

# **CHURCH AT HOME**

#### **Announcements:**

Welcome to Trinity's worship resource for June 5, 2022, celebrating Pentecost Sunday.

Pastor Jack Dressler (**519-250-7210**) is our interim Pastor. Please contact him for any pastoral needs.

## Pastor Jack will be leading the following services:

June 12, July 24, August 21, September 25, October 23, November 13, December 11 and potentially December 24

## Father Brian Wearne will be leading the following services:

June 26 (communion), July 10 (communion) and July 31

# \*\* Please Contact Dena Peifer if you wish to be a reader or lead a Sunday service \*\*

Thank you again for your support for Trinity. Please continue to mail in cheques, or drop them off in the church's mailbox or make your donation either through PAR or through the Donate button on the church's website, at "www.trinitylutheran.ca".

#### Introduction

On Pentecost, we celebrate that we have been given an Advocate to accompany us. Poured out in wind and fire, water, wine, and bread, the Holy Spirit abides in and among us. We give thanks that God speaks to each of us, no matter our origins, language, or life path. Filled with the Spirit of truth, we go out from worship to proclaim the saving power of Christ's love and the freedom of God's grace with all the world.

# **Thanksgiving for Baptism**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

#### Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

In the waters of baptism, we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ, and we are a new creation. For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God, who was, who is, and who is to come.

We thank you, God, for your river of life, flowing freely from your throne: through the earth, through the city, through every living thing.

You rescued Noah and his family from the flood; You opened wide the sea for the Israelites. Now in these waters you flood us with mercy, and our sin is drowned forever.

You open the gate of righteousness and we pass safely through. In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters. You nourish us and enclose us in safety. You call us forth and send us out. In lush and barren places, you are with us. You have become our salvation.

Now breathe upon this water and awaken your church once more. Claim us again as your beloved and holy people. Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear. To you, our Beginning and our End, our Shepherd and Lamb, be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever. **Amen.** 

## Worship

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all! **And also with you!** 

# <u>Prayer of the Day</u>

God our creator, the resurrection of your Son offers life to all the peoples of earth. By your Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love, empowering our lives for service and our tongues for praise, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in us the fire of your love. Alleluia.

## First Reading: Acts 2:1-21

Before Jesus ascended into heaven, he told his disciples they would be filled with the Holy Spirit. Now, amid signs of fire, wind, and a variety of languages, the people were amazed and astonished at Jesus' promise coming true.

<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup>Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup>Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup>Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." <sup>12</sup>All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup>But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

<sup>14</sup>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. <sup>15</sup>Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup>No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

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.

18 Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

19 And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

20 The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

21 Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'"

#### Psalm: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

- <sup>24</sup>How manifold are your works, O LORD!
  - In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full <sup>I</sup> of your creatures.
- <sup>25</sup>Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number, living things both small and great.
- <sup>26</sup>There go the ships to and fro, and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.
- <sup>27</sup>All of them look to you to give them their food in due season.
- <sup>28</sup>You give it to them; they gather it;
  - you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.
- <sup>29</sup>When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.
- <sup>30</sup>You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth.
- <sup>31</sup>May the glory of the LORD endure forever; O LORD, rejoice in all your works.
- <sup>32</sup>You look at the earth and it trembles; you touch the mountains and they smoke.
- <sup>33</sup>I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being.
- <sup>34</sup>May these words of mine please God. I will rejoice in the LORD.
- <sup>35b</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul. Hallelujah!

# Second Reading: Romans 8:14-17

Here Paul speaks about the mystery of baptism: through the Holy Spirit we are claimed, gathered, and welcomed into Christ's body, the church. And we receive a new name in our adoption: child of God.

<sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup>For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" <sup>16</sup>it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

# **Gospel Reading: John 14:8-17 [25-27]**

Though the disciples struggle with Jesus' nature and identity, they receive the promise that they too will be identified with God and God's mission. Though he must leave them now, Jesus promises the coming of the Advocate whom God will send to comfort and enlighten them.

<sup>8</sup>Philip said to [Jesus,] "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." <sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? <sup>10</sup>Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup>Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup>Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup>I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

<sup>15</sup>"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup>This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. [

<sup>25</sup>"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup>But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. <sup>27</sup>Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."]

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

# <u>The Sermon: (provided by National Bishop Susan Johnson, as part of the ELCIC Summer Sermon Series, 2022)</u>

Grace to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Happy Birthday, dear church. And greetings to you from your siblings in Christ from coast to coast to coast that make up this part of the family of God that we know as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

Today, Pentecost, often feels like an occasion or an anniversary. It's like one day we repeat every year and the events are the same. In fact, it's really like a slice in the history of God's actions in the world. God's actions in the world have a past, a present and a future. This is one part of God's past: God's actions in humanity and in the world.

The actual day of Pentecost in amazing story, or an experience. And like all amazing stories, we love to tell it again and again.

One of the reasons is because of all the names. Phrygia? Pamphylia? Mesopotamia? They sound so exotic and romantic. But really, they represent all of the known world to the writers of Acts at that time. The appearance of the Holy Spirit in tongues of fire on top of the heads of the disciples, now that is amazing. That has never happened to me and I have never seen that happen to anyone else.

But that the disciples could start speaking and be understood by all of those people from a variety of different language families, that is amazing. And people were so amazed that many came to faith that day. In fact, later on in the Acts lesson, after the part that we read today, it says that 3,000 people were baptized that day. Three thousand!

But let's go back for a moment here. It's like in a television series when you come to a new episode where it says, 'previously on an earlier episode', let's recount what has happened just before this. Remember, this is only 50 days after Jesus' resurrection. And what have the disciples been doing in those days? Well, they have occasionally met with Jesus during his post-resurrection appearances. But most of the time they have been huddled in locked rooms, afraid, fearful, terrified that the Romans would come get them and crucify them like they had crucified Jesus.

I want to underline that, because I think it says something about how we are feeling and how we are doing when we think about this Pentecost – because of where we've been. Like it or not, we have spent a lot of time locked up during this pandemic. We have been isolated, we have been fearful, we have been afraid... especially at the beginning when we didn't understand the virus or how it was transmitted, how severe it was going to be, and as we saw the death counts rise.

But there are other things that kept up fearful. Things like the war in Ukraine right now. The images that we see and the stories that we see every day create anxiety within us. We are so fearful of what is happening in our world.

Catastrophic weather events. Right now, I am in the middle of an unprecedented flooding level in Winnipeg. But it's not just here, it's all across our country. In the last year we have seen heat domes, wildfires, extreme flooding, extreme heat, extreme cold, extreme drought, and in places where it should be cold, it hasn't been cold enough – like in the arctic, where the permafrost is melting. It points out the urgency of the climate crisis. And that in and of itself provokes anxiety and fear in a lot of people, and I understand that.

The cost of living is going up and people are afraid that they will not be able to meet their mortgage payments or pay for gas in their car. And on top of that the recent announcement of the leaked majority report of Roe vs. Wade in the United States has many people up in arms or full of anxiety of what might happen in the future.

You may share all of these things, or you may only share some of these things. But we have been living in a time of fear and anxiety, just like the disciples were.

And this Pentecost day, we remember that the Holy Spirit is calling us out, like the Holy Spirit called the disciples out. Out of locked doors, out of fear, into the world with a wonderful, grace-filled, loving and hopeful Gospel to proclaim in words and deeds.

The Holy Spirit has continued throughout history to come and call God's people. But this is our time and our circumstances. We have many challenges to face. We know that our church is declining in membership, and even in number of congregations. We have old habits of caring for buildings and only ourselves that we need to shake off.

The Gospel lesson for today reminds us that the one who believes in Jesus will also do the works that Jesus did; Jesus was not hung up on members and buildings. Jesus was about getting out to where people were in need, and proclaiming and living out the message of love. That's what we are being called to do.

It's a little intimidating, it's scary, we have a vision, but we have no road map. But we are also not left helpless. The Holy Spirit continues to work in the world, within us and between us. Jesus continues to walk with us as we try to live out each day as faithful disciples. And we have each other – people in our congregations, in our synods, in the national church, with our full communion partners and indeed with the faithful around the world. And we have the witness and the prayers of those who have gone before us and are now at rest.

In today's Gospel lesson, Jesus leaves this message for his disciples and for us:

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you."

Let's breathe in and breathe out God's peace.

Let's be there to support each other when the fear and anxiety starts creeping in. And let us continue to pray that God would lead us and that the Holy Spirit would inspire us.

We can do this, dear church.

Happy Birthday.

#### Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

## **The Prayers of Intercession**

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

Holy Living One, Holy Moving One, burst open our locked doors, and by your Spirit drive us out into the world proclaiming your mighty deeds. Direct our words and actions, trusting the Advocate abiding in and among us. God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Feed and care for creatures that remain hidden to us yet contribute to the vibrancy of your creation. Train us to interact with creation from a place of wonder, awe, and reverence. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

Send your Spirit to places where language is a barrier to justice and mercy for those who seek it. Bless the work of translators, interpreters, and teachers. Promote understanding for the sake of those longing for true freedom and peace. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

Comfort all who live in constant fear and any who are suffering. Remind them that your Spirit has made them your children and that they are never far from your glory. God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Guide all bishops, pastors, missionaries, and other ministers of the gospel. Foster our relationships with partner synods and local ministry partners, that our visions and actions are Spirit-led. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

God of presence, bless those of this community who cannot be with us this morning, and those who walk with them, especially:

In Residence: Margaret; Maria; Stan; Katie; Katherine; Cordelle; Dorothy

Needing our prayers: Ed; Pastor Mike & Patti, Donna; Sharon B

Friends of our Members Needing our prayers: Audrey; Greg; Paul; Hilda; Mary; Jeffrey

# ...and all members who may have needs unknown to us

And all those we name in our hearts... God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Gather your people across regions, nations, and lands. Root our common life in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ, and by your Spirit bind us together with all the saints who have gone before us. God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **AMEN.** 

#### Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.

#### **Benediction**

God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, 

→ bless you now and forever. **Amen.** 

#### Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!** Go in peace. Tell what God has done. **Thanks be to God.**