

# FESTIVAL OF PENTECOST

May 23, 2021



# Pentecost

**Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**66325 M 152, Dowagiac (Sister Lakes), MI 49047**

David Schaller, pastor 269-424-3035

Sunday Worship, 9:00 am - Bible Class and Sunday School, 10:15 am



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A Member Congregation in the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)

# ORDER OF SERVICE FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY

Adapted from *The Lutheran Hymnal*

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## OPENING PRAYER

HYMN 235:1-3 (TLH)

O Holy Spirit, Enter In

## THE INVOCATION

(We declare that the triune God is the God we worship.)

P In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

 **C Amen.**


## CONFESSION OF SINS AND ABSOLUTION

(We confess our sins and hear God's announcement of forgiveness.)

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us come near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

 **C Who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

 **C And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**PC O most merciful God, who has given Your only begotten Son to die for us, have mercy on us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**


P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. Whoever believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this Lord, unto us all.

 **C Amen.**

## INTROIT † GLORIA PATRI † KYRIE

(We enter the next part of the service with a Bible verse, we glorify the Father, and pray for our earthly needs.)

P (Wisdom 1:7; Psalm 68:1, 3) For the Spirit of the Lord fills the world, is all-embracing, and knows whatever is said . . . May God arise, may his enemies be scattered; may his foes flee before him. But may the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; may they be happy and joyful.


 **C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.**

 **C Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

(We sing a hymn of glory to God.)

*Melody: TLH 191 Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia!*

 **C Glory be to God on high; Alleluia!  
Christ is ris'n, He meets our eyes! Alleluia!  
God shows His goodwill toward men; Alleluia!  
Peace now reigns on earth again; Alleluia!**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

(A prayer that collects and reflects the themes of the day.)

## THE LESSONS

(We hear Bible readings that support the thoughts of the season.)

**Ezekiel 37:1-14**<sup>NIV84</sup> *The Holy Spirit is able to bring spiritual life to those who are spiritually dead.* | The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. <sup>3</sup>He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" I said, "O Sovereign LORD, you alone know." <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!' <sup>5</sup>This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. <sup>6</sup>I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.'" <sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. <sup>8</sup>I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to

me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe into these slain, that they may live.'" <sup>10</sup> So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet-- a vast army. <sup>11</sup> Then he said to me: "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.' <sup>12</sup> Therefore prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: O my people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup> Then you, my people, will know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. <sup>14</sup> I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD.'"

**Acts 2:1-21**<sup>NIV84</sup> *The Holy Spirit comes to Jesus' disciples on the day of Pentecost.* | When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. <sup>5</sup> Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. <sup>6</sup> When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. <sup>7</sup> Utterly amazed, they asked: "Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans?" <sup>8</sup> Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language? <sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome <sup>11</sup> (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs-- we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" <sup>12</sup> Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup> Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine." <sup>14</sup> Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. <sup>15</sup> These men are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! <sup>16</sup> No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: <sup>17</sup> "'In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. <sup>18</sup> Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. <sup>19</sup> I will show wonders in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. <sup>20</sup> The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. <sup>21</sup> And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

**CONFESSION OF FAITH**

**Apostles' Creed III (Explanation)**

(We respond to the lessons by reciting what we believe.)

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.

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 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.

In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all sins to me and all believers.

On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead and give to me and all believers in Christ eternal life.

This is most certainly true.

**HYMN 740** (WS; see insert)

Holy Spirit, End Our Sadness

**THE SERMON**

(We learn from God's word.)

***CHRISTIANS ARE LIFELONG LEARNERS***


**John 14:25-27** All this I have spoken while still with you. <sup>26</sup> But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. <sup>27</sup> Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

**PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING**

(In the last portion of the service we pray and give thanks to God.)

P And the peace of God which is a greater peace than any our own minds can give to us shall guard your hearts in Christ Jesus unto life everlasting. Amen.

## THE OFFERTORY

 **C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

## OFFERING

### PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

**HYMN 234** (TLH)

Holy Ghost, with Light Divine

### CLOSING PRAYER

The Collect for Peace


P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

 **C Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

(The Lord sends us home with His blessing.)

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

 **C Amen, Amen, Amen.**

**HYMN 226:7-9** (TLH)

Holy Spirit, Strong and Mighty





**Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions, May 24-29, 2021**  
by Prof. Paul Koch (retired)

**Mon Ezekiel 37:1-14** In ch. 36 God prepped Ezekiel to expect renewal for Israel, but this visit to the cemetery was a shock, all the same. The skeletons responded to the LORD's command and to His breath of life - - illustrating the miracle of new life God was preparing for dead Israel. God does this miracle every time he enlivens a dried-up soul by His Spirit delivered via His Word. His Pentecost miracle is still functioning in our world. Thank You, Lord Jesus.

**Tues John 14:25-27** Jesus prepped His disciples to await the Holy Spirit of the Trinity, Jesus' replacement in the classroom of life. The Spirit reviews what Jesus spoke, so that Jesus' words will never be forgotten. Bottom line: The Holy Spirit uses Jesus' words to deliver God's merciful forgiveness, which brings peace to troubled, fearful hearts. We know; we were/are there.

**Wed Acts 2:1-21** Jesus gave His spin on the agricultural festival of Pentecost by sending His Holy Spirit down to Earth, enabling the disciples to break the language barrier, preaching the good news of forgiveness in a way that really resonated with foreigners (5-14). Peter clarified that God had pre-programmed Pentecost into Israel's history (14-21). **How great Thou art!**

**Thurs Psalm 51:10-14** Yes, the *Offertory* (TLH 12, 22) quotes this psalm after we have confessed our sins (1-6) and are assured that God still loves us. In the *Offertory* we tunefully beseech God to keep up His good work, to enliven us with His Spirit to live in harmony with Him (13). That's a psalm/prayer worth rehearsing and repeating every day of our lives.

**Fri Luke 12:32-34** If your world has shrunk, narrowed by illness, sorrow, or other limitations — you will benefit from God's assurance that you belong to His flock. Though it be a small flock, He delights to center His attention on each member and shares His treasures with every member (33). His treasury is supported without taxes, is safe from terrorists and cyber attack, secure against inflation and/or depression — a treasure "out-of-this-world"!

**Sat Acts 26:12-18** [If you want more details, check out the accounts in Acts 9:1-16 and 22:6-16.] Jesus explained: He stopped Paul in his tracks because He wanted to use Paul as His spokesman. But why choose such a renegade? Because Paul was the best example of what Jesus can do: He can turn the worst sinner into a messenger of God's grace and mercy. God can change the most hostile, obnoxious hater of Jesus into the opposite. Paul's intense personality, his toughness, and his resiliency would be useful when he testified that Jesus had acquired salvation, so hostile Jews would repent and receive forgiveness of their sins. Praise the Lord! Stay tuned for further developments.



## CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

*Antiphon**Psalm Tone*

Create in me a clean heart, O God,\*  
And renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from Your presence,\*  
And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,\*  
And uphold me with Your generous Spirit.

*Antiphon*

O Lord, open my lips,\*  
And my mouth shall show forth Your praise.

For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it;\*  
You do not delight in burnt offering.

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit,\*  
A broken and a contrite heart –  
These, O God, You will not despise.

**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.**

*Antiphon*

# HOLY SPIRIT, END OUR SADNESS

1 Ho - ly Spir - it, end our sad - ness; Pierce the clouds of  
 2 From the height which knows no mea - sure As a gra - cious  
 3 Be our friend on each oc - ca - sion, God, om - ni - po -

sin - ful night; Come, O source of sweet - est glad - ness, Breathe Your  
 show'r de - scend. Bring - ing down the rich - est trea - sure We can  
 tent to save! When we die, be our sal - va - tion, When we're

life and spread Your light! Hear, O hear our sup - pli -  
 wish, or God can send! Help us flee what - e'er would  
 bur - ied be our grave. Seat us with Your saints in

ca - tion, Lov - ing Spir - it, God of peace! Rest up - on this  
 harm us, Both from er - ror and from sin. Guard us, lest the  
 glo - ry, When from out the grave we rise, Then for - ev - er

con - gre - ga - tion, Great dis - tri - bu - ter of grace!  
 world a - larm us, Ho - ly Foun - tain, cleanse with - in.  
 we'll a - dore You, Round Your throne a - bove the skies.