

Christ Lutheran Church & The Bridge Campus Ministry

May 24, 2026 – Pentecost

Connecting people to people • people to faith • faith to life

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(PLEASE POWER OFF OR AIRPLANE MODE YOUR DEVICES)

Here in Athens, in SE Ohio, we are occupying the traditional homeland of the Shawnee people. Before the Shawnee, this land was occupied by the Osage people, and by the Adena, Hopewell and Fort Ancient cultures.

SERVING TODAY: *Presider/Preacher: Bishop Suzanne Darcy Dillahunt; Organist: George Weckman; Lector: Marilyn Shealy; Live Stream: Doug Debrick; Time with Children: Puppets!; Ushers: Sue Ellen Miller, Lora Blankenship; Greeter: Nick Claussen, Acolyte: Dessa; Tray Server: Jane Unger; Dixie Jazz: Michael Tobar, Ben Wright, Dave Borowski, Matt James*



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.

GATHERING

Wade in the Water

Dixie Jazz

WELCOME *On Pentecost Sunday, 70 years ago, Christ Lutheran Church was officially organized. Today, we are "Remembering our Past and Imagining our Future." Together.*

PRELUDE

Sweet Sweet Spirit

Dixie Jazz

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord.
There are sweet expressions on each face,
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

CHORUS:

Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet Heavenly Dove,
Stay right here with us, filling us with your love.
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise:
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived
When we shall leave this place.

There are blessings you cannot receive
till you know Him in His fullness, and believe.
You're the one to profit when you say,
"I am going to walk with Jesus all the way."

CHORUS

If you say He saved you from your sin,
Now you're weak, you're bound, and cannot enter in,
You can make it right if you will yield;
You'll enjoy the Holy Spirit that we feel.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, Holy Spirit, Come! **Renew the face of the earth.**
Come, Holy Spirit, Come! **Renew our lives, inside and out.**
Renew our faith, renew our relationships, renew our trust in your mercy.
Come, Holy Spirit, Come! **Renew our lives, inside and out.**
Challenge us, comfort us, stir us up, calm us down.
Come Holy Spirit, Come! **Renew our lives, inside and out.**
With fire and wind, come to this place; gather us in, send us out;
Come Holy Spirit, Come! **Renew our lives, inside and out.**
Make our legs stronger, our hands firmer, our hearts wider in love.
Come Holy Spirit, Come! **Renew the face of the earth.**

GATHERING SONG

Light Dawns on a Weary World (ELW 726)



1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea-tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.



The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951

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GREETING

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.

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.

CHILDREN’S CHOIR AND TIME WITH CHILDREN AND RECOGNITION OF HS GRADUATES!

FIRST READING: Acts 2:1-21

A reading from Acts.

¹ When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. ² 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. ³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵ Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶ And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷ Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?” ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?

⁹ Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” ¹² All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” ¹³ But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

¹⁴ 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. ¹⁵ Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. ¹⁶ No, 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.

¹⁸ Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹ And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

²⁰ The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

²¹ Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' "

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

^{3b} No one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, ⁵ and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

¹² 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. ¹³ 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, move among us all

Make us one in heart and mind, make us one in love;

Humble, caring, selfless, sharing.

Spirit of the living God, fill our lives with your love.

GOSPEL: John 20:19-23

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ 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.

SERMON

HYMN

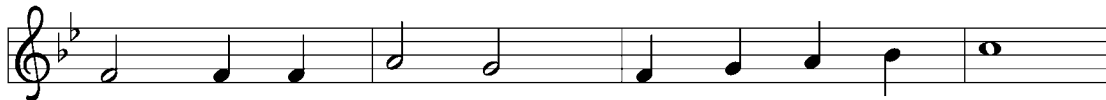
Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart (ELW 800)



1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
 2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,
 3 Have you not bid me love you, God and King;
 4 Teach me to love you as your an - gels love,



wean it from earth, through all its puls - es move;
 no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
 all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
 one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame:



stoop to my weak - ness, strength to me im - part,
 no an - gel vis - i - tant, no op - 'ning skies;
 I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling.
 the bap - tism of the heav'n - de - scend - ed dove,



and make me love you as I ought to love.
 but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
 Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!
 my heart an al - tar, and your love the flame.

Text: George Croly, 1780–1860
 Music: MORECAMBE, Frederick C. Atkinson, 1841–189

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for the church, the world, and all people according to their needs.

Dear God, thank you for this opportunity to worship together today, and for this time together. As we celebrate the anniversary of our church, we thank you for being with us and guiding us over the last 70 years, and we look ahead to our call to follow your path and to serve others in the years ahead. We are grateful for how you have blessed our church, and each of us individually, and we ask for your guidance as we strive to share our blessings and your love with those we meet every day. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of Love, we are very proud of those who are graduating this spring, and we ask you to bless them as they enter the next stage of their lives. And as each of us face challenges and changes in our lives, we thank you for sending the Holy Spirit to each of us to guide us and to help us. We know that we are never alone because you are always with us. Please help us to reach out to those who may be feeling alone or troubled this week and help them to know that they are loved, too, and they are not alone. And please also help us to remember that while we are all different in so many ways, we are all Your children because You made us in Your image. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of Peace, so many people live in danger and in fear in our world. Please be with everyone whose lives are filled with danger of any sort. We ask you to help our leaders around the world work for peace rather than conflict, and to find ways to help one another. Please protect those who serve in the military, comfort military families, and bless our veterans. Please also bless those who are impacted by war and violence, so they may be safe and they can live in peace. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of Compassion, we ask you to comfort those experiencing grief and loss and to relieve those who are suffering. Please also bring strength to those who are hospitalized, confined to homes, or undergoing tests. We pray for healing for anyone who is ill in mind, body, or spirit. Restore to wholeness those who are struggling with addictions. Bless our shut-ins and help us to bring them joy. Please hear us now as we ask for blessings for those we name aloud or in our hearts..... Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of Comfort, be with those to whom death draws near and those who have lost loved ones. Bring peace and comfort to all who mourn; knowing with the conviction of our faith that because you so loved the world that you gave your Chosen Son, who died and rose again, we too will have eternal life. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection,
and the sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit,
we await his coming again to renew the face of the earth.
Send now your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this meal:
anoint us with your gifts of faith, hope, and love,
that, with thankful hearts,
we may be witnesses to your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us
in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.
Thanks be to God!

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

RICH IN BLESSINGS

GEORGE WECKMAN

1. Man - y years of faith - ful wor - ship, Rich in bless - ings from a - bove,
2. Here in A - thens our good ci - ty, Here we keep our wit - ness clear,
3. Hear our pipes and hear our voic - es As we con - tem - plate our place,
4. True to Lu - ther and Mel - anch - thon, Set for what the fu - ture brings,

5
Man - y years of deep re - flec - tion On the Gos - pel's Word of Love.
Here in Ap - pal a - chian foot - hills We preach Je - sus with - out fear.
Lis - ten while we tune our hearts to hear God's words of love and grace.
Hap - py in our past tra - di - tions, O - pen to our world's new things.,

9
In our lives of will - ing ser - vice, Thanks to God who guides our way.
U - ni - ver - si - ty and coun - ty, This our par - ish, this our role.
Praise to God who, rich in bless - ings, Gives this world its glo - rious glow.
On - ward, up - ward, in - ward, out - ward, Je - sus guide us in our ways.

13
Through the tur - moil, times of strug - gle, Bring - ing us to joy to - day.
Our vo - ca - tion, rich in bless - ings, To reach out to one and all.
Peace and mer - cy, hope and glad - ness, Stay with us as on we go.
Rich in bless - ings, peace, and friend - ship, Make our lives true hymns of praise.

Text: Geoge Weckman, 2019
Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827, adapt.

Hymn To Joy
8787 D

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Living God, as the disciples ate and drank with their risen Lord, we have been nourished with the very presence of Christ. Through this meal may we be strengthened to keep your word and to proclaim the power of your love in Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

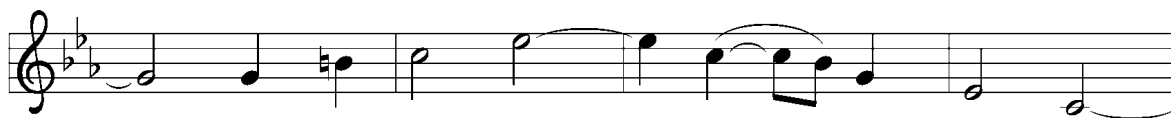
I Want Jesus to Walk with Me (ELW 325)



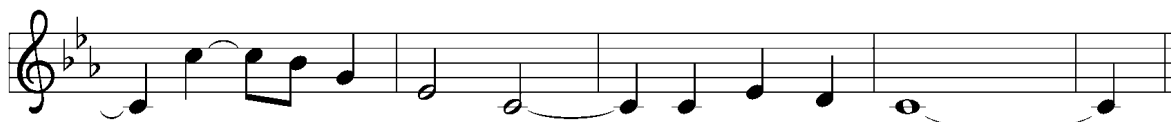
1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



I want Je - sus to walk with me;
in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
when my heart is al - most break - ing,
when my head is bowed in sor - row,



Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual

DISMISSAL

The service has ended. **The ministry begins!**

Go in peace! **The Holy Spirit leads the way!**

Thanks be to God.

