

**St. Olaf Lutheran Church**  
**9 am, Sunday, May 23, 2021**  
**Day of Pentecost**  
**Year B**

## **Introduction**

Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Crossing all boundaries that would separate us, the Spirit brings the wideness of God's mercy to places we least expect it—to a crowd of strangers of different lands and tongues, to dry bones, to our weak hearts. Jesus promises his disciples that they will be accompanied by the Holy Spirit, and that this Spirit reveals the truth. We celebrate that we too have been visited with this same Spirit. Guided by the truth, we join together in worship, and then disperse to share the fullness of Christ's love with the world.

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer.

**Amen.**

AM: God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

AM: Fountain of living water, **pour out your mercy over us.**

**Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.**

P: Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are † forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus. Amen.

***HYMN***

***“God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind”***

**ELW 400**

**Vs. 1 & 4**

1 God of tempest, God of whirlwind,  
as on Pentecost descend!  
Drive us out from sheltered comfort;  
past these walls your people send!  
Sweep us into costly service,  
there with Christ to bear the cross,  
there with Christ to bear the cross!

4 God of passion, God unsleeping,  
stir in us love's restlessness!  
Where the people cry in anguish,  
may we share your heart's distress.  
Rouse us from content with evil;  
claim us for your kingdom's work,  
claim us for your kingdom's work!

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

C: **And also with you.**

AM: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.  
**Amen.**

*“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”*

**ELW 836**  
**Vs. 1**

Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee, praising thee, their sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the gloom of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

### **\*Prayer of the Day**

AM: Let us pray...

C: **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: Acts 2:1-21

*Originally Pentecost was a Jewish thanksgiving-type festival celebrated seven weeks after Passover. On this particular Pentecost, however, the Holy Spirit is poured out upon the entire community of believers just as Jesus had promised and the scriptures had prophesied. Empowered by the Spirit, the entire community bears witness to God's activity in multiple languages.*

<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:

<sup>17</sup>"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.

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

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

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

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

L: Word of God, word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading: Romans 8:22-27

*By pouring the Holy Spirit into our hearts, God gives us the promised first fruit of eternal life so that we await God's future in hope. In the meantime, the Spirit also intercedes for us by carrying the prayers of our weak human hearts to God.*

<sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; <sup>23</sup>and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

<sup>26</sup>Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

L: Word of God, word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### **\*Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

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

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,] <sup>26</sup>“When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. <sup>27</sup>You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

<sup>16:4b</sup>“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. <sup>5</sup>But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ <sup>6</sup>But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. <sup>7</sup>Nevertheless 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 him to you. <sup>8</sup>And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: <sup>9</sup>about sin, because they do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup>about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; <sup>11</sup>about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

<sup>12</sup>“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. <sup>13</sup>When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. <sup>14</sup>He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup>All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

P: The gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **CHILDREN’S SERMON**

*Emily Wikner*

### **SERMON**

*Pastoral Intern  
Grace Braun*

- 1 Gracious Spirit, heed our pleading,  
fashion us all anew.  
It's your leading that we're needing,  
help us to follow you.

***Refrain***

Come, come, come, Holy Spirit, come.  
Come, come, come, Holy Spirit, come.

- 2 Come to teach us, come to nourish  
those who believe in Christ.  
Bless the faithful, may they flourish,  
strengthened by grace unpriced. ***Refrain***
- 3 Guide our thinking and our speaking  
done in your holy name.  
Motivate all in their seeking,  
freeing from guilt and shame. ***Refrain***

**Prayers of Intercession**

P: Here us O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

**Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you. (feel free to do an ‘air’ high five or a peace sign).**

**Offering**

*Thank you for joining us in worship. At this time we will receive the offering for the mission and ministry at St. Olaf Lutheran Church. Our congregation relies on the generosity of God's people to sustain the work of our Lord. You can give by mailing a check to the church or on our Paypal link [paypal.me/stolaffd](https://paypal.me/stolaffd)*

**Offering Prayer**

P: Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **\*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.**

## **\*Blessing**

P: You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor.

God bless you (✠) that you may be a blessing in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.

**Amen.**

## **HYMN**

### ***“Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling”***

**ELW 582**

- 1 Holy Spirit, ever dwelling  
in the holiest realms of light;  
Holy Spirit, ever brooding  
o'er a world of gloom and night;  
Holy Spirit, ever raising  
those of earth to thrones on high;  
living, life-imparting Spirit,  
you we praise and magnify.
- 2 Holy Spirit, ever living  
as the church's very life;  
Holy Spirit, ever striving  
through us in a ceaseless strife;  
Holy Spirit, ever forming  
in the church the mind of Christ:  
you we praise with endless worship  
for your gifts and fruits unpriced.
- 3 Holy Spirit, ever working  
through the church's ministry;  
quick'ning, strength'ning, and absolving,  
setting captive sinners free;

Holy Spirit, ever binding  
age to age and soul to soul  
in communion never ending,  
you we worship and extol.

**\*Dismissal**

AM: Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**Assisting in Worship**

Presider:	Pastor Emily Sauer
Pastoral Intern:	Grace Braun
Children's Sermon:	Emily Wikner
Lector:	Viv Nore
Pianist:	Anna Miller
Soloist:	Lynda Mumm
Sound Tech(s):	Marc Matthes, Mark Oester, Robert Younie