

WELCOMING WORD *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.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: You send forth your Spirit, and they are created;

C: and so you renew the face of the earth.

L: You look at the earth and it trembles;

C: you touch the mountains and they smoke.

L: I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;

C: I will praise my God while I have my being.

OPENING HYMN #680 O Spirit of Life (vs. 1, 3, 4)

O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God, in ev'ry need you bring us aid,
Proceeding forth from God's great throne, from God, the Father and the Son;
O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God.

O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God, make us to love your sacred Word;
The holy flame of love impart, that charity may warm each heart;
O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God.

O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God, enlighten us by that same Word;
Teach us to know God's radiant love, lead us to Christ who reigns above;
O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who is present, who gives life, who calls into existence the things that do not exist.

C: Amen.

L: If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand? Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you, knowingly and unknowingly. We have wandered from your resurrection life. We have strayed from your love for all people. Turn us back to you, O God. Give us new hearts and right spirits, that we may find what is pleasing to you and dwell in your house forever. Amen.

L: Receive good news: God turns to you in love. "I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live," says our God. All your sin is forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ, who is the free and abounding gift of God's grace for you. **Amen.**

INVOCATION

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Mighty God,

C: 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 LESSON: Acts 2:1-21 ¹When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

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

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

¹⁷In 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. ¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. ²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. ²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'"

SECOND LESSON: Romans 8:22-27 ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and 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. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶Likewise 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. ²⁷And 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.

GOSPEL: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15 [Jesus said,] ²⁶"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. ²⁷You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

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

¹²"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When 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. ¹⁴He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason, I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

MESSAGE Intern Tamara Siburg

HYMN #684 Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

Refrain

**Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness calling and free;
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.**

You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,
Then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;
And over the eons you called to each thing;
“Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings.” *Refrain*

You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand
And you goaded your people with a law and a land;
And when they were blinded with idols and lies,
Then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes. *Refrain*

You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,
Then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;
And down in the city you called once again,
When you blew through your people on the rush of the wind. *Refrain*

You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes.
From the bondage of sorrow all the captives dream dreams;
Our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.
With bold new decisions your people arise. *Refrain*

CONFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day, he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, you give the Holy Spirit to your church, filling it with many and varied gifts. In the church throughout the world, strengthen us in our visioning and dreaming, that it may discover anew the Spirit's creative work. Lord, in your mercy

C: Hear our prayer.

P: God of life, your mighty works are too numerous to count. The earth is full of your creatures, living things both great and small. Open your hand and give them the necessities of this life. Send your fresh Spirit over the face of the earth. Lord, in your mercy

C: Hear our prayer.

P: God of the nations, at the sound of the rushing wind, people speaking different languages proclaimed and heard together your deeds of power. Fill the leaders of nations with your Holy Spirit, so that they exercise your gracious will in the lives of people. Lord, in your mercy

C: Hear our prayer.

P: God of faithfulness, you tend to the needs of your people, even the sighs of our hearts. Hear those who cry out to you in distress. Restore to wholeness all who are in any need this day (especially). Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: God of love, fill this congregation (name) with gratitude for the gifts we have received from you. Renew our ministries, heal our divisions, and open us to the needs of our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy

C: Hear our prayer.

P: God of hope, those who have died in you raise their eternal song of praise. We give you thanks for the many gifts of your people and rejoice in the witness of your saints (especially). Lord, in your mercy

C: Hear our prayer.

P: In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

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. 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 *May the blessing of God our creator, the love of Jesus Christ our redeemer, and the presence of the Holy Spirit the comforter, surround you and sustain you until we gather again. Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN: #O Day Full of Grace

O day full of grace, which we behold, now gently to view ascending;
Thou over the earth thy reign unfold, good cheer to all mortals lending;
That children of light in every clime may prove that the night is ending.

With joy we depart for our fatherland, where God our Father is dwelling,
Where ready for us his mansions stand, where heaven with praise is swelling;
And there we shall walk in endless light, with blest ones his praise forth telling.



Kristin Swedlund-Twiton, Connie Peterson, Bonnie Bender, Ginger Quaderer (Diane Mueller's cousin), Norbert Haag (brother of Virgil Haag), Richard Schuhler (friend of Ron & Bonny Kellogg), Agnes Robertson (friend of Holly Thompson), Delores Bryant, Makenzee Smith, Shirley Thompson, Brock Howe, Dianne Haskins (friend of Char Smith), Brian Marshall (friend of Kim Kelliher), Jeannie U'Ren, Ruth Ann Nemet, Mike Olson (Wendy Rasmussen's brother), Sally Gaard (friend of Margie Kahl), Irene Bruflat, Connie Fausett (sister of Diane Twiton & Jean Bower), Bill Steinhauer, Harlan Oimoen, Peter Toniazzo, Grace Aavang

Our partner congregation IGLESIA EVANGÉLICA LUTERANA DIVINO SALVADOR (Divine Savior Lutheran Church) in Cataño, P.R

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELC 'COFFEE TIME' RESUMES Coffee Time will resume on Wednesdays at 10 am AND we will meet 'in person'. Join us at ELC for time to gather and catch up with our church family.

YOU ARE INVITED to celebrate and give thanks for 50 years of ordained ministry in the ELCA of

George G. Carlson
Sunday, June 13, 2021, 2-4pm
Hope Lutheran Church, 335 Dairyland Drive, Milton WI

If you are unable to join us, you may send your wishes by June 6, c/o Amy Carlson Floan, 114 South Third St., Evansville, WI 53536 or email: abcfloan@gmail.com

YOUTH NEWS

LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL Join us for an Outdoor Gathering on May 23rd, at 9:30am, for our last Sunday School time this year.

FUSE NIGHTS (in person) - 9th - 12th graders are welcome to join our high school group at ELC on **Tuesday, May 25th at 7 pm**. Please join us for an Outdoor Gathering with a campfire and smores. Please wear a mask. Looking forward to seeing everyone in person!

2021 ELC SUMMER FUN - (Save the dates)

VBS/DAY CAMP 2021 - JULY 12 - 15th 9:30 - 11:30 am (Youth ages 3 - 5th grade)

ONLINE SIGN UP LINK: <https://forms.gle/3FCz1yfrYqQEcxph6> A time to be together outside in God's creation.

EXPLORER DAY AT SUGAR CREEK - July 26th, 9 am - 3 pm
(Children entering 1st - 5th grade in fall 2021) Email Brenda to sign up.

CONFIRMATION CAMP AT SUGAR CREEK - July 25 - 30th,
(7th & 8th) Register online at www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org

GIVE/LOVE/SERVE (Service days) - New for 2021 - Middle - High school youth may join us on **Thursdays**, throughout the summer, to help in various local service opportunities. This provides us with helping our neighbors all summer, and allowing flexibility for our youth with their summer schedules. **REGISTER online:** (Link can be emailed as well) <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4daea929a5ffc70-giveloveservice>

SUGAR CREEK "BACK IN THE SADDLE" - Online Registrations are now available for Sugar Creek Bible Camp Summer programs. They have a variety of programs (new & favorites) listed on their website, <http://wp.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org>, for youth and families. Come and see in 2021!



VETERANS' MINISTRY During the month of May, we are providing some note cards in the narthex to be signed and write notes to our deployed ELC members in the military. We will also have sheets of paper with their addresses on. Take a few cards home, or write them in church and drop in the offering plate. The church can mail them. Help us thank the fine people who help keep us safe here at home. Thank you so much! ELC Inreach/Outreach Ministry/Veterans Ministry.

Grant Schult- Currently lives at home with his parents. He goes to Green Bay one week-end a month for his training. In May, he will go to Texas for 2 weeks. I informed his mother Teresa that we will deliver a box to them by May 1st, so he can take it with him.

Lcpl Jacob Slaney-
1st Battalion, 5th Marines / 1st Marine Division
MCB Box 555463
Camp Pendleton, Ca. 92055-5463

Jacob is currently at a six week assignment, and will return to this address mid- May. Jacob is the son of Elizabeth Field and grandson of Don and Cathie Field

Spc.Kaleb Stapleman
7936 Destiny Blvd.
Fort Campbell, Kentucky 52223

Kaleb is a helicopter mechanic. Kaleb's parents are Adam and Brianne Stapleman

Jacob Werner
USS Nimitz Unit 10003 / Box 1063
FPO: AP 96620
He is the grandson of Janice and Delbert Werner.

Jack Lunaas
241 Lee Road
553 Phenix City, Al. 36867
Jack is the grandson of Polly Field.



DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 23, 2021

SHARE: What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

READ: Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding

Monday, Psalm 104:24-34, 35b, God the Creator and Provider

Tuesday, 1 Corinthians 12:12-27, One Body with Many Members

Wednesday, Ezekiel 37:1-14, The Valley of Dry Bones

Thursday, Psalm 29, The Voice of God in a Great Storm

Friday, Romans 8:9-11, Life in the Spirit

Saturday, John 15:18-20, The World's Hatred

TALK: Consider some of these ideas: "How is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?" Acts 2:8. *In today's reading everyone was able to hear and understand what the apostles were saying after everyone was filled with the Holy Spirit. In the Gospel Jesus tells of the Holy Spirit, the Advocate and the Companion who will guide and lead Gods people through these miracles in Acts and into the future.*

- What does it mean to be able to not just hear someone but to understand them?
- What might the world look like if we are better able to communicate with each other in ways to overcome inevitable miscommunications?
- What might it take to better understand where others are coming from?

PRAY: 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.

BLESS: May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.