

St. John's Lutheran Church
May 19, 2024 - 9:00 a.m.
Pentecost Sunday

(An usher rings the church bells 5 minutes before church service starts)

Prelude – *“Thaxted: O God Beyond All Praising”* by Gustav Holst, arr. Lee Afdahl; JuBellation, Jim Boulter and Rusty Brand, trumpet; Linda Ranney, organ

(Acolyte -When music starts light candles)

Welcome & Announcements – Rev. Eric Nielsen

Temple Talk – Dramus Peuse

Gathering Hymn “O Day Full of Grace” ELW#627 v. 1, 2, 4, 4 (Alt)

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

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

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

4 Alt: As birds in the morning sing their praise, God's fatherly love we cherish, for giving to us this day of grace, for life that shall never perish. The church God has kept two thousand years, and hungering souls did nourish.

Apostolic 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.**

Kyrie ELW pg. 138

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

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

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,

al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. 1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.

Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,

al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. 2 Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and

strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.

Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,

al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. 3 Sing with all the peo-ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing, hon-or,

glo-ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,

al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.

Final refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. **Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Reading: Acts 2:1-21

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. ⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” ¹³But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.” ¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what say. ¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷‘In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. ¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. ²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day. ²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’”

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Time

Gospel Acclamation "Hail Thee Festival Day" ELW#394 v. 1 (*Please stand*)
Refrain

Hail thee, festival day! Blest day to be hallowed forever; day when our Lord was raised, breaking the kingdom of death.

1 Bright and in likeness of fire, on those who await his appearing,
he whom the Lord had foretold suddenly, swiftly descends: *Refrain*

Refrain

Hail thee, festival day! Blest day to be hallowed forever;
day when our Lord was raised, breaking the kingdom of death.

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

The Holy Gospel according to John the 15th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,] ²⁶"When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. ²⁷You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. ^{16:4b}"I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' ⁶But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. ⁷Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; ¹¹about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. ¹²"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon "What Does This Mean?" Rev. Eric Nielsen (*Please Sit*)

Hymn of the Day "*Spirit of Gentleness*" ELW#396 v.1-4

Refrain

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness calling and free;
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

- 1 You moved on the waters, you called to the deep, then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep; and over the eons you called to each thing: "Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings."

Refrain

- 2 You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand, and you goaded your people with a law and a land; and when they were blinded with idols and lies, then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes.

Refrain

- 3 You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill, then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still; and down in the city you called once again, when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind.

Refrain

- 4 You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes. From the bondage of sorrow all the captives dream dreams; our women see visions, our men clear their eyes. With bold new decisions your people arise.

Refrain

Graduation Milestone

Matt: It is our pleasure to recognize members of our congregation who have completed one phase of their lives and move with great expectations onto another, that of high school graduation. Those graduates who are here today, could you step forward for a blessing? (Name, where going, introduce, etc.)

Rev. Eric: To this assembly here today -- these young people are in a world that has many ever increasing challenges: gun violence, a warming climate, war and the threat of war, polarization. They have not known a world without social media. They have not known a world that was not global. I ask that you,

this assembly of followers of Christ, also continue your commitment to lift up, support, equip, and pray for a nurturing faith journey with our loving and graceful God for these young adults and their families, so that they will never lose hope, be lifted up in strength, and make a difference for the sake of the world God made. Will you continue those promises? If so, say, we will and we ask God to help us. **We will and we ask God to help us.**

Dear friends, as you graduate from High School, hear this blessing from us in the name of the Triune God, who will always love you and walk with you:

May God who began this good work in you
carry it through to completion,
enabling you to use your talents to the fullest.

May God give you the grace to make wise choices
and to be faithful to your commitments,
always confident in the support of those who love you.

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers,
half-truths, and superficial relationships,
so that you will live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice,
oppression, and exploitation of people,
so that you will work for justice, equality, and peace.

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who
suffer from pain, rejection, starvation, and war,
so that you will reach out your hand
to comfort them and change their pain into joy.

May God bless you with the foolishness to think
that you can make a difference in the world,
so that you will do the things
which others tell you cannot be done.

May your integrity be a gift to the world
and may the Spirit of God be with you always. Amen.

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

Petition: God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

(Ushers collect offering. Begin at the back of the sanctuary on the inside aisle and collect as you move to the front and continue around to the outside aisle returning with the offering to the Gathering Area. One usher collects offering from balcony.)

Musical Offering – “*Breathe*” by Marie Barnett arr. Derek Hakes, St. John's Choir and JuBellation

(Acolyte will collect the offering from the ushers to place on the altar during Offertory)

(Observe a time of silence and reflection)

Offertory “How Majestic is your Name” WP#66

(Please stand)

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! O Lord, we praise your name. O

Lord, we magnify your name, Prince of Peace, mighty God, O Lord God Almighty.

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray. Risen One, **you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving pg. 144

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

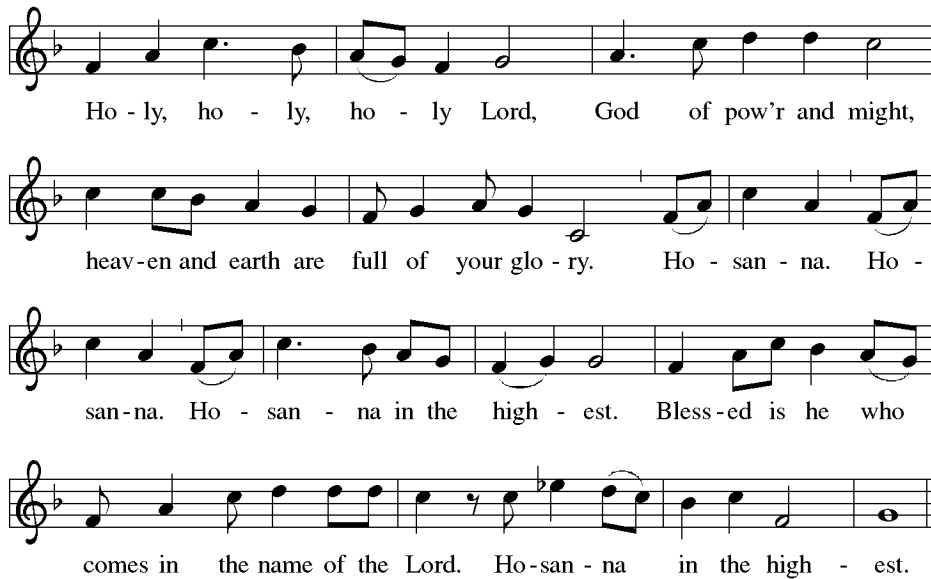
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy ELW pg.144



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

**Eucharistic Prayer & Words of Institution
 Lord's Prayer**

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 Table *(Please Sit)*

(Acolyte- comes forward for communion. The 2 ushers will go to the front of the Sanctuary and begin releasing worshippers to receive a wafer and wine.)

Lamb of God ELW pg. 146

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion Hymn “One Bread, One Body” ELW#496 v.1-3

Refrain

One bread, one body, one Lord of all; one cup of blessing which we bless, and we, though many throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.

- 1 Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more. *Refrain*
- 2 Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all. *Refrain*
- 3 Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one for all. *Refrain*

Post Communion Blessing (*Please stand*)

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray. Shepherding God, **you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.**

Blessing

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope † bless you now and always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn “*Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading*” ELW#401 v. 1-3
(*Acolyte – Extinguish candles*)

1 Gracious Spirit, heed our pleading, fashion us all anew. It's your leading that we're needing, help us to follow you.

Refrain

Come, come, come, Holy Spirit, come. Come, come, come, Holy Spirit, come.

2 Come to teach us, come to nourish those who believe in Christ. Bless the faithful, may they flourish, strengthened by grace unpriced. *Refrain*

3 Guide our thinking and our speaking done in your holy name. Motivate all in their seeking, freeing from guilt and shame. *Refrain*

Sending

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude – Linda Ranney

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Altar Flowers: In honor of people in the Armed Forces by Harold & Yvonne Mueller.

Serving at worship today:

Pastor – Christine Emerson

Worship Assistant – Jean Jirovec

Lector – Kathy Freitag

Acolytes – Eric Dahl, Vincent Dahl

Ushers – Brian Wagner, Dramus Peuse

Greeters – Mike Torud, Sam Pederson

Communion Servers – Louise Alt, Diana Hogenson, Margaret Kinderman,
Cheryl Stage

Camera System – Scott Olsen

Power Point- Lois Mai

Musicians- Linda Ranney, organ/piano; Mark Lundin, cantor; St. John's Choir;
JuBellation; Jim Boulter and Rusty Brand, trumpet