



Fire, Water, and Spiritual Gifts

Festival of Pentecost

May 28, 2023

KING OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH | *Golden Valley, Minnesota*

Welcome to God's divine service among his saints in his house this morning. If you experience any kind of barrier to worship, please speak with an usher. There is a hearing assistance system available, there are activity bags for children, and the service is streamed live in the Fireside Room down the hall for small children.

Service of Preparation

PRESERVICE MUSIC

Use this time in quiet preparation for worship by looking ahead at today's Bible readings and hymn texts, and in prayer.

HYMN

Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord | #2

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to you both that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and also that we have each sinned against you in our thoughts, words, and actions. Therefore we flee for refuge toward your infinite mercy, pleading for your grace on the basis of the work of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: O most merciful God, you have given your only-begotten Son to die for us. Have mercy upon 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 upon us and has given his only-begotten Son to die for us, and on the basis of his work forgives us all our sins. To all who believe in his name he gives power to become the children of God, and has promised them his Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized will be saved.

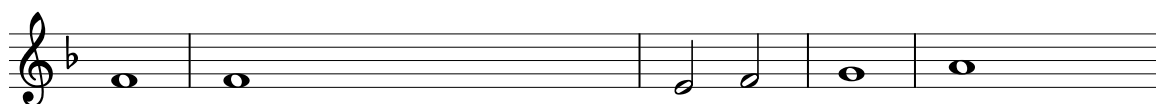
C: Grant this unto us, O Lord. Amen.

HYMN


Gloria



Glory be to God on high, And on earth peace, good will toward



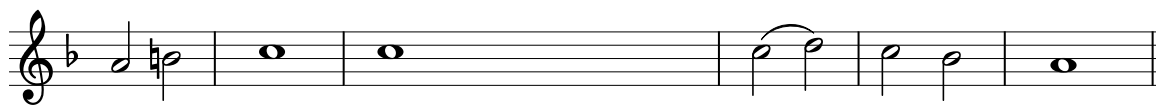
men. We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,



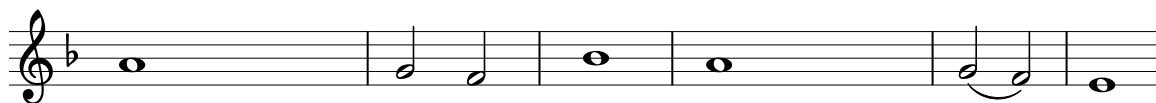
we give thanks to you, for your great glory. O Lord God, heav'n-ly




King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son,



Je-sus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



you take away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



You take away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.

You are seated at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon
us. For you only are holy. You only are the Lord.
You only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, are most high in the
glory of God the Father. Amen.

Service of the Word

The Christian church began on Pentecost Day—the third great festival Sunday of the church year, after Christmas and Easter. On this day the disciples received the Holy Spirit in such a manner that they then fully understood what the work of Jesus for the forgiveness of sin really meant. That is the true gift of the Holy Spirit, and it is given to us again today.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray that we be filled with the Holy Spirit: Almighty and merciful God, we thank you that you poured out your Spirit on us, filling us with gifts and leading us into all truth, and that you give your people power to proclaim the good news about your Son to all nations. As you sent your Holy Spirit at Pentecost, so fill us with your Spirit to spread the fire of your love. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 12:3-11

The Spirit's gifts to his believers, including the gift of faith itself, are presented in this first reading.

Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. ⁵There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.

⁷Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. ⁸To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, ¹⁰to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.

HYMN

O Holy Spirit, Enter In | #27, vv. 1-4

GOSPEL

John 7:37-39

Jesus boldly stood and called out to the crowd, calling the Spirit a "river of living water" proceeding from faith in himself. His metaphorical language complements the power of the Spirit being "poured out" on all believers.

On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. ³⁸Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them." ³⁹By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN

O Holy Spirit, Grant Us Grace | #25

The spectacular events of Pentecost—the sound of a violent wind, tongues of fire, uneducated men speaking in many languages, and Peter’s sermon—are proof of the Lord’s promised gifts sent by the Holy Spirit.

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.² Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.³ They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

⁵ Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven.⁶ When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken.⁷ Utterly amazed, they asked: “Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans?”⁸ Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language?⁹ Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome¹¹ (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!”¹² Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this mean?”

¹³ Some, however, made fun of them and said, “They have had too much wine.”

¹⁴ 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.¹⁵ These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It’s only nine in the morning!¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ “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.

¹⁸ Even on my servants, both men and women,
I will pour out my Spirit in those days,
and they will prophesy.

¹⁹ I will show wonders in the heavens above
and signs on the earth below,
blood and fire and billows of smoke.

²⁰ The sun will be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood
before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

²¹ And everyone who calls
on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

SERMON REFLECTION QUESTIONS

As you listen to the sermon, use these questions to reflect on its meaning.

What did Pentecost mean to the original hearers?

How is this truth significant to my life?

*Set aside some time to find out how you can use your gifts to expand God's kingdom using this
Spiritual Gifts Discovery Tool: bit.ly/6000gifts.*

What are your top five spiritual gifts?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

HYMN

Create in Me

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.
Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

P: Let us confess our holy faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

C: 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he shall 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.**

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

HYMN

O That I Had a Thousand Voices | #443

PRAYER

P: Blessed Lord, since you have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart, so that by the patience and comfort of your holy Word we may embrace and always hold secure the blessed hope of everlasting life. We pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

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

C: A - men, a - men, a - men.

The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of the following notes: A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (half). The lyrics 'A - men, a - men, a - men.' are written below the staff, with a slur under the final 'a - men'.

Preacher.....Vicar Max Kerr | **Liturgist**.....Pastor Aaron Ferkenstad
Organist (Sunday).....Karen Merseth | **Pianist (Monday)**.....Tim Guillaume



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Member of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod
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