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Day of Pentecost

May 19, 2024 + 10:00 a.m.

Introducing Today's Liturgy

A few years ago, Jim and I discovered streaming series more beautiful and deeply spiritual than we ever imagined: “Call the Midwife.” If you’ve watched it, you will be reminded there are few sounds that capture a groan like birth pangs. It is the guttural desire for the end of the waiting-time — for what has been hoped for. Any who have been present through a live birth, it is difficult to ever forget. It is in equal parts beautiful, stunning, and holy, as well as raw, painful, and horrific.

In our Second Reading Paul writes: “Creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves . . . groan inwardly while we wait for adoption.” We know what has been promised is coming and as in pains of labor we groan for this reality. While we wait, we are given a midwife, a Spirit of God to join us in our waiting for the birth of a new world and a new reality. This gift is given to us this day, the day of Pentecost.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Preservice Music

Welcome

Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness

Trusting in the word of life given in baptism, we are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the ☩Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

St. Paul lists nine fruits of our being made alive through the Spirit. On this Holy Day, we remember the ways in which these fruits of the Spirit have not yet come to full maturity in our lives.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Loving Father:

You have sent the Spirit of love.

We place conditions on our love.

You have sent the Spirit of peace.

We contribute towards conflict and division.

You have sent the Spirit of patience.

We stubbornly push our own opinions.

You have sent the Spirit of kindness.

We neglect the needs of others.

You have sent the Spirit of goodness.

We cause pain by our words and actions.

You have sent the Spirit of faithfulness.

We choose not to remember the promises we make.

You have sent the Spirit of gentleness.

We are aggressive in our attitude towards others.

You have sent the Spirit of self-control.

We are impulsive and hotheaded.

Merciful Father, grace us with your forgiveness
that we may love one another as you love us.

Refresh and renew us with your Spirit,
so that we may be fruitful disciples of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Gathering Song: “Come Down, O Love Divine”

ELW 804

Pentecost Greeting

Alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord fills the world.

Let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God. Alleluia!

With tongues of fire, the Spirit kindles the apostle's zeal.

The Apostles declare in new tongues the wonderful works of God.

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom now and forever.

Alleluia! Come, Holy Spirit!

Fill the hearts of your faithful people with your love. Alleluia!

Hymn of Praise: “This is the Feast”

ELW p. 140

Prayer of the Day

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.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First 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:

¹⁷In 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.

Psalm 104:24-27, 30-34, 35b (*sung responsively*)



²⁴How 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 many to number,
living things both small and great.**

²⁶There 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.**

³⁰You send forth your Spirit, and they are created;
and so you renew the face of the earth.

³¹**May the glory of the LORD endure forever;
O LORD, rejoice in all your works.**

³²You 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.**

³⁴May these words of mine please God.
I will rejoice in the LORD.

^{35b}**Bless the LORD, O my soul.
Hallelujah!**

Second Reading: 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 the mind of the Spirit is, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

ELW p. 142

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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.²⁷ 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. 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 — Pastor Jerry Nuernberger

Brief silence for reflection.

Hymn of the Day: “O Day Full of Grace”

ELW 627

Nicene Creed

In the liberating hope of the resurrection,
we confess the faith into which we were baptized.

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 the Faithful

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.

A brief silence.

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 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, especially those in Ukraine, Gaza and Israel. Restore to wholeness all who are in any need this day, *especially...* 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.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We share the peace of Christ with others.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Presentation of Gifts: "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

ELW 182

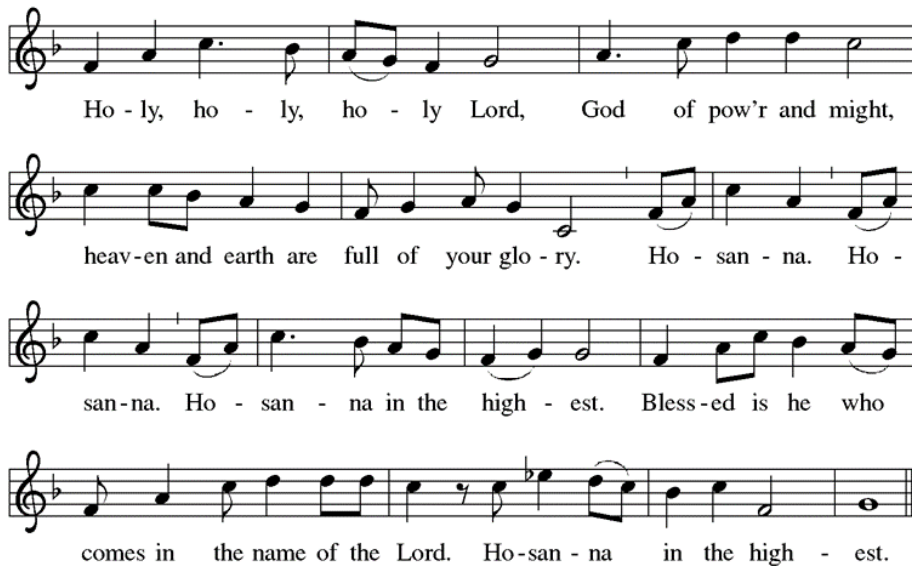
Offering Prayer

God of love,
you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table.
Receive our lives and the gifts we offer.
Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world;
for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

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It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection,
you pour out the fire of your Spirit,
uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue.
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and
join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

With your own hands you shaped the creation
and filled the earth with your wonders.

You breathed into us and we rose from the dust;
and the face of the earth came alive.
From the cloud you spoke to Moses and
through your prophets you promised
to pour out your Spirit on all flesh.
In the wisdom of your time, you sent Jesus the Christ to us,
to speak your words of mercy and peace.

Christ's Words of Institution.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup, we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people. Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

On this Day of Pentecost, with our hearts lifted high,

we offer you thanks and praise,

through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

ELW p. 145

Invitation to Communion

The risen Christ is made known to us

in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table.

Lamb of God

ELW p. 146

Songs of the Lord's Table:

“Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song”

ELW 403

“O Bread of Life from Heaven”

ELW 480

Post Communion Song: “Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise”

ELW 204

Prayer after Communion

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection
you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life,
and the bread of heaven to nourish your people.

Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

May almighty God ✚ bless you,
renewing the risen life of Christ within you,
and bringing forth in you the fruits of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Sending Song: "Every Time I Feel the Spirit"

ACS 942

Refrain

Ev - 'ry time I feel the spir - it mov - ing
in my heart, I will pray. Ev - 'ry time I feel the
spir - it mov - ing in my heart, I will pray.

1 Up - on the moun - tain my Lord spoke,
2 . . . All a - round me looked so fine,
3 . . . Jor - dan riv - er, chilly and cold,

Refrain

out of his mouth came fire and smoke.
asked my Lord if all was mine.
chills the bod - y but not the soul.

Dismissal

Together, we go into the world —

**sharing God's word, serving others, growing in Faith,
practicing stewardship as a way of life.**

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

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We invite you to be seated during the postlude. In the same way that the prelude prepares our hearts for worship, the postlude reflects the day's worship theme, inspiring us to take the light of Christ out into the world.

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