

THE DAY OF PENTECOST

Saturday, May 22, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

4101 Washington Street NE

Columbia Heights, MN 55421

+ CONNECT +

INVOCATION:

L: Our worship begins the way our lives in Christ begin in baptism: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

THE PENTECOST STORY: Acts 2:1-21

OPENING HYMN: “Creator Spirit, Heavenly Dove”

**Creator Spirit, heav’nly dove, Descend upon us from above;
With graces manifold restore Your creatures as they were before.**

**To you, the Comforter, we cry, To you, the gift of God most high,
True fount of life, the fire of love, The soul’s anointing from above.**

**In you, with graces sevenfold, We God’s almighty hand behold
While you with tongues of fire proclaim To all the world his holy name.**

**Your light to ev’ry sense impart, And shed your love in ev’ry heart;
Your own unfailing might supply To strengthen our infirmity.**

**Keep far from us our cruel foe, And peace from your own hand bestow;
If you be our protecting guide, No evil can our steps betide.**

**Oh, make to us the Father known; Teach us the eternal Son to own;
And you, whose name we ever bless, Of both the Spirit, to confess.**

**Praise we the Father and the Son And Holy Spirit, with them one;
And may the Son on us bestow The gifts that from the Spirit flow.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

C: Holy God, ignite within us a fiery passion for your mission in the world today. Warm us by the Spirit’s dancing tongues of flame, that we may feel your kindling blaze within, urging us to do your greater good. Make us wholly present to experience a new birth, and awaken possibilities within us to share your love in the world. In this love and abundance, we come to celebrate your harvest—a harvest bearing the first fruits of the Spirit within us. Show us how to use these gifts, as we listen for your truth in the rushing winds and gentle breezes of your Spirit. Amen.

GREETING TIME

+ NURTURE +

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the LORD was on 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. 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. He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" I said, "Sovereign LORD, you alone know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. 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.'" 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. I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.'" So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army. Then he said to me: "Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.' Therefore prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: 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. Then you, my people, will know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. 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.'"

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

RESPONSE: "Holy Spirit, Light Divine"

**Holy Spirit, light divine, Dawn upon this soul of mine;
Let your word dispel the night, Wake my spirit, clear my sight.**

**Holy Spirit, truth divine, Shine upon these eyes of mine;
Send your radiance from above, Let me know my Savior's love.**

**Holy Spirit, pow'r divine, Fortify this will of mine;
Bend it to your own pure will, All my life with graces fill.**

HOLY GOSPEL:

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, chapters 15 & 16.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord!**

"When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father—he will testify about me. And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning..... I did not tell you this from the beginning because I was with you, but now I am going to him who sent me. None of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' Rather, you are filled with grief because I have said these things. But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because people do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; and about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned. I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you."

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ!**

RESPONSE: "Holy Spirit, Light Divine"

Holy Spirit, grace divine, Cleanse this sinful heart of mine;
In your mercy look on me, From sin's bondage set me free.

Holy Spirit, peace divine, Still this restless heart of mine;
Speak to calm the tossing sea, Stayed in your tranquility.

Holy Spirit, all divine, Dwell within this self of mine;
I your temple pure would be Now and for eternity.

MESSAGE: "What Makes Us One?" – Pastor Bill Hugo

SONG OF THE DAY: "Holy Spirit, the Dove Sent From Heaven"



1 Ho - ly Spir - it, the dove sent from heav - en,
2 Ho - ly Spir - it, the fire — ce - les - tial,
3 Ho - ly Spir - it, the unc - tion of bless - ing,
4 Ho - ly Spir - it, the wind of great pow - er,



Ev - er one with the One who is Three,
Who on Pen - te - cost came as fore - told,
Sa - cred oil of the green ol - ive tree,
Source of strength and of peace and of love,



From the Fa - ther You came, Words of peace to pro - claim,
To de - scend from on high And the Church oc - cu - py
Giv - ing heat, giv - ing light, As the tent lamps ig - nite
Tru - est Com - fort - er, plead, As You bring all our need



Come and com - fort us, speak ten - der - ly.
As the cloud filled the tem - ple of old;
And as Aar - on praised God joy - ful - ly.
To the throne of God's glo - ry a - bove.



You, the fra - grance of life we are seek - ing;
All the bap - tized You seal with Your prom - ise,
Bless - ed liv - ing and life - giv - ing wa - ter,
Be the light that en - light - ens the Scrip - tures;



Fill Your tem - ple, Your al - tar make clean.
 All be - liev - ers Your gift there re - ceive,
 Now pre - serve us from e - vil with - in;
 Keep our feet from each dev - il - ish snare;



Joy - ous shel - ter of love, Gra - cious friend from a - bove,
 So that all the e - lect— All in Christ— may ex - pect
 For in Je - sus, God's Son, All be - liev - ers are one
 On - ly You can make whole All that trou - bles our soul;



In Your care we are rest - ing, se - rene.
 To en - joy what by grace they be - lieve.
 In this wash - ing that cleans - es from sin.
 By Your chris - m, Christ's tri - umph we share.

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CONFESSION OF FAITH: Apostles' Creed

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.

+ EMPOWER +

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

(Prayer response – P: Lord, in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.)

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.**

CONFESSION OF OUR SINS:

L: Before we receive the gift of forgiveness from God's altar, let's confess our need for that forgiveness.

C: **Heavenly Father, you dwell within us in sighs too deep for words, yet we cannot hear you. You wrap us tenderly in fierce love, you give us the breath of life, yet we cannot touch you.**

L: Lord Jesus, we yearn for your presence, we seek your abundant grace, yet we cannot feel it.
C: Holy Spirit, you prepare to sear our souls for your purpose, yet we allow our somber selves to intrude, shutting our minds to your power.
ALL: Remind us, we pray, that we need only trust in the Giver of Life to find the hope and faith you have promised. Gather us up in the winds of your favor and carry us to ever greater heights, through Christ who loves us still. Amen.

FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: "O Day Full of Grace"

O day full of grace that now we see Appearing on earth's horizon,
Bring light from our God that we may be Replete in his joy this season.
God, shine for us now in this dark place;
Your name on our hearts emblazon.

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 darkness and shame removing.

For Christ bore our sins, and not his own,
When he on the cross was hanging;
And then he arose and moved the stone That we, unto him belonging,
Might join with angelic hosts to raise Our voices in endless singing.

God came to us then at Pentecost, His Spirit new life revealing,
That we might no more from him be lost, All darkness for us dispelling.
His flame will the mark of sin efface
And bring to us all his healing.

When we on that final journey go That Christ is for us preparing,
We'll gather in song, our hearts aglow, All joy of the heavens sharing,
And walk in the light of God's own place,
With angels his name adoring.

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Lay Minister: Jim Geslin