Day of Pentecost May 28, 2023

Red as the tongues of fire is used on this day when we remember the tongues of fire descended on the crowd in Jerusalem.



Lord of Love Lutheran Church (ELCA) 10405 Fort St., Omaha, NE 68134

"Celebrating and sharing God's Love in a welcoming community of faith, while serving others"

Worship 9:00 a.m.
Bold type indicates Congregational responses

Introduction

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.

Prelude

Announcements

Ringing of the Bell

*Gathering Song: "Spirit of Gentleness"...... ELW 396

*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.

*Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring.

In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.

Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation. Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever. **Amen.**

*Kyrie

P: Let us pray to God with peace in our hearts:

God of love, have mercy.

For the peace from above, let us pray to our God:

God of love, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, for the health of the church, and for the unity of all people, let us pray to our God:

God of love, have mercy.

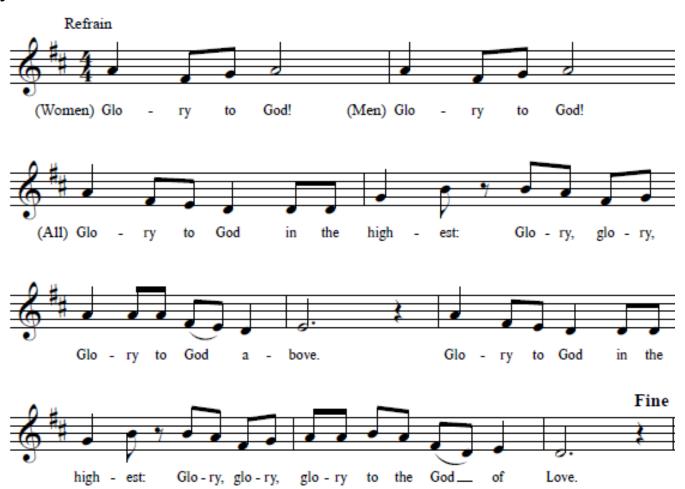
For the people of God and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to our God:

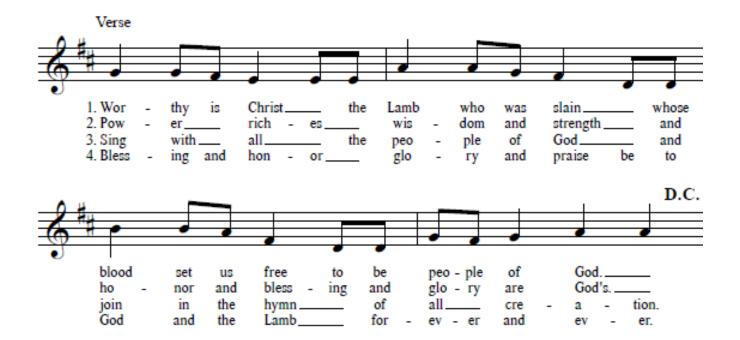
God of love, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious God.

Amen.

*Hymn of Praise





*Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray.

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.

Special Hymn: "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"...... ELW 888

Please be seated.

First Reading: Acts 2:1-21

L: 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.'"

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

L: No one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

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

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. 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





*Gospel: John 20:19-23

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 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.

 Children's Sermon
 Rev. Becky Sells

 Sermon
 Rev. Becky Sells



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fail - ing is your trea-sure, un - fad-ing your you and re-mem-ber what once our dreams had been; We see when faith and love know your care more clear - ly are tried,



rich-es you pass - ing world - ly plea-sure, the af - ford. sur the glow-ing em - ber kin-dle hope with - in. you fan and seek you more sin - cere - ly when false i - deals have died: to



Come, stream of end-less flow - ing, us from death; and res - cue gra - cious, bless all who trust in Come, fire of glo-ry for vi - sion we im - plore you, for wis-dom's pure de - light;



of spring-time blow-ing, and warm us come, wind by your breath. dy - ing flame te - na - cious, burn in your church a - new. prayer we come be - fore you to wait up - on your light. in

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874-1934

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*The Apostles' Creed

L: God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

*Prayers of Intercession

L: United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Passionate God, you sent your Spirit through the gifts of fire, wind, and word. As you equipped the disciples for their work, equip us to bring the good news to all those who long for you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Restoring God, wind and flame bring life and destruction throughout the world. We pray for those who work with wind energy, for migratory birds, for protection for lands facing destructive fire, for forestry managers and firefighters. Renew the face of the earth. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Ever-present God, your spirit embraces all. Send your spirit of understanding to immigrants, refugees, and any experiencing language barriers. Bless the work of translators, ESL teachers, ambassadors, and international peace organizations. Safely guide those fleeing war and danger. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Merciful God, you anoint us with your spirit. Bless nurses, doctors, midwives, chaplains, counselors, and hospice workers as they care for those in need. We pray for all who seek your comfort. We especially pray for those on our prayer list and the names of those we lift up to you in our hearts silently or aloud now... Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Generous God, you impart a variety of gifts. Set aflame the desire to learn from one another, especially those who differ from us. Make your presence known through missionaries, peace workers, and through the outreach ministries of our synod and community. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Life-giving God, we give thanks for those who have died to new life in you. As we observe Memorial Day, we remember those who died in military service. Comfort all who mourn, and usher in a world where war is no more. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please take a moment to share signs of peace with one another.

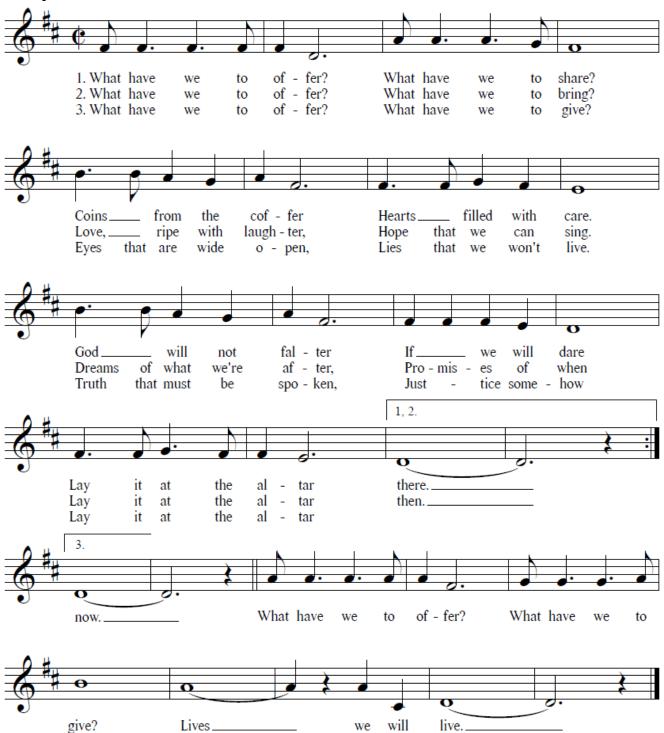
Please be seated.

Offering

L: We are called to reflect on how we are giving back to God for all the blessings God has given us. This includes continuing to financially support the church and its mission, along with considering how we might be called to give and use our time and talents to further God's kingdom here on earth.

Gifts may be placed in the offering plate located in the back of the sanctuary or may be given electronically at www.lord-of-love.org. Children may come forward to put their offering in the noise jar.

Offertory



*Offertory Prayer

P: Let us pray.

God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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:

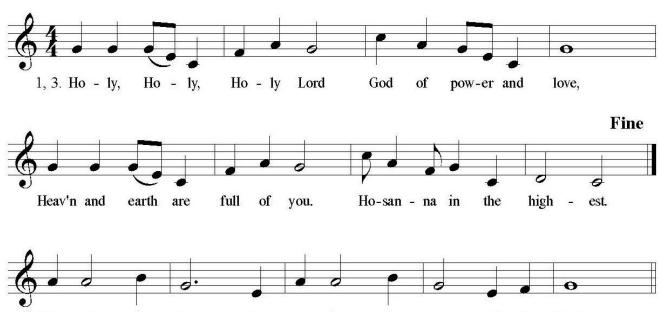
*Holy, Holy, Holy

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*Words of Institution

On the night he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for remembrance of me.

*The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

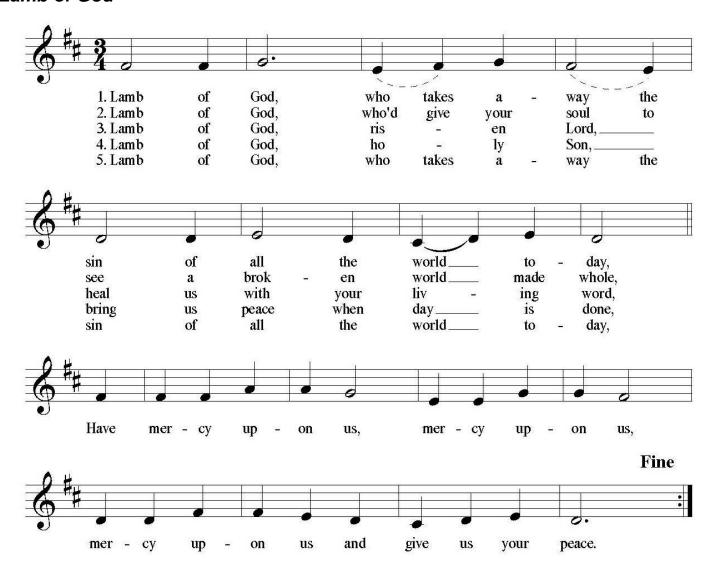
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

Communion Invitation

P: Come. Be filled and transformed by this meal of love and grace given for you. All are welcome.

Lamb of God



Communion

*Post-Communion Prayer

P: Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name.

Amen.

*Benediction

P: The God of all, who raised \pm Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

Amen.

*Sending Song: "God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind"...... ELW 400

*Dismissal L: Empowered by the Spirit, go in peace and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God! Ringing of the Bell

Postlude

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