yet.

Can worship really happen if we don’t open our Bibles to one of the Gospels and hear one of the previously selected passages for this day?

The answer is yes.

The short sermon would say, “People of God, you are today’s Gospel lesson. You are the Good News that the world needs this day. You are Christ’s presence in this world.”

The room where those were gathered on that day was filled with difference. It was filled with difference that had found common ground, but, when the difference was exposed, those around them thought they were drunk.

The people in that room had gathered from regions all over. Some were more than 1200 miles away from home, and they'd come together under a common language for ease of communication. And, on that day, that Pentecost, the Spirit entered the room exposing their difference.

But, in doing so the Spirit also exposed that, each in their difference, was speaking of God's deeds of power.

It is important to notice the reaction of those around them who witnessed this. But first, imagine what you're feeling in that moment.

The Spirit fills that room with a sound like that of a mighty rushing wind. The whole house is filled. Tongues of fire accompany the rush of wind and rest one on each of their heads.

The crowd had gathered because they heard this sound. The crowd came rushing in because of this mighty wind that had filled a space. So the crowd knows that something is happening.

But. Upon hearing them each speaking in language native to where they came from, how do they respond?

Some are amazed and perplexed asking what this all means. While others sneered and accuse them of getting into the new wine a bit early.

Peter responds that the prophet Joel said that this would happen, and he knows that this moment is much more than that.

Peter recognizes that this is the Spirit calling them out of their comfort into the prophetic life that God has called them to.

Peter realizes that for God's deeds of power to be made known to the whole world, they're going to need to learn the language of the world and all that they will encounter.

Peter understands, that for God's power to be made known in the world, they're going to need to get out of the room in which they are gathered and go out into the world.

They will need to learn a new language. Yes, they know the simple message of God's love for God's people. But, to make that known is to do more than simply say it. To make it known is to understand that God's idea of being isn't that we all look, speak, and live the same.

People of God, you hearing this today is the Good News, the Gospel, for today. The Gospel text selected for today that we didn't read is actually one we just read two weeks ago.

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you...Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

Jesus send his disciples out into the world filled with the Holy Spirit. He gives them his peace to go out and do God's work among God's people. Bringing a message of hope, peace, and love to all who would hear.

Jesus give us this message today. Go out of your comfort zone into the muck of the world proclaiming God's deeds of power to all who will hear, challenging yourself to learn the language of the other, a language they will understand, a language that will make God's love known to them.

Thanks be to God.

AMEN

Song of the Day "O Day Full of Grace"

#627 vs. 1,3,4

The 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 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.**

Offering

Offertory Prayer

Living God,
you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together
in your peaceable reign,
and you welcome us all at your table.
Reach out to us through this meal,
and show us your wounded and risen body,
that we may be nourished and believe
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

Holy Living One, Holy Moving One, burst open our locked doors, and by your Spirit drive us out into the world proclaiming your mighty deeds. Direct our words and actions, trusting the Advocate abiding in and among us. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Feed and care for creatures that remain hidden to us yet contribute to the vibrancy of your creation. Train us to interact with creation from a place of wonder, awe, and reverence. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Send your Spirit to places where language is a barrier to justice and mercy for those who seek it. Bless the work of translators, interpreters, and teachers. Promote understanding for the sake of those longing for true freedom and peace. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Comfort all who live in constant fear and any who are suffering (*especially for Gena, Peyton, Kathy, Matt, Bob and Joanne, Jim and Sandy, Bob, Joe, Bill and Bonnie, David, Cassie, Keith and JoJo, Sherm and Mary, Frank and Heather, Verna, Bob and Sonja, Irene, Kathy, Val, Jacob*). Remind them that your Spirit has made them your children and that they are never far from your glory. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Guide all bishops, pastors, missionaries, and other ministers of the gospel. Foster our relationships with partner synods and local ministry partners. We pray especially today for the ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi, that our visions and actions are Spirit-led. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Gather your people across regions, nations, and lands. Root our common life in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ, and by your Spirit bind us together with all the saints who have gone before us. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Words of Institution

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

Communion

Prayer

We give you thanks, generous God,
for in this bread and cup
we have tasted the new heaven and earth
where hunger and thirst are no more.
Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection,
that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Blessing

God, the Author of life,
Christ, the living Cornerstone,
and the life-giving Spirit of adoption,
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Song

“Spirit of Gentleness”

#396 vs. 3,4

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

Thanks be to God.