

St. Olaf Lutheran Church
Sunday, May 17, 2026
Seventh Sunday of Easter

In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

Welcome & Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne
and to the Lamb!

Amen.

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:

morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness

who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,
and for making us a new creation.

We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,
now and forever.

Amen.

***Hymn**

God is Here!

ELW 526 v1&2

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.

***Kyrie**

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***This is the Feast**

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***Prayer of the Day**

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading: Acts 1:6-14

⁶ When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and

Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

L: Word of God. Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

¹ Let God arise, and let God's ene- | mies be scattered;
let those who | hate God flee.

² **As smoke is driven away, so you should drive | them away;**
as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the pres- | ence
of God.

³ But let the righteous be glad and rejoice | before God;
let them also be mer- | ry and joyful.

⁴ **Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one who | rides the**
clouds;

I AM is that name, rejoice | before God!

⁵ In your holy habita- | tion, O God,
you are a father to orphans, defend- | er of widows;

⁶ **you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners | into freedom;**
but the rebels shall live in | desert places.

⁷ O God, when you went forth be- | fore your people,
when you marched | through the wilderness,

⁸ **the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God,**
the | God of Sinai,
at the presence of God, the | God of Israel.

⁹ You sent a bountiful | rain, O God;
you restored your inheritance | when it languished.

¹⁰ **Your people found their | home in it;**
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision | for the poor.

³² Sing to God, O kingdoms | of the earth;
sing praises | to the Lord.

³³ **You ride in the heavens, O God, in the | ancient heavens;**
you send forth your voice, your | mighty voice.

³⁴ Ascribe pow- | er to God,
whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is | in the skies.

³⁵ **How wonderful you are in your holy places, O | God of Israel,**
giving strength and power to your people! | Blessed be God!

Second Reading: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6} Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸ Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

L: Word of God. Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

***Gospel Acclamation (Alleluia)**

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***Gospel: John 17:1-11**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 17th chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord

¹ After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶ "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

P: The gospel of our Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Katie Bills

Sermon

Pastor Emily Sauer-Alvarez

***Hymn**

Here I Am Lord

ELW 574

***Apostles' Creed**

*** Prayers of Intercession**

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

***Peace** (*Feel free to share a handshake or hug*)

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: Please share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

Offering: *Please consider giving an offering for the mission and ministry of St. Olaf. We can continue to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ with your support and generosity. God bless you. Also, please pass the attendance sheets down your row and fill out your info.*

***Offering prayer**

Merciful God,
accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.
You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day
when we will hunger and thirst no more.
Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,
that goodness and mercy may follow us
and bless the world you love.
In the name of Jesus,
Amen.

*** Great Thanksgiving & Holy, Holy, Holy**

pg 144

***Words of Institution**

***Lord's Prayer**

Holy Communion Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

Communion Hymns

Let Us Break Bread Together
We Come to the Hungry Feast

ELW 471
ELW 479

***Prayer After Communion**

Holy One,
through this meal you have made your home among us
and are making all things new.
Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,
to love our enemies,
and to bring your healing to the nations.
In the name of Jesus,
Amen.

***Blessing**

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
✠ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

***Hymn**

Be Thou My Vision

ELW 793

***Dismissal**

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Assisting in Worship

Presider: Pastor Emily Sauer-Alvarez

Organist: Jason Swedlund

Reader: Viv Nore

Ushers: Fran Long, David Osterberg

Communion: Viv Nore, Pam Bygness, Mitch Craigmile

Communion setup: Stacy Hendrickson, Vera Hartman

Tech: Mark Oester