

# The Day of Pentecost

## June 5, 2022

Today around the world, the Church is celebrating the coming of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit, symbolized by the tongues of fire, has been with the Church from its beginning and promises to be with us throughout all eternity.

The liturgical color for this festival is red to remind us of those tongues of fire that rested upon the believers on the first Pentecost Day. It represents divine zeal displayed on the day of Pentecost and points to the blood of the Martyrs of the Church.

Today, we remember that we have been called, gathered, enlightened, and sanctified by the Holy Spirit through the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This same Jesus sends us out with the power of his Spirit to bring peace and forgiveness to the world.

**O Holy Spirit, Enter In** Lutheran Service Book 913, Lutheran Worship 160, The Lutheran Hymnal 235

or

**Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord** Lutheran Service Book 497, Lutheran Worship 154, The Lutheran Hymnal 224



1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, en - ter in, And in our hearts  
2 Give to Your Word im - pres - sive pow'r, That in our hearts  
3 O might - y Rock, O Source of life, Let Your dear Word,



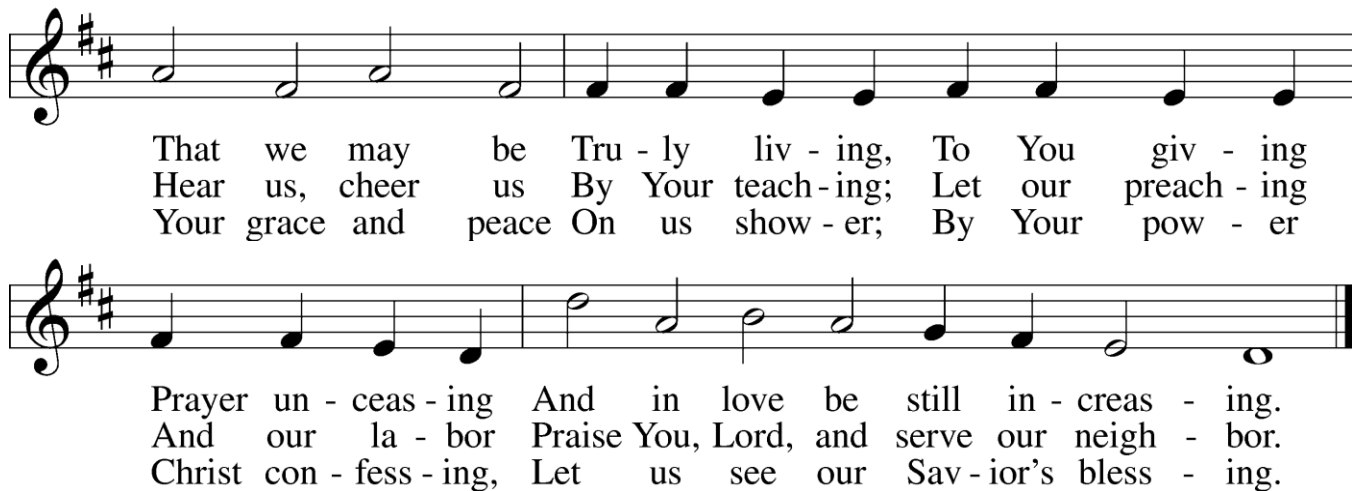
Your work be - gin, Your dwell - ing place now make us.  
from this good hour As fire it may be glow - ing,  
in doubt and strife, In us be strong - ly burn - ing



Sun of the soul, O Light di - vine, A - round and in  
That in true Chris - tian u - ni - ty We faith - ful wit -  
That we be faith - ful un - to death And live in love



us bright - ly shine, To joy and glad - ness wake us  
ness - es may be, Your glo - ry ev - er show - ing.  
and ho - ly faith, From You true wis - dom learn - ing.



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**L** In the name of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**L** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth. (*Psalm 124:8*)

**L** Who can discern his errors? Forgive my hidden faults.

**C** Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me. (*Psalm 19:12, 13*)

**L** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord who could stand?

**C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared. (*Psalm 130:3–4*)

**L** Let us, confess before God that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and as His people let us take refuge in His infinite mercy seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, saying:

**C** God, be merciful to me, a sinner, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

(*Luke 18:13*)

**L** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Your holy Church, You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

### Introit Psalm 104:24, 27–28, 30; antiphon Liturgical Text

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

**C** O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you made them all;  
the earth is full of your creatures.

**L** These all look to you,  
to give them their food in due season.

**C** When you give it to them, they gather it up;  
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

**L** When you send forth your Spirit, they are created,  
and you renew the face of the ground.

**C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

- L** Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful,  
and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia.

## Kyrie

- |                    |                            |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>L</b> O Lord,   | <b>C</b> Have Mercy on us. |
| <b>L</b> O Christ, | <b>C</b> Have Mercy on us. |
| <b>L</b> O Lord,   | <b>C</b> Have Mercy on us. |

## Gloria in Excelsis ~ Glory to God in the Highest

- L** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
- C** Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father: We worship You, we give You thanks, and we praise You for Your glory.
- L** Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, You are Lord and God, You are the Lamb of God:
- C** Lord Jesus Christ, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
- L** Lord Jesus Christ, You are seated at the right hand of the Father; and we ask you to graciously receive our prayer.
- C** For You alone are the Holy One,  
You alone are the Lord,  
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## Collect of the Day

- L** Let us pray: O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy consolation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

## Genesis 11:1–9

<sup>1</sup>Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. <sup>2</sup>And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. <sup>3</sup>And they said to one another, “Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly.” And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar. <sup>4</sup>Then they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth.” <sup>5</sup>And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built. <sup>6</sup>And the LORD said, “Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. <sup>7</sup>Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another’s speech.” <sup>8</sup>So the LORD dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. <sup>9</sup>Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth. And from there the LORD dispersed them over the face of all the earth.

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

## Gradual Acts 2:17b; Rom. 10:10

- L** I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh,
- C** and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy.

- L** With the heart one believes and is justified,  
**C** and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

## Psalm 143

- L** <sup>1</sup>Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy!  
In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!
- C** <sup>2</sup>**Enter not into judgment with your servant, for no one living is righteous before you.**
- L** <sup>3</sup>For the enemy has pursued my soul; he has crushed my life to the ground;  
he has made me sit in darkness like those long dead.
- C** <sup>4</sup>**Therefore my spirit faints within me; my heart within me is appalled.**
- L** <sup>5</sup>I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that you have done;  
I ponder the work of your hands.
- C** <sup>6</sup>**I stretch out my hands to you; my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.**
- L** <sup>7</sup>Answer me quickly, O LORD! My spirit fails!  
Hide not your face from me, lest I be like those who go down to the pit.
- C** <sup>8</sup>**Let me hear in the morning of your steadfast love, for in you I trust.**  
**Make me know the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.**
- L** <sup>9</sup>Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD! I have fled to you for refuge!
- C** <sup>10</sup>**Teach me to do your will, for you are my God!**  
**Let your good Spirit lead me on level ground!**
- L** <sup>11</sup>For your name's sake, O LORD, preserve my life! In your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble!
- C** <sup>12</sup>**And in your steadfast love you will cut off my enemies,**  
**and you will destroy all the adversaries of my soul, for I am your servant.**

## Acts 2:1–21

<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. <sup>4</sup>And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

<sup>5</sup>Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. <sup>7</sup>And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, <sup>11</sup>both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." <sup>12</sup>And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup>But others mocking said, "They are filled with new wine."

<sup>14</sup>But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. <sup>15</sup>For these men are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. <sup>16</sup>But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup>'And in the last days it shall be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams;

<sup>18</sup>even on my male servants and female servants  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

<sup>19</sup>And I will show wonders in the heavens above

and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke;  
<sup>20</sup>the sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day.  
<sup>21</sup>And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

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

### Verse of the Day: Liturgical Text

- L** Alleluia, Alleluia. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful, Alleluia.  
**G** Alleluia, Alleluia. And kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia.

### John 14:23–31

- L** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14<sup>th</sup> chapters.  
**G** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>23</sup>Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. <sup>24</sup>Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father’s who sent me.

<sup>25</sup>“These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup>But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. <sup>27</sup>Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. <sup>28</sup>You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I will come to you.’ If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. <sup>29</sup>And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe. <sup>30</sup>I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on me, <sup>31</sup>but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us go from here.

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

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father

Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living  
and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.



1 Cre - a - tor Spir - it, by whose aid The world's foun - da - tions  
2 O Source of un - cre - at - ed light, The bear - er of God's  
3 Giv - er of grace, de - scend from high; Your sev'n - fold gifts to  
4 Im - mor - tal hon - or, end - less fame At - tend the al - might - y



first were laid, Come, vis - it ev - 'ry hum - ble mind; Come,  
gra - cious might, Thrice - ho - ly fount, thrice - ho - ly fire, Our  
us sup - ply; Help us e - ter - nal truths re - ceive And  
Fa - ther's name; The Sav - ior - Son be glo - ri - fied, Who



pour Your joys on hu - man - kind; From sin and sor - row  
hearts with heav'n - ly love in - spire; Your sa - cred, heal - ing  
prac - tice all that we be - lieve; Give us Your - self that  
for all hu - man - kind has died; To You, O Par - a -



set us free; May we Your liv - ing tem - ples be.  
mes - sage bring To sanc - ti - fy us as we sing.  
we may see The glo - ry of the Trin - i - ty.  
clete, we raise Un - end - ing songs of thanks and praise.

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### Devotional thoughts:

*Wenn aber der Tröster kommen wird, welchen ich euch senden werde vom Vater, der Geist der Wahrheit, der vom Vater ausgeht, der wird zeugen von mir.*

Imagine for a moment that you could hear me reading these words. There are a few of my friends and relatives who could understand them. Most of the people I know would have difficulty with them.

Let me set the stage. On the Day of Pentecost, 50 days after the Passover Sabbath, people gathered to celebrate the end of the grain harvest. This was one of the three Old Testament Pilgrimage Festivals called the Feast of Weeks. (The other two are The Passover and the Feast of Tabernacles.) According to Rabbinic tradition, it also commemorated the giving of the Torah, the first five books of the Bible.

Seven weeks before, people from all over flooded Jerusalem to worship at the temple for the Passover. Now, they are again gathered for this great festival. There are Parthians and Medes and 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. Imagine the language barrier! Soon that would all change.

In the middle of this commotion, someplace in Jerusalem, the disciples were gathered in a house, possibly where they had recently selected Matthias to complete the number of the apostles. Unknown to them, God was

about to do something grand. He was going to send the Holy Spirit in fulfillment of Jesus' promise recorded in our Gospel lesson for today.

Without warning, the tremendous noise of a mighty wind filled the house. It sounded like the breath of God! Not only that, but tongues of fire rested on each one of them! I am not exactly sure what it looked like, but I am reminded of a time centuries before when Moses saw a bush that burned with fire but was not consumed (Exodus 3:2).

The disciples were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Holy Spirit gave them the words to say. This in its self would be amazing enough but it is just the beginning of a tumultuous day.

At some point, the disciples made their way to the crowds of people. Perhaps they were standing on the top of the massive steps on the north side of the Temple mount where their voices could be heard by the gathered throng.

Next, the most amazing event happened on that first Day of Pentecost. The people heard them telling the mighty works of God in their own languages! The disciples weren't babbling in unintelligible speech as had happened long before when people sought to build for themselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens and God confused their speech (Exodus 11:1-9). Now they would each hear and understand the most wonderful good news of all!

Peter spoke loudly for all to hear and understand the first Christian sermon. Jesus, whom they had crucified, was raised from the dead, ascended into heaven, and is sitting at the right hand of God. From there, He had sent the Holy Spirit. What they were seeing and hearing was evidence of this.

When the Holy Spirit convicted them of their sin, they were cut to the heart and asked, "Brothers, what shall we do? Peter answered them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself."

On that day, they learned that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved! The Holy Spirit working through the word of apostles to bring three thousand souls to faith on that day! What began on the Day of Pentecost continues to this day each time God's word is proclaimed, the Holy Spirit is at work bringing people to faith and strengthening them in the faith!

The Holy Spirit has also touched your heart! Sometimes He convicts you of sin and brings you to repentance. Then He comforts you with the forgiveness of sins won by Jesus on the cross and promises you eternal life!

You and I are privileged to continue the work of the disciples begun on that first Day of Pentecost. We bring God's word of salvation to people of every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages (Revelation 7:9).

We begin this work at home when we teach our children about Jesus and His love. We continue this work when we support Christian schools and churches. We are active in this work when we speak to our friends and neighbors about the promises of God in Jesus. To enable the message of salvation to go to all nations in fulfillment of Jesus' Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20), we support missionaries, Bible translators, the Lutheran Hour, and media ministries.

I suppose you may be wondering about the opening sentence of this little message. It is Luther's German translation of the first verse of the Gospel lesson for today, John 15:26, "But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me." Jesus tells us that the work of the Holy Spirit is to teach about Jesus! May His work ever flourish among us.

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:4-7).

God's richest blessings to you in Christ.

**L** Let us confess together The Third Article of the Apostles' Creed and its explanation.

**C** **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**L** What does this mean?

**C** **I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.**

**In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.**

**L** Lord God, as we celebrate this Day of Pentecost, grant that Your Holy Spirit would bring us the peace and joy of salvation through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

**L** Almighty God, by Your Holy Spirit You have established Your Holy Church. Continue among us the work of Your Church today, that in every tongue the mighty works of God may be heard.

**C** **Amen.**

**L** O Holy Spirit, Comforter, and Counselor, give hope to Your people in the midst of this world of despair. Grant to us faith that we would live according to Your promises and commands.

**C** **Amen.**

**L** Almighty God, govern the kingdoms of this world according to Your holy and gracious will. Protect those in harm's way because of the war in Ukraine that continues to cause innocent men, women, and children to suffer. Curb what is evil and promote what is good among us wherever we live in this fallen world.

**C** **Amen.**

**L** Almighty God, send Your holy angels to watch over all of our loved ones, especially those who live in distant places. During this time of continued uncertainty as the pandemic continues to be a concern, give Your comfort and peace to all who are suffering from this illness or others. Be with those who mourn. Grant to them the hope and assurance of a blessed reunion in heaven.

**C** **Amen.**

**C** **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

**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.**

**L** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**L** The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**C** **Amen.**



1 Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er dwell - ing In the ho - liest  
 2 Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er liv - ing As the Church's  
 3 Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er work - ing Through the Church's

realms of light; Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er brood - ing  
 ver - y life; Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er striv - ing  
 min - is - try; Quick - 'ning, strength - 'ning, and ab - solv - ing,

O'er a world of gloom and night; Ho - ly Spir - it,  
 Through us in a cease - less strife; Ho - ly Spir - it,  
 Set - ting cap - tive sin - ners free; Ho - ly Spir - it,

ev - er rais - ing Those of earth to thrones on high; Liv - ing,  
 ev - er form - ing In the Church the mind of Christ: You we  
 ev - er bind - ing Age to age and soul to soul In com -

life - im - part - ing Spir - it, You we praise and mag - ni - fy.  
 praise with end - less wor - ship For Your gifts and fruits un - priced.  
 mu - nion nev - er end - ing, You we wor - ship and ex - tol.

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## Pentecost and the Church Year

The curious may ask, “How did the Church Year come into existence?” While we may not possess all of the details, the answer to this question is not too difficult. The Church Year grew out of the events of Jesus’ life and ministry on earth.

The central and most important part of the Church Year is The Resurrection of our Lord. Every other part of the Church Year relates to this day and the salvation that Jesus won for us on the cross.

The Bible is quite clear about the events surrounding Easter. The actual days on which they occurred are recorded, therefore from earliest times, these days were observed annually: Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday,

Good Friday, Easter, Ascension Day, and Pentecost. The accounts of these events were read in the churches. Sermons were preached explaining them. People rejoiced to learn again about these undeniably important actions of Jesus for the salvation of the world.

Eventually, the observance of Jesus' birth was added to the Church Year as well as the seasons preceding Christmas and Easter (Advent and Lent) as a result the first half of the Church Year was dedicated to the life and work of Jesus.

Pentecost is the day on which Jesus fulfilled His promise to send the Holy Spirit to His Apostles. It is sometimes called the birthday of the Church because by the end of the day, after Peter's sermon, 3,000 were baptized and added to the Church.

It is the Holy Spirit who brings us into the faith and keeps us in the faith. He continues to work through the Church today by the means of grace (Word and Sacraments). The second half of the Church Year is dedicated to the work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the Christian people. Since it is the Holy Spirit who causes the Church to grow in numbers and faith, green (the color of growth) is chosen for the Sundays after Pentecost.

With next Sunday (Trinity Sunday) the festival half of the Church Year comes to its conclusion. The observances of the great events in the life of Christ are past until we again approach Christmas. Nevertheless, God is still doing great things in our lives every day. During the Pentecost season, we seek to focus more clearly on how Christ touches our lives by His Spirit and how we respond.

Pastor Quardokus

### **Service Notes:**

One person may serve as Leader or this may be shared with a number of individuals.

Read one or more of the lessons. Hymns may be sung or read. Use as much or little of this service as you would like.

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# Enhancing Your Worship

## Meditating on God's Word and Works

I will meditate on your wondrous works. Psalm 119:27  
My eyes are awake through the night watches,  
That I may meditate on Your word. Psalm 119:148 NKJV

### The Day of Pentecost

#### June 6 – June 11, 2022

#### Introduction

Most modern forms of mediation turn a person inward. Biblical meditation turns a person outward toward what God has said and done especially what He has said and done through Jesus for our salvation.

Each Sunday has its own special theme directing us to meditate on God's word and actions. This theme is found in the Propers of the Day (the parts of the service that change week to week). From Advent through the Easter season these themes focus our attention on the life of Jesus from His birth to His death and resurrection. There is always much more in the propers than can be covered in any Sunday service. God willing, I will use the propers for Sunday to provide you with a devotion each day to help you meditate on what God has done for you.

#### Monday

- L** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

#### Introit Psalm 104:24, 27–28, 30; antiphon Liturgical Text

- L** Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful,  
and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia.  
**C** O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you made them all;  
the earth is full of your creatures.  
**L** These all look to you,  
to give them their food in due season.  
**C** When you give it to them, they gather it up;  
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.  
**L** When you send forth your Spirit, they are created,  
and you renew the face of the ground.  
**C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.  
**L** Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful,  
and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia.

#### Kyrie

- |                    |                            |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>L</b> O Lord,   | <b>C</b> Have Mercy on us. |
| <b>L</b> O Christ, | <b>C</b> Have Mercy on us. |
| <b>L</b> O Lord,   | <b>C</b> Have Mercy on us. |

As often is the case, there is much to be found in Psalm 104 that didn't make its way into the introit. One verse that would seem to fit well with the Day of Pentecost is Psalm 104:4, "He makes His messengers winds, His ministers a flaming fire." I cannot help but think of the mighty rushing wind and the tongues of fire from the Day of Pentecost when I read these words.

A key verse from our introit is Psalm 104:30, "When you send forth your Spirit, they are created." It is a common mistake to believe that the Holy Spirit is only mentioned in the New Testament. While it is true that the Holy Spirit and His work are more fully revealed in the New Testament, you will find Him referred to throughout the Old Testament.

We learn of the Holy Spirit already in Genesis 1:2, "The Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters." A key passage describing the Holy Spirit's omnipresence is Psalm 139:7-10 (NIV),

- <sup>7</sup> Where can I go from your Spirit?  
Where can I flee from your presence?  
<sup>8</sup> If I go up to the heavens, you are there;  
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.  
<sup>9</sup> If I rise on the wings of the dawn,  
if I settle on the far side of the sea,  
<sup>10</sup> even there your hand will guide me,  
your right hand will hold me fast.

In fact, on Pentecost, Peter describes the events of the day as the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophet, Joel. He quotes Joel 2:28 in Acts 2:17, "And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh."

The most important thing to remember about the work of the Holy Spirit is His work in our hearts. Without the Holy Spirit, none of us would believe in Jesus. 1 Corinthians 2:14 tells us, "The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned." In fact, we learn from 1 Corinthians 12:3 that "no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except in the Holy Spirit."

Pentecost is an opportunity to thank God for the gift of faith granted to us by His Spirit. It is an occasion to thank Him for the gift of salvation that we receive by faith.

### **Holy Spirit, Light Divine** Lutheran Service Book 496, Lutheran Worship 166, The Lutheran Hymnal 234



- 1 Ho - ly Spir - it, light di - vine, Shine up - on this heart of mine;  
2 Let me see my Sav - ior's face, Let me all His beau - ties trace;  
3 Ho - ly Spir - it, pow'r di - vine, Cleanse this guilt - y heart of mine;  
4 Ho - ly Spir - it, joy di - vine, Cheer this sad - dened heart of mine;  
5 Ho - ly Spir - it, all di - vine, Dwell with - in this heart of mine;



Chase the shades of night a - way, Turn the dark - ness in - to day.  
Show those glo - rious truths to me Which are on - ly known to Thee.  
In Thy mer - cy pit - y me, From sin's bond - age set me free.  
Yield a sa - cred, set - tled peace, Let it grow and still in - crease.  
Cast down ev - 'ry i - dol throne, Reign su - preme, and reign a - lone.

## Tuesday

- L** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

### Verse of the Day: Liturgical Text

- L** Alleluia, Alleluia. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful, Alleluia.  
**C** Alleluia, Alleluia. And kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia.

### Kyrie

- L** O Lord,           **C** Have Mercy on us.  
**L** O Christ,       **C** Have Mercy on us.  
**L** O Lord,       **C** Have Mercy on us.

- L** Let us pray: O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy consolation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**C** Amen.

“The Princess Bride” is a film that has fans from all generations. One of the characters in the movie is a villain named Vizzini, played by Wallace Shawn. He credits himself with being astoundingly intelligent. Compared to him, he considers Plato, Aristotle, and Socrates to be morons.

He uses his intelligence to create infallible plans for the demise of the movie’s hero. Each time his diabolical tactics fail. To this, he exclaims the memorable and often quoted word, “Inconceivable!”

Here is a so-called brilliant man whose intelligence has failed him. He is so much like each one of us. Left to our own cleverness, we could never figure out God and His plan of salvation. To the human mind, the fact that God sent His only-begotten Son to die on the cross for the sins of the world seems inconceivable!

That He should rise from the dead is totally inconceivable! That you and I have our sins forgiven and receive the gift of eternal life is absolutely inconceivable!

But the Holy Spirit has called us by the Gospel, enlightened us with His gifts, sanctified, and kept us in the true faith—inconceivable, but true!

Let us pray: O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy consolation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## Wednesday

- L** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

### Verse of the Day: Liturgical Text

- L** Alleluia, Alleluia. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful, Alleluia.  
**C** Alleluia, Alleluia. And kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia.

## Psalm 143

- L** <sup>1</sup>Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy!  
In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!
- C** <sup>2</sup>**Enter not into judgment with your servant, for no one living is righteous before you.**
- L** <sup>3</sup>For the enemy has pursued my soul; he has crushed my life to the ground;  
he has made me sit in darkness like those long dead.
- C** <sup>4</sup>**Therefore my spirit faints within me; my heart within me is appalled.**
- L** <sup>5</sup>I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that you have done;  
I ponder the work of your hands.
- C** <sup>6</sup>**I stretch out my hands to you; my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.**
- L** <sup>7</sup>Answer me quickly, O LORD! My spirit fails!  
Hide not your face from me, lest I be like those who go down to the pit.
- C** <sup>8</sup>**Let me hear in the morning of your steadfast love, for in you I trust.**  
**Make me know the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.**
- L** <sup>9</sup>Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD! I have fled to you for refuge!
- C** <sup>10</sup>**Teach me to do your will, for you are my God!**  
**Let your good Spirit lead me on level ground!**
- L** <sup>11</sup>For your name's sake, O LORD, preserve my life! In your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble!
- C** <sup>12</sup>**And in your steadfast love you will cut off my enemies,**  
**and you will destroy all the adversaries of my soul, for I am your servant.**

## Kyrie

- |                    |                                   |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>L</b> O Lord,   | <b>C</b> <b>Have Mercy on us.</b> |
| <b>L</b> O Christ, | <b>C</b> <b>Have Mercy on us.</b> |
| <b>L</b> O Lord,   | <b>C</b> <b>Have Mercy on us.</b> |

If you are wondering why Psalm 143 was chosen to be read on Pentecost this year, you are not alone. It also seems curious to me.

Psalm 143 is the last of the penitential psalms and it is usually read during Lent. This may give us a clue as to why we are reading it this week.

The entire account of Pentecost is recorded in Acts 1:1-41. Our second reading is only the first half of the story. At the end of Peter's sermon, we read the following, "Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, 'Brothers, what shall we do?'" (Verse 37).

To this, Peter responds, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself" (Verses 38-39). Pentecost is a day of repentance and forgiveness!

Pentecost is a day for us to cry out to God for mercy and to hear the words of Peter that promise to us forgiveness and the Holy Spirit! Pentecost is a day for us to rejoice in the words of the Prophet Joel quoted by Peter, "Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved!"

Prayer: O Lord, thank You that You hear our cry for mercy. Grant us forgiveness and the gift of the Holy Spirit as You promised through the Apostle Peter on the Day of Pentecost. Amen.

## Thursday

- L** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

## Verse of the Day: Liturgical Text

- L** Alleluia, Alleluia. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful, Alleluia.  
**C** Alleluia, Alleluia. And kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia.

## Kyrie

- L** O Lord, **C** Have Mercy on us.  
**L** O Christ, **C** Have Mercy on us.  
**L** O Lord, **C** Have Mercy on us.

## Genesis 11:1–9

<sup>1</sup>Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. <sup>2</sup>And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. <sup>3</sup>And they said to one another, “Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly.” And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar. <sup>4</sup>Then they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth.” <sup>5</sup>And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built. <sup>6</sup>And the LORD said, “Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. <sup>7</sup>Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another’s speech.” <sup>8</sup>So the LORD dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. <sup>9</sup>Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth. And from there the LORD dispersed them over the face of all the earth.

The first eleven chapters of Genesis are remarkable in a number of ways. One of these ways is that the events described in these chapters cannot be dated as we normally date history. They might be considered “pre-history.” By this, I mean that they report events that happened before our ability to reliably place them on our calendar.

I know we are accustomed to hearing about dates many thousands of years before Jesus’ birth. However, most of those dates are just conjecture. Our actual historical record only extends to about 3000 B.C.

Moses wrote the first five books of the Bible sometime before 1400 B.C. He wrote what he knew and experienced. He also mentioned or quoted other books and sources of information. Through this process, God guided Moses so what He wrote was truthful and factual.

The account of the Tower of Babel is one of these updatable events. It happened sometime after the Flood and before the birth of Abraham.

We learn from this narrative something that has proven to be true throughout history. Sinful humans are habitually arrogant. From the building of the city and the tower of Genesis 11 to our unbridled faith in modern technology, humanity continually seeks to play God.

God’s judgment at the time of Babel was to thwart their plans by confusing their language. When we try to make technology into a god, God continues to thwart our efforts.

God’s people know that all that we have comes from Him. We are obligated to use it for His glory and the good of our neighbor. But we should never make our material wealth and success into a false god.

God has granted humanity the ability to fight disease, perform amazing surgeries, produce remarkable machines, and do incredible research into the workings of the universe. Let us always thank Him for this. However, these things should never be allowed to distract us from our ultimate need for forgiveness of sins and salvation that was won for us by Jesus on the cross.

Prayer: Almighty God, thank You for every gift of technology that we enjoy in our modern world. Grant that we would never allow technology to become a substitute for faith in our savior Jesus. Amen.

## Friday

- L** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

### Verse of the Day: Liturgical Text

- L** Alleluia, Alleluia. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful, Alleluia.  
**C** Alleluia, Alleluia. And kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia.

### Kyrie

- |                    |                            |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>L</b> O Lord,   | <b>C</b> Have Mercy on us. |
| <b>L</b> O Christ, | <b>C</b> Have Mercy on us. |
| <b>L</b> O Lord,   | <b>C</b> Have Mercy on us. |

### John 14:23–31

<sup>23</sup>Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. <sup>24</sup>Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father’s who sent me.

<sup>25</sup>“These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup>But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. <sup>27</sup>Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. <sup>28</sup>You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I will come to you.’ If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. <sup>29</sup>And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe. <sup>30</sup>I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on me, <sup>31</sup>but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us go from here.

We live in very strange times. Once noble churches are now promoting immoral behavior. This is done with an appeal to love.

Indeed, the Bible does say that God is love. It is found in 1 John 4:8. For a more complete understanding of this passage, take time to read 1 John 4:7-21.

Unfortunately, beginning in the 1960s the meaning of this passage has been reversed. Many in our culture now believe that “Love is God.” Therefore they are able to justify any form of sin by claiming that it is done out of love. The taking of innocent lives through abortion and euthanasia is excused on the basis of love. The worship of love (however it is defined) is the new idolatry.

In our Gospel lesson for this week, Jesus corrects this misguided thinking. He tells us, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word.” A few verses earlier, Jesus stated this truth even more clearly. He said, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments” (John 14:15).

It is never loving to break one of God’s laws. In fact, keeping God’s law is the ultimate expression of love. It would be good to review God’s plan for love by reading the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20:2-17. If you have time, refresh your memory by reading the Ten Commandments with Luther’s explanation in the Small Catechism.

Love is never self-serving. It is always self-sacrificing! “This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins” (1 John 4:10 NIV).

Prayer: O Lord, thank You for loving us and sending Your Son, Jesus, to be our savior. Grant us the grace to love You by keeping Your commandments through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Saturday

- L** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

### Gradual Acts 2:17b; Rom. 10:10

- L** I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh,  
**C** and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy.  
**L** With the heart one believes and is justified,  
**C** and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

### Verse of the Day: Liturgical Text

- L** Alleluia, Alleluia. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful, Alleluia.  
**C** Alleluia, Alleluia. And kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia.

## Kyrie

- L** O Lord,           **C** Have Mercy on us.  
**L** O Christ,       **C** Have Mercy on us.  
**L** O Lord,       **C** Have Mercy on us.

The gradual for the Day of Pentecost makes the great connection between the Holy Spirit and faith. Without the Holy Spirit we are dead in our trespasses and sins (Ephesians 2:1). However, God has poured out His Spirit on people of every nation, regardless of age, gender, or race. All are able to believe by the working of the Spirit.

It is only through the Spirit that our hearts are changed from unbelief. Our human spirits reject God and His plan of salvation. However, just as on the Day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit works in us the miracle of faith and we are justified, that is, declared not guilty of all sin and moral failings. With great joy, we confess this wonderful faith and the salvation that is ours in Jesus Christ.

**Creator Spirit, by Whose Aid** Lutheran Service Book 500, Lutheran Worship 167, The Lutheran Hymnal 236



1 Cre - a - tor Spir - it, by whose aid The world's foun - da - tions  
2 O Source of un - cre - at - ed light, The bear - er of God's  
3 Giv - er of grace, de - scend from high; Your sev'n - fold gifts to  
4 Im - mor - tal hon - or, end - less fame At - tend the al - might - y



first were laid, Come, vis - it ev - 'ry hum - ble mind; Come,  
gra - cious might, Thrice - ho - ly fount, thrice - ho - ly fire, Our  
us sup - ply; Help us e - ter - nal truths re - ceive And  
Fa - ther's name; The Sav - ior - Son be glo - ri - fied, Who



pour Your joys on hu - man - kind; From sin and sor - row  
hearts with heav'n - ly love in - spire; Your sa - cred, heal - ing  
prac - tice all that we be - lieve; Give us Your - self that  
for all hu - man - kind has died; To You, O Par - a -



set us free; May we Your liv - ing tem - ples be.  
mes - sage bring To sanc - ti - fy us as we sing.  
we may see The glo - ry of the Trin - i - ty.  
clete, we raise Un - end - ing songs of thanks and praise.

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