



DAY OF PENTECOST
May 23, 2021

MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Welcoming all
Reaching out in love
Growing together in Christ
Worshipping and serving in Jesus' name

The Rev. Pamela J. Carnes
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Welcome to Memorial Lutheran Church. As you prepare for worship, please silence your cell phone and complete the connection card in your bulletin. Place it in the offering plate at the side entrance to the sanctuary or in the offering plate on the counter near the entrance to the church building as you leave.

INTRODUCTION

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.

“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.” –Romans 8:26

We rest assured that we are covered in prayer by the Holy Spirit, and also by the prayers and love of our elders and ancestors whose job it is to steward us toward deeper faith and beloved community.

In order to keep us all safe for the time being there will be no singing of the liturgy or the hymns because the spread of the virus is greatly increased by singing.

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE *“Like the Murmur of the Dove’s Song”*

- Burkhardt

Please kneel or sit

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grown into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Please stand

GATHERING HYMN *“Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove”*

ELW 404

*The organist will play the hymn but we will not be singing.
Please read the words as she plays. Even in our silence the
meaning of the hymn will be present to us.*

*Come, gracious Spirit, heav'nly dove, with light and
comfort from above. Come, be our guardian
and our guide; o'er ev'ry thought and step preside.*

*The light of truth to us display and make us
know and choose your way; plant holy fear in
ev'ry heart, that we from God may ne'er depart.*

*Lead us to Christ, the living way, nor let us
from his pastures stray. Lead us in holiness,
the road that we must take to dwell with God.*

*Lead us to heav'n, that we may share fullness of
joy forever there; lead us to our
eternal rest, to be with God forever blest.*

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

And also with you.

KYRIE

Read Responsively

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Amen, amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE *"This is the Feast"*

Read Responsively

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches, wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

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.

Please be seated

SOLO

"I Asked the Lord"

Dave Reeder

- Arr. Halmly

WORD

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.

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.

PSALM 104:24-34, 35b READ 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.**

²⁸You give it to them; they gather it;
you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

²⁹**When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.**

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

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.

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 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.

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in us the fire of your love. Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 15th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

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

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,] ²⁶“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. ²⁷You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. ^{16:4b}“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.

Please be seated

SERMON

Please stand

*The organist will play the hymn but we will not be singing.
Please read the words as she plays. Even in our silence the
meaning of the hymn will be present to us.*

*God of tempest, God of whirlwind, as on Pentecost
descend! Drive us out from sheltered comfort;
past these walls your people send! Sweep us into costly service,
there with Christ to bear the cross, there with Christ to bear the cross!*

*God of blazing, God of burning, all that blocks
your purpose, purge! Through your church, Christ's living Body,
let your flaming Spirit surge! Where deceit conceals injustice,
kindle us to speak your truth, kindle us to speak your truth!*

*God of earthquake, God of thunder, shake us loose from
lethargy! Break the chains of sin asunder,
for earth's healing set us free! Crumble walls that still divide us;
make us one in Christ our Lord, make us one in Christ our Lord!*

*God of passion, God unsleeping, stir in us love's
restlessness! Where the people cry in anguish,
may we share your heart's distress. Rouse us from content with evil;
claim us for your kingdom's work, claim us for your kingdom's work!*

NICENE CREED

**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;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.
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.**

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He 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

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 fresh 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. Restore to wholeness all who are in any need this day (*especially*). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of love, fill this congregation (*name*) with gratitude for the gifts we have received from you. Renew our ministries, heal our divisions, and open us to the needs of our neighbors. 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 (*especially*). 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.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

(Everyone is to remain in their pew for the passing of the peace. To share the peace with someone sitting near you, share a slight bow, wave, or cross your arms with hands touching the opposite arm, a gesture of embrace.)

Please be seated

OFFERTORY SOLO

“There’s a City Called Heaven”

Dave Reeder

- Page

(Everyone is seated. No offering will be received.)

MEAL

Please stand

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

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.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE - PENTECOST

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 ev'ry 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

Read Together

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which 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 the 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 the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ invites us to this table. Come, eat and be satisfied.

Please be seated

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

All are welcome at the Lord's Table. The congregation will come to the altar at the direction of the ushers. Pastor Carnes will be masked and standing in the center of the altar rail. Pastor Carnes will distribute communion in one kind, the body of Christ in a gluten free wafer. She will place a wafer, in your hands with tongs. Once you have received the wafer you may step away from the center of the altar rail, drop your mask and consume the wafer and return to your pew. The congregation will be socially distanced between family groups.

COMMUNION HYMN “Come Down, O Love Divine”

ELW 804

*The organist will play the hymn but we will not be singing.
Please read the words as she plays. Even in our silence the
meaning of the hymn will be present to us.*

*Come down, O Love divine; seek thou this soul of mine
and visit it with thine own ardor glowing;
O Comforter, draw near; within my heart appear
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.*

*Oh, let it freely burn, till worldly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.*

*Let holy charity mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing--
true lowliness of heart, which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.*

*And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the pow'r of human telling;
no soul can guess Love's grace till it become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.*

COMMUNION HYMN “Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling”

ELW 582

*Holy Spirit, ever dwelling in the holiest realms of light;
Holy Spirit, ever brooding o'er a world of gloom and night;
Holy Spirit, ever raising those of earth to thrones on high;
living, life-impacting Spirit, you we praise and magnify.*

*Holy Spirit, ever living as the church's very life;
Holy Spirit, ever striving through us in a ceaseless strife;
Holy Spirit, ever forming in the church the mind of Christ:
you we praise with endless worship for your gifts and fruits unpriced.*

*Holy Spirit, ever working through the church's ministry;
quick'ning, strength'ning, and absolving, setting captive sinners free;
Holy Spirit, ever binding age to age and soul to soul
in communion never ending, you we worship and extol.*

Please stand

COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve
you in eternal life.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED FOR SCOTT & JOAN SMITH

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN "O Day Full of Grace"

ELW 627

*The organist will play the hymn but we will not be singing.
Please read the words as she plays. Even in our silence the
meaning of the hymn will be present to us.*

*O day full of grace that now we see appearing on
earth's horizon, bring light from our God that we may
be abundant in joy this season. God, shine for us
now in this dark place; your name on our hearts emblazon.*

*O day full of grace, O blessed time, our Lord on the
earth arriving; then came to the world that light
sublime, great joy for us all retrieving; for Jesus all
mortals did embrace, all shame and despair removing.*

*For Christ bore our sins, and not his own, when he on the
cross was hanging; and then he arose and moved the
stone, that we, unto him belonging, might join with
angelic hosts to raise our voices in endless singing.*

*God came to us then at Pentecost, the Spirit new
life revealing, that we might no more in death be
lost, its pow'r over us dispelling. This flame will the
mark of sin efface and bring to us all true healing.*

*When we on that final journey go that Christ is for
us preparing, we'll gather in song, our hearts
aglow, all joy of the heavens sharing, and there we will
join God's endless praise, with angels and saints adoring.*

Please be seated

POSTLUDE *“Church, Rejoice!”*

- Burkhardt

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

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The Rev. Pamela J. Carnes**

**Organist
Nancy Fogelsanger**

**Choir Director
Blaine Shover**

**Bell Choir Director
Kathy Kerr**

**Parish Coordinator
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