

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

Day of Pentecost

May 24, 2026 - 9:30 a.m.



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.

Pastor Christian McMullan
Daniel S. Bower, Music Director
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WELCOME

Please stand

GREETING

P: God the Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier gathers us into one to give thanks and praise.

C: Amen!

P: On Pentecost, God the Spirit transformed Jesus' followers and made them missionaries of Christ's new life for the benefit of all the world. As we gather, we pray for that same Spirit to be poured out on us.

C: Come, Holy Spirit!

P: That same Spirit causes us to pray together, worship together, and wait together for its dreams and visions. Give us patience while we too live out Christ's commands trusting the promise of his Spirit.

C: Come, Holy Spirit!

P: The Holy Spirit is a fire, refining and purifying our souls— kindling a flame in our hearts— Change us and fill our lives with new life.

C: Come, Holy Spirit!

P: Filled with the Holy Spirit, we bear the fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, and self-control (*Galatians 5*). Like a branch connected to Christ the vine, bring our faith to bear fruit.

C: Come, Holy Spirit!

P: The Holy Spirit sends us into the world with dreams and visions of God's love to all people, to share God's Spirit of joy to the world. Inspire us and give us courage to be Christ's Body.

C: Come, Holy Spirit!

OPENING HYMN

Canticle of the Turning ELW 723

My soul cries out with a joyful shout
that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things
that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest.
Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain:

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn.

Though I am small, my God, my all,
you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past
to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame,
and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might, put the strong to flight,
for the world is about to turn. *Refrain*

From the halls of pow'r to the fortress tow'r,
not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears
ev'ry tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more,
for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed,
for the world is about to turn. *Refrain*

Though the nations rage from age to age,
we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard
is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God,
who is turning the world around. *Refrain*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**C: 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.**

Please be seated

FIRST READING

Acts 2:1-21

A: A reading from the Book of Acts, the second chapter.

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 people 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, “Fellow Jews 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.’ ”

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

A: A reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians, the twelfth chapter.

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

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

¹²For 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. ¹³For 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.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain



Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, give thanks to the ris-en Lord;



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, give praise to his name.



Spread the good news o'er all the earth:



Je - sus has died and has ris - en.

Refrain

GOSPEL

John 7:37-39

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

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³⁷ On the last day of the festival [of Booths], the great day, while Jesus was standing [in the temple,] he cried out, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, ³⁸ and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, 'Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.'" ³⁹ Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive, for as yet there was no Spirit because Jesus was not yet glorified.

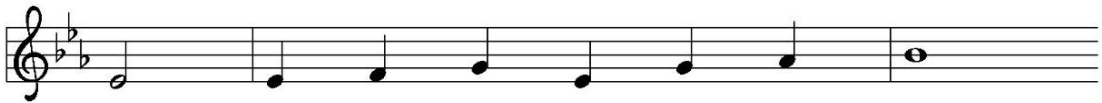
P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

HYMN

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds ELW 367



1	Now	all	the	vault	of	heav'n	re -	sounds
2	E -	ter -	nal	is	the	gift	he	brings,
3	Oh,	fill	us,	Lord,	with	daunt -	less	love;
4	A -	dor -	ing	prais -	es	now	we	bring



in	praise	of	love	that	still	a -	bounds:	"Christ	has	
there	-	fore	our	heart	with	rap -	ture	sings:	"Christ	has
set	heart	and	will	on	things	a -	bove	that	we	has
and	with	the	heav'n -	ly	bles -	ed	sing:	"Christ	has	



tri -	umphed!	He	is	liv -	ing!"	Sing,	choirs	of	
tri -	umphed!	He	is	liv -	ing!"	Now	still	he	
con -	quer	through	your	tri -	umph;	grant	grace	suf -	
tri -	umphed!	Al -	le -	lu -	ia!"	Be	to	the	



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all
fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly
Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

THE PRAYERS

P: Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

P: ...Merciful God,

C: Come, Holy Spirit!

P: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Please be seated

THE OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

In gratitude to God we give out of the abundance that God has given us.

Please stand

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Merciful God,
accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.
You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day
when we will hunger and thirst no more.
Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,
that goodness and mercy may follow us
and bless the world you love.
In the name of Jesus,
C: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P: Holy God, Breath of Life and Fire of Love:
with a mighty wind you brought creation into being,
and by a pillar of fire you led your people Israel into freedom
We praise you for the gift of your Son,
who poured out your Spirit on his disciples of every race and nation.

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 this meal:
Anoint us with your gifts of faith, hope, and love,
That with thankful hearts, we may be witnesses to your Son.
Through Christ all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty God, with the Holy Spirit,
In your holy Church, both now and forever.

C: Amen

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

C: 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.

Please be seated

COMMUNION

*This is God's table so all are welcome to join the feast.
Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available.*

P: Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: 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,
C: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand

BLESSING

P: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
✠ bless you now and forever.
C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Build Your kingdom here
Let the darkness fear
Show Your mighty hand
Heal our streets and land
Set Your church on fire
Win this nation back
Change the atmosphere
Build Your kingdom here we pray

Come set Your rule and reign
In our hearts again
Increase in us we pray
Unveil why we're made
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope
Like wildfire in our very souls

Build Your Kingdom Here

Holy Spirit come invade us now
We are Your church
We need Your pow'r in us

We seek Your kingdom first
We hunger and we thirst
Refuse to waste our lives
For You're our joy and prize
To see the captives' hearts released
The hurt the sick the poor at peace
We lay down our lives for heaven's cause
We are Your church
We pray revive this earth

Build Your kingdom here
Let the darkness fear
Show Your mighty hand
Heal our streets and land
Set Your church on fire
Win this nation back
Change the atmosphere
Build Your kingdom here we pray

Unleash Your kingdom's pow'r
Reaching the near and far
No force of hell can stop
Your beauty changing hearts
You made us for much more than this
Awake the kingdom seed in us
Fill us with the strength and love of Christ
We are Your church
We are the hope on earth

Build Your kingdom here
Let the darkness fear
Show Your mighty hand
Heal our streets and land
Set Your church on fire
Win this nation back
Change the atmosphere
Build Your kingdom here we pray

DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Go in peace. Praise the Lord! Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

St. Matthew's Staff

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