

Festival of Pentecost (Year B)

Sunday, May 23 & Wednesday, May 26, 2021



Prelude

Announcements

***Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ, for the waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,

like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life. Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever. **Amen.**

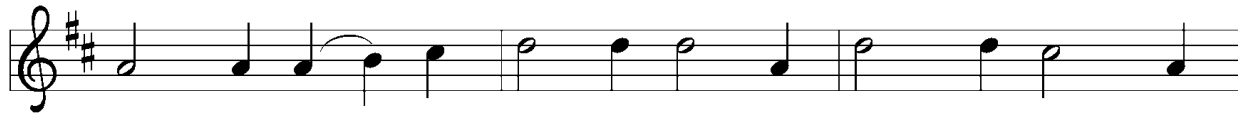
***Opening Hymn:**

O Holy Spirit, Root of Life

ELW # 399



1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, root of life, cre -
2 E - ter - nal vig - or, Sav - ing One, you
3 O ho - ly Wis - dom, soar - ing pow'r, en -



a - tor, cleans - er of all things: a - noint our wounds, a -
free us by your liv - ing Word, be - com - ing flesh to
com - pass us with wings un - furled, and car - ry us, en -



wak - en us with lus - trous move - ment of your wings.
wear our pain, and all cre - a - tion is re - stored.
cir - cling all a - bove, be - low, and through the world.

Text: Jean Janzen, b. 1933; based on Hildegard of Bingen, 1098–1179
Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune; adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621
Text © 1991 Jean Janzen, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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***Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

Amen.

***Prayer of the Day**

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.

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹The hand of the LORD came upon me, and brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²The LORD led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³The LORD said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” ⁴Then the LORD said to me, “Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

⁷So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then the LORD said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” ¹⁰I prophesied as the LORD commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹Then the LORD said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ ¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.”

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

²⁴How manifold are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

²⁵Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number, living things both small and great.

²⁶There go the ships to and fro, and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.

²⁷All of them look to you to give them their food in due season.

²⁸You give it to them; they gather it; you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

²⁹When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

³⁰You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth.

³¹May the glory of the LORD endure forever; O LORD, rejoice in all your works.

³²You look at the earth¹ and it trembles; you touch the mountains and they smoke.

³³I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being.

³⁴May these words of mine please God. I will rejoice in the LORD.

^{35b}Bless the LORD, O my soul. Hallelujah!

Second Reading: Acts 2:1-21

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, they 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 Jewish-born 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, “You Judeans and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I 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 youth shall see visions, and your elders 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.**

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

The holy gospel according to John. **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, the Advocate 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 the one 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 the Advocate to you. ⁸And having come, the Advocate 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, you will be guided into all the truth; for the Spirit will not speak out of the Spirit’s own authority, but will speak whatever the Spirit hears, and will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴The Spirit will glorify me, taking what is mine and declaring it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that the Spirit will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

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

Homily

Reflection

After this long time of the pandemic and continuing national and international troubles, we may feel like the people in exile: bones dried up, hope lost, cut off completely. The death of Jesus may seem like another sad story, far away from helping us. But on this fiftieth day of the Easter feast — Pentecost — the Spirit of God that bears witness to God's victory in the cross is poured into our hearts. With that Spirit comes the whole Easter gospel: Christ is alive; we are raised up with him to no longer be afraid; and the Spirit empowers us to join the witness to Jesus' resurrection. This Spirit puts life and hope and new breath within us — in the word we read today; in the remembrance of our baptism into Christ; and in the holy supper when we can safely receive it in the assembly. In faith, we see the face of the weary earth being renewed, and we join the renewal by turning in love to our neighbors.

*Hymn of the Day

Spirit of Gentleness

ELW #396

Refrain



Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness



call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,



stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.



- 1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
- 2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
- 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
- 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;
From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;



and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing:
and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,
and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,
our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.



Refrain

“A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings.”
then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.
when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.
With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.

***Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

***Prayers of Intercession**

Today is Pentecost, the fiftieth day of Easter, and we ask God to send the Holy Spirit on the church, the earth, and all who are in need.

God of life, we pray for the church around the globe: for the church in Africa, we pray: **Come, Holy Spirit!**

for the church in Asia, we pray: **Come, Holy Spirit!**

for the church in Australia and all the islands, we pray: **Come, Holy Spirit!**

for the church in Europe, we pray, **Come, Holy Spirit!**

for the church in North, and Central, and South America, we pray: **Come, Holy Spirit!**

for our congregation, St. Matthew, and the Allegheny Synod we pray: **Come, Holy Spirit!**

and for all who search for you, we pray: **Come, Holy Spirit!**

Bless the lands, the seas, and all your creatures, too numerous to count. Send your lively Spirit to renew the face of the whole earth. For the earth we pray: **Come, Holy Spirit!**

Inspire the leaders of nations to strive for justice and equality for all. Bring peace to Jerusalem, to Israel, and to Palestine. Provide a home for refugees. For the nations of the world we pray: **Come, Holy Spirit!**

Instill in our legislators and judges a passion for truth. Grant your Spirit to all who make political decisions in our land, that they discern and walk the way of righteousness. For our government we pray: **Come, Holy Spirit!**

Unite all peoples around the globe into one humankind of cooperation and care. Teach us respect for those whose language or skin color or culture is different from our own. For the end of prejudice we pray: **Come, Holy Spirit!**

Bring an end to the pandemic. Restore those who have contracted the virus. Uphold healthcare workers, and supply vaccines to all countries and peoples. For worldwide health we pray: **Come, Holy Spirit!**

Visit all who are suffering, all who feel hopeless, and all who face death. Feed all who hunger. Grant jobs to those who are unemployed. Send healing to those we name here before you. . . For all who are in need we pray: **Come, Holy Spirit!**

Breathe your life into each of us, and receive the cries of our own hearts. For ourselves we pray: **Come, Holy Spirit!**

Receive our praise for all the faithful who have gone before us, from the first Pentecost, throughout Christian history, and up to this week. That at the end we join with all the saints to rejoice in your presence, we pray: **Come, Holy Spirit!**

With confidence in your love and with trust in your mercy, glorious God, giver of life, we offer these prayers through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

***Liturgy of Holy Communion for In-Person Worship**

The Lord be with you. **And also 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.**

*The Great Thanksgiving & 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.

Communion Hymn

We Come to the Hungry Feast

ELW # 479



1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.
2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased
3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,



To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is
from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,
and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay



not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943
Music: HUNGRY FEAST, Ray Makeever
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*Communion Blessing

***Sending Hymn**

God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind

ELW # 400



1 God of tem - pest, God of whirl - wind, as on Pen - te -
2 God of blaz - ing, God of burn - ing, all that blocks your
3 God of earth - quake, God of thun - der, shake us loose from
4 God of pas - sion, God un - sleep - ing, stir in us love's



cost de - scend! Drive us out from shel - tered com - fort;
pur - pose, purge! Through your church, Christ's liv - ing Bod - y,
leth - ar - gy! Break the chains of sin a - sun - der,
rest - less - ness! Where the peo - ple cry in an - guish,



past these walls your peo - ple send! Sweep us in - to cost - ly ser - vice,
let your flam - ing Spir - it surge! Where de - ceit con - ceals in - jus - tice,
for earth's heal - ing set us free! Crum - ble walls that still di - vide us;
may we share your heart's dis - tress. Rouse us from con - tent with e - vil;



there with Christ to bear the cross, there with Christ to bear the cross!
kin - dle us to speak your truth, kin - dle us to speak your truth!
make us one in Christ our Lord, make us one in Christ our Lord!
claim us for your king - dom's work, claim us for your king - dom's work!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007

Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

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***Benediction**

May our glorious God grant us a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father, + Son and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever. **Amen.**

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

Postlude

We will only join for fellowship on Zoom (596-621-1441, 8675309) if the in-person gathering is cancelled for rain and the service is live streamed in real time.

Hikers & Confirmands

10 AM Saturday, May 22nd is our second Holy Hike of the year. Meet at the far left of the main parking area at Canoe Creek State Park. The hike is a little over a mile on gentle terrain; we will celebrate a service of scripture and communion over the course of the hike, which should take us a little over an hour. Lunch (hotdogs & snacks) will follow for our new and returning catechism students and their families to get to know one another (St. James Huntingdon & St. Luke Roaring Spring catechism families will be joining us).

Please be advised that worship services are recorded and/or live-streamed on social media.

Office Hours This Week:

Monday & Wednesday: 1PM to 4PM (Pastor Traci)

Monday, Tuesday, Friday: 9AM to Noon (Lori)

Wednesday - Thursday: 9AM to Noon (Laura)

May Worship Schedule

1st Sunday: 9AM Sanctuary, 10:30 AM Fellowship Hall

2nd-4th Sunday: 9AM outdoors (recorded and then uploaded)

5th Sunday: 10:30 AM at Kreider's Farm; brown bag lunch after

Wednesdays: 6:30 PM Sanctuary

Other Midweek

Monday May 24th: 6:30PM Christian Ed via zoom

Wednesday May 26th: Yoga 5:00PM

Thursday May 27th: Staff Meeting 10:00AM

Saturday May 29th: Yoga 10:00AM



CONGRATULATIONS graduate! You have reached a major milestone in your academic career. Please submit your information by email or mail so we can help you celebrate your accomplishments. Please attach a photo.

Deadline for the information is Monday, May 24, 2021.

THIRD CENTURY FUND (ENDOWMENT FUND)

The Third Century Fund had good earnings year in 2020 and as a result has \$5,437 for distribution in 2021. You or your committee may request funding in writing by contacting David Lehman, chairperson or committee members Allen Kuster, Laura Orczeck, Beth Garner or Pastor Traci.

Deadline to submit a request is Sunday, May 30, 2021. Funds will be distributed in June 2021. You can email Dave at: **dlehman1@atlanticbb.net**

The following is from the by-laws of the Third Century Fund and outline the guidelines for fund requests.

USE OF THE FUND

All contributions to the St. Matthew Lutheran Church Endowment Fund will be undesignated and added to the principal balance of the fund. The Endowment fund principal balance will be retained and only the dividend income will be used for annual disbursements.

Consideration for awarding fund requests will be given using the following guidelines.

1. Youth of all ages - scholarship support of congregational members and their children; for youth events, for church camps or similar Christian programs and education.
2. Christian outreach ministries and missions of St. Matthew Lutheran Church, its members and the ELCA.
3. Worship and music - support for the worship of St, Matthew.
4. Capital Projects - major renovations or building projects of St. Matthew.

Mark your Calendars: Sunday Worship at Camp Sequanota, June 13th

On Sunday, June 13th, we will gather for worship at Camp Sequanota in Jennerstown, PA. Weather-permitting, we'll meet at the Luther League chapel (transportation up the hill is available); in case of rain, we'll use the large pavilion by the large athletic field (follow signs). Worship will begin at 11AM; please arrive a little early if you'll need a golf cart ride up to the chapel. Lunch (BYOLunch) will be immediately following worship at the large pavilion. We will provide beverages, s'mores, and a fire (you can bring your own over-the-fire food if you want to cook). This will be the day of Sequanota's benefit donors' picnic; the pool will be open and available to you in the afternoon. Stay for worship, worship and lunch, worship, lunch, and swimming, or register for the benefit picnic and stay all day. Have extra seats in your vehicle and want to provide a ride? Call the church office. Need a seat in someone's vehicle and want to accept a ride? Also call the church office.

Inservice for Adults Volunteering with Children and Youth

The Staff Support Committee is sponsoring two educational sessions at the church on Sunday, June 6, 2021, at 10:00 am and at 11:30 am for adults volunteering with the children and youth of our St. Matthew community. Any adult, whether they have or have not volunteered in the past, who desires to volunteer is requested to attend. We will be providing education about the updates for our St. Matthew's Child Protection Policy including identifying and reporting child abuse. This will be an opportunity to complete necessary forms to secure or renew background checks that are required this year. If you have a Pennsylvania State Police criminal background clearance and a Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance that are current and do not expire in 2021, please bring copies to the session. A packet of information for both new and previous volunteers will be available in the Church office prior to the inservice. If you have any questions about whether you should attend or about the content of the inservice, please contact Kaye Burket at 814-224-5224 or Pastor Traci at 814-935-9267.

Prayers are needed for our homebound: Shirley Acker, Carl & Dawn Alexy, John Aljets, Vivian Beach, Verna Blough, Fred Brandenburg, Clyde Claycomb, Donna Gearhart, Betty Helsel, Jere Hess, Gerald Hoover, Audrey Hite, Ruth Johnson, Janet Kreider, Harry Partner, Ginny Sell, Dan Sinal, Don Smith, Joy Williams.

Prayer Concerns: Amy & Family, Pastor Denise Arpino, Cindy Barnes, Randy Barrett, Jim Brower, Diane Cappel, Dwight Ciccotelli, Greg Comer, Greg Dick, Brian Fleck, Dan Hershberger, Jere Hess, Marilyn Horton, Amber Itle, Jenny, Bob Kensinger, Anna Klepser, Kirk Kling, Darren Kreutzer, Karrie McCall & Family, Chuck McGeary, Kristen Malloy, Ryder McDermitt, Betty McDowell, Rick McIntyre, Nathan, Aunt Mica, Kevin Ormsby, Deb Peters, Alana Rhodes, Paul Ruth, Barbara Smith, Connie Smith, Margie Smith, Luther Steele, Cindy Thomas, David Tremmel, Peggy Tremmel, Carol Weyandt, Pete Williams, Jody Zelanko, and for our **Missionaries: Rev. Lesley Hand, On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson.**

Our college students: Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Jacob Orczeck.

Specialist Training in the Army: Nathan Smith

**WORSHIP AT THE KREIDER FARM
SUNDAY, MAY 30, 2021 AT 10:30 A.M.**

followed by brown bag picnic in the pavilion (In the event of rain, outdoor services will not be in-person, but will be live-streamed at 9 AM.)

Directions: From Martinsburg, take 164 East to Fredericksburg. Turn **left** on Clover Creek road and follow for 2¾ miles to Kreider Lane on the right.



Home Communion Visits

Pastor Traci is available for home communion visits, either inside for those fully vaccinated or outside for those not fully vaccinated. To schedule, please call the office or cell (814-935-9267).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Monday (commemoration of Nicolaus Copernicus, 1543; Leonard Euler, 1783; scientists) Psalm 104:24-34, 35b. **Tuesday** 1 Corinthians 12:12-27. **Wednesday** Ezekiel 37:1-14. **Thursday** (commemoration of John Calvin, renewer of the church, 1564) Psalm 29. **Friday** Romans 8:9-11. **Saturday** (commemoration of Jiří Tranovský, hymnwriter, 1637) John 15:18-20, 26-27. **The Holy Trinity** Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29; Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17.

Reflection text: Gordon Lathrop. Intercessory Prayer: Gail Ramshaw.

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