

The Day of Pentecost

East Conference of La Crosse Area Synod
May 31, 2020

Welcome

This Service was created and recorded by the pastors of the East Conference of the La Crosse Area Synod in celebration of the Holy Spirit's presence on Pentecost.

Call to Worship

**Come, Holy Spirit, Come
Come, Holy Spirit, Come
Come, Holy Spirit, Come**

A wind breathes among us,
calling us to gather
in the name of the Holy One.
Come, Holy Spirit, Come

A fire burns within us,
calling us to service,
calling us to prayer.
Come, Holy Spirit, Come

A spirit moves around us,
calling us to worship
as God's holy people.
**Come, Holy Spirit, Come
Come, Holy Spirit, Come
Come, Holy Spirit, Come**

Come, Spirit of Truth, fill our hearts.
Come, Spirit of Life, change our hearts.
Come, Spirit of Love, soften our hearts.
Come, Spirit of Hope, heal our hearts.
Come, Spirit of Faith, strengthen our hearts.
Come, Spirit of God, move in our hearts.

**Come, Holy Spirit, Come
Come, Holy Spirit, Come
Come, Holy Spirit, Come**



Gathering Hymn

Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading



Njo - o kwe - tu, Ro - ho mwe - ma, M - fa - ri - ji we - tu.

- 1 Gra - cious Spir - it, heed our plead - ing, fash - ion us all a - new.
- 2 Come to teach us, come to nour - ish those who be - lieve in Christ.
- 3 Guide our think - ing and our speak - ing done in your ho - ly name.



Tu - fu - ndi - she ya mbi - ngu - ni, tu - we wa - tu wa - pya.
It's your lead - ing that we're need - ing, help us to fol - low you.
Bless the faith - ful, may they flour - ish, strength - ened by grace un - priced.
Mo - ti - vate all in their seek - ing, free - ing from guilt and shame.

Refrain



Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.
Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.



Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.
Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.

- 4 Not mere knowledge, but discernment,
nor rootless liberty;
turn disquiet to contentment,
doubt into certainty. *Refrain*
- 5 Keep us fervent in our witness,
unswayed by earth's allure.
Ever grant us zealous fitness,
which you alone assure. *Refrain*

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are raised with him to new life.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured as the leader gives thanks.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and planted us in a well-watered garden. In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock. When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters. At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water, for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere. Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Remembrance of Baptism

Mark members of your family with the cross saying, "Child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Amen."

Prayer of the Day

O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Word – Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, 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, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

But 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 I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: '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. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

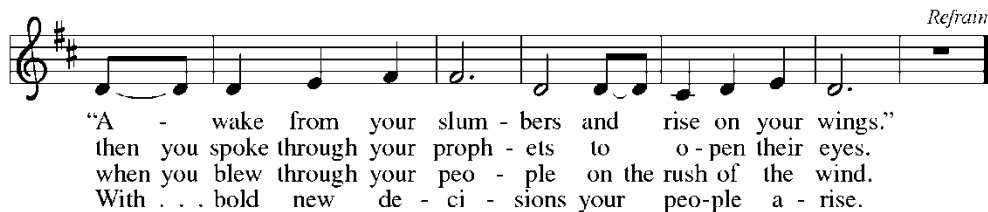
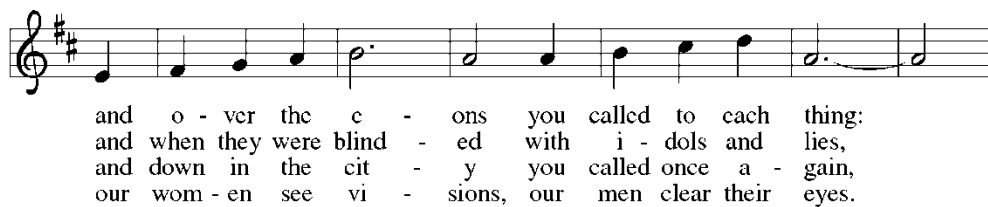
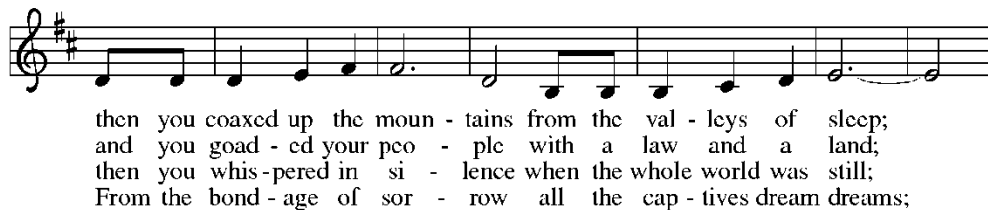
Message

Hymn of the Day

Spirit of Gentleness



- 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.



Text: James K. Manley, b. 1940
Music: SPIRIT, James K. Manley
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Apostles' Creed – Using Luther's Explanation from the Small Catechism

I believe in God, the Father almighty...

I believe that God has created me and all that exists.

God has given me and still preserves my body and soul with all their powers.

God provides me with food and clothing, home and family, daily work, and all I need from day to day.

God also protects me in time of danger and guards me from every evil.

All this God does out of fatherly and divine goodness and mercy, though I do not deserve it.

Therefore I surely ought to thank and praise, serve and obey God.

This is most certainly true.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord...

I believe that Jesus Christ--true God, Son of the Father from eternity, and true man, born of the virgin Mary--is my Lord.

At great cost he has saved and redeemed me, a lost and condemned person.

He has freed me from sin, death, and the power of the devil--not with silver or gold, but with his holy and precious blood and his innocent suffering and death.

All this he has done that I may be his own, live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he is risen from the dead and lives and rules eternally.

This is most certainly true.

I believe in the Holy Spirit...

I believe that I cannot by my own understanding or effort believe in Jesus Christ my Lord, or come to him.

But the Holy Spirit has called me through the Gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, and 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 united with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian Church day after day he fully forgives my sins and the sins of all believers.

On the last day he will raise me and all the dead and give me and all believers in Christ eternal life.

This is most certainly true. Amen.

Prayers

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

We call on your spirit of unity, giving thanks for our different vocations. Activate and utilize the diverse gifts present in your church, that they reveal your love for all. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We call on your spirit of life, present in air, wind, humidity, storms, and oxygen in our atmosphere, breathing energy into all things. Heal with your breath the whole creation, especially those who struggle to breathe due to air pollution. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We call on your spirit of righteousness. Wherever we as a people are divided, unite us. Wherever we are prideful, humble us. Give each one of us a heart for justice and empathy. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We call on your spirit of healing. Bless nurses, doctors, midwives, chaplains, counselors, and hospice workers as they care for those in need. We pray for all who long for comfort especially Katie, Carla, Dakota, Bill, Ruth, Judy, Alrita, Dick, Donna, Tim, Brad, Fred, Pam, Bob, and those we name aloud and in our hearts.... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We call on your spirit of hope. As you have led your saints in all times and places, stir in us the desire to follow their example, leading us from death to new life in you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Offering

Blessing

In our moments of chaos...**God is with us.**

In our moments of calm...**God is with us.**

In our moments of life. **God is with us. Alleluia!**

We go as a Pentecost people, touched by fire, stirred by wind, to mend the world.

Alleluia!

Sending Music - Sing a New Church (tune: ELW 807 - Come, thou Fount)

Summoned by the God who made us rich in our diversity,
Gathered in the name of Jesus, richer still in unity

Refrain

Let us bring the gifts that differ and, in splendid, varied ways,
Sing a new Church into being, one in faith and love and praise.

Bring the hopes of ev'ry nation; bring the art of ev'ry race.
Weave a song of peace and justice; let it sound through time and space. (Refrain)

Draw together at one table all the human family;
Shape a circle ever wider and a people ever free. (Refrain)

IN OUR PRAYERS

Katie Wallace, Bill Collar, Dakota Holiday, Carla Von Haden, Ruth Johnson, Judy Bever, Alrita Ornes, Dick Krause, Donna Welch, Tim Welch, Brad Bever, Fred Baldwin.

IN THE MILITARY

Jacob Picha, Todd Nofsinger, Dylan Dougherty, Danelle Dougherty, Seth Tormoen, Robert Cale.

Thank you to Pastor Dawn Lindberg for sharing the bulletin for this service. We added the songs and Prayers of Intercession specific to St. Paul's.

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CONTACTS DURING CORONAVIRUS CLOSURE

In case of emergency, contact Pastor Cathleen, via text, 608-865-1074, Justin Arndt (608-435-6336) (414-587-6642) or Nalani Bever (608-387-2311).

To activate the prayer chain, please contact Nalani or Louise Buchholz (608-435-6435).

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