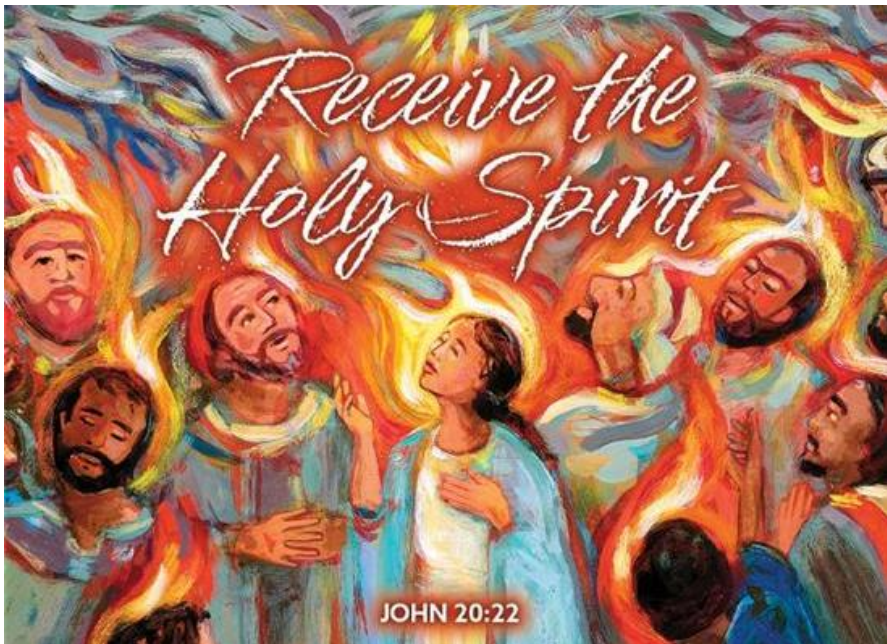




SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2026

PENTECOST



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

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

PRELUDE – Instrumental Ensemble

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING MUSIC

“COME, NOW IS THE TIME TO WORSHIP”

Music and Lyrics: Brian Doerksen

© 1998 Vineyard Songs (UK/Eire) Administrators Integrity Music

PENTECOST READING: ACTS 2:1-4, 12-17, 21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they 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.

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

SUNG RESPONSE:

“ONE NAME”

Author Unknown. This arr. © 2025 Bethel Lutheran Church Winchester, VA

Litany for Pentecost & Farewell

Leader: Come, Holy Spirit, come— breathe upon your people once again.

People: Fill us with your fire, your power, your peace.

Leader: On this day of wind and flame, you gathered your people from many places and made them one.

People: Unite us again in love, in purpose, and in witness.

Leader: You have been our guide through every season, in times of joy and in times of change.

People: We give thanks for your presence that never leaves us.

Leader: As we mark this Pentecost, we also mark a turning, a season completed, a new chapter beginning.

People: We trust your Spirit to lead us forward.

Leader: For the ministry shared in this place, for the Word proclaimed, the sacraments celebrated, and the lives touched by grace.

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Leader: For the relationships formed, for the laughter and the tears, for the journey we have walked together.

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Leader: Send your Spirit upon this congregation: to continue in faith, to grow in love, and to serve boldly in the world.

People: Empower us, O Spirit, for the days ahead.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

WORD

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

BAPTISM



***Baptism for Jameson William Tolson and Jonah Matthew Tolson
(See insert)**

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING:

PSALM 8

¹O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. ²Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger. ³When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; ⁴what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

⁵Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor.

⁶You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, ⁷all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, ⁸the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

⁹O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SUNG RESPONSE

"I CAN ONLY IMAGINE"

Music and lyrics: Bart Millard

© 2001, 2002 Simpleville Music Administrators Essential Music Publishing LLC

SECOND READING:

ROMANS 8: 31-35, 37-39

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"WORD OF GOD SPEAK"

©2002 Songs from the Indigo room / Simpleville Music/ Curb Wordspring Music

GOSPEL

JOHN 8: 31-36

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³¹ Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, 'If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.' ³³They answered him, 'We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, "You will be made free"?''

³⁴ Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin.

³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"WORD OF GOD SPEAK"

©2002 Songs from the Indigo room / Simpleville Music/ Curb Wordspring Music

SERMON

PASTOR DAVID YOUNG

HYMN OF THE DAY

"YOU'VE GOT THIS"

Words: David Young, Music: Jerry Garcia

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition will end with "Merciful God" and the response will be "**receive our prayer**"

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

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

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERING

Thank you for your continued generosity in supporting the ongoing ministry of Bethel Lutheran Church! In-person gifts may be placed in the offering plates, mailed to Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church (2077 N. Frederick Pike, Winchester, VA 22603), given online at www.bethelwinchester.com or using the adjacent QR code.



MUSIC FOR REFLECTION – MOSES – Choir / Kristal Cutler 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

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!
Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

JESUS WORDS ABOUT COMMUNION

LORD'S PRAYER

Our God _____ in heav-en, _____ ho - ly is your name, _____ your
reign come, _____ your will done, _____ on earth as in heav-en _____
Give us today our dai-ly bread, and help us forgive as we have been for - giv-en _____

In the time of tri - al _____ lead us in - to light, _____ for yours is _____ the
king-dom, _____ and the power, _____ and the glo-ry, _____ for - ev - er. Our
God, _____ in heav-en, _____ ho-ly is your name, ho-ly is your name. _____

Words: Matthew 6:9-13; adapt by Mark A Miller and Laurie Zelman Music: Mark A Miller Adapt and music ©2008 Abingdon Press admin by the Copyright Company

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Welcome to the Lord's Table!

Everyone, regardless of age and denomination, is invited to join us for Holy Communion. If you prefer a blessing, simply inform the communion distributors. The ushers will direct your row when it is time to come forward.

You will receive the bread from the first Holy Communion distributor. You will pick up the cup of wine or juice from the tray held by the second distributor. For those who need gluten free a pre-packaged **gluten-free** wafer and a cup of **grape juice** is also available.

Once you have communed, you are invited to return to your seat for silent reflection or singing

LAMB OF GOD

1. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
2. Lamb of God, you break the chains of ha - tred and fear;
have mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:
grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

“WONDERFUL GRACE”

Music and lyrics: John Pantry

© 1986 HarperCollins Religious Administrators Song Solutions

“THE WONDERFUL CROSS”

Music and lyrics: Chris Tomlin, Isaac Watts, J.D. Walt et al

© 2000 Rising Springs Music; Vamos Publishing; worshiptogether.com songs
Administrators Capitol CMG Publishing

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

THANKSGIVING AT THE CONCLUSION OF A CALL

Pastor Dave, in 2010, Bethel Lutheran Church called you to be pastor in this place: to proclaim God’s word, to baptize and teach, to announce God’s forgiveness, and to preside at the Lord’s table. With the gospel you have comforted us in times of sickness and trouble, and at the death of our loved ones. Sharing our joys and sorrows, you and your family have been important to our life together in the church of Jesus Christ, in our service to this community, and in God’s mission to the whole world. As you leave this community of faith, we say farewell, and we pray for God’s blessing.

People of God, members of Bethel Lutheran Church, do you release Pastor Dave from service as your *pastor*?

We do, and we give thanks to God for our ministry together.

Pastor Dave, do you recognize and accept the completion of your ministry with Bethel Lutheran Church?

Response: I do, and I give thanks to God for our ministry together.

Thanksgiving and Sending

Let us pray. Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ you gave the holy apostles many gifts and commanded them to feed your flock. You equip your people with abilities that differ according to the grace given to them, and you call them to various avenues of service. We give you thanks for the ministry of Pastor Dave among the people of God in this place. You watch over our going out and our coming in: bless this time of ending and beginning. You surround your people in every time and place: keep us close in your love.

You accompany your people in times of joy and times of trial: prosper all that has been done to your glory in this time together; heal and forgive all that has fallen short of your will for us. Help Pastor Dave, Pastor Heidi, Noah, Micah, Leah and all of us to live with courage and gladness in the future you give to us. As they have been a blessing to us, so now send them forth to be a blessing to others; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.



BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG

“EVERLASTING GOD”

Music and lyrics: Brenton Brown, Ken Riley

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DISMISSAL

PASTOR: You've got this, because God's got this

ALL: And God's got us

PASTOR: Go in peace and serve the Lord

ALL: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

We hope every person felt welcomed here, especially our guests. We trust that our time together has filled you with a sense of joy and peace, and we invite you to return soon.

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