

SUNDAY MAY 24TH, 2026 - 9:00 AM

Day of Pentecost

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MT. HOREB

A family in faith, reaching out to share in God's love with all people

WELCOMING WORD

Pentecost derives its name from the Jewish festival celebrating the harvest and the giving of the law on Mount Sinai fifty days after Passover. Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the Holy Spirit as God's presence within and among us. In Acts the Spirit arrives in rushing wind and flame, bringing God's presence to all people. Paul reminds us that though we each have different capacities, we are unified in the Spirit that equips us with these gifts. Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit on his disciples, empowering them to forgive sin. We celebrate that we too are given the breath of the Holy Spirit and sent out to proclaim God's redeeming love to all the world.



WE WELCOME ALL TO ELC!

Everyone. Without exception. Regardless of race, ethnicity, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, faith traditions, physical or mental abilities, financial resources, family status, or personal struggles.

We are committed to being an anti-racist community.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, we will work to extend God's grace, love, justice, and dignity. You belong here; you are seen. Your story and your life are valuable.

In Christ's love, we welcome, support, and love all children of God.

MINISTERS
PASTOR

ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH
KAREN HOFSTAD



ELC@MHTC.NET - 608-437-5012

ORDER OF WORSHIP

(+ = stand if able; L = Leader / C = Congregation)

PRELUDE Diane Dangerfield

+CONGREGATIONAL HYMN #631 *Love Divine, All Love Excelling (vs.1,2,3)*

+CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who gives us a new birth into a living hope, who raises us with Christ from death, who fills us with the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Rejoicing in Christ's victory over sin and death, let us repent of our sin and claim the promise of God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Spirit of God, you are the breath of creation, the wind of change that blows through our lives, opening us up to new dreams and new hopes, new life in Jesus Christ.

Forgive us our closed minds, which barricade themselves against new ideas, preferring the past to what you might want to do through us tomorrow. Forgive our closed eyes which fail to see the needs of your world, blind to opportunities of service and love. Forgive our closed hands which clutch our gifts and our wealth for our own use alone. Forgive us our closed hearts which limit our affections to ourselves and our own. Spirit of new life, forgive us and break down the walls of our selfishness, that we might be open to your love and open for service in your world, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. May the God of mercy, who forgives you all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

+GREETING

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

And also with you.

+KYRIE pg. 147

+HYMN OF PRAISE pg. 149 *This is the feast of victory for our God...*

+PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL SONGS *That's Why We Praise Him Send Us Out*

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 2:1-21

¹ When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. ² 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. ³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. ⁵ Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶ And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷ Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹² All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³ But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." ¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵ Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷ '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. 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.'"

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

^{3b} No one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit. ⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, ⁵ and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God

who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. ¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body— Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

+ACCLAMATION pg. 151

(sing) *Alleluia....*

+L: The Gospel according to John, Chapter 20

+C: Glory to you, O Lord.

+GOSPEL

John 20:19-23

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

+L: The Gospel of the Lord.

+C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Pastor Karen Hofstad

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+CONGREGATIONAL HYMN #400 *God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind*

+THE NICENE CREED pg. 104

+THE PRAYERS pg. 152

The leader concludes each petition with the words: "Lord in your mercy..."

The people respond:" Hear our prayer."

+SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING PRAISE TEAM *Hymn to Freedom*

+OFFERTORY #184 *Let the Vineyards...*

+OFFERING PRAYER

L: 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.

+THE GREAT THANKSGIVING pg. 152

+WORDS OF INSTITUTION

+THE LORD'S PRAYER pg. 154 (right hand column)

+CONGREGATIONAL HYMN #800 *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*

+PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

COMMUNITY WORD

+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.**

+CONGREGATIONAL HYMN #855 *Crown Him with Many Crowns (vs. 1,3,4)*

+DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

**I am God's child, deserving of love and respect,
and God will use me to change the world."**

*If you would like more information about ELC of Mount Horeb
please fill out the visitor cards in the pew pads
which are passed during offering*

DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 24, 2026

SHARE: What are your highs/lows for today?

READ: Read the daily readings to deepen your understanding:

Monday, Psalm 104:24-34, Praise to the Creator

Tuesday, Romans 8:26-27, The Spirit Intercedes

Wednesday, Luke 1:39-57, Mary Visits Elizabeth

Thursday, Psalm 8, God's Majesty

Friday, 2 Timothy 1:12b-14, Encouragement and Thanksgiving

Saturday, John 14:15-17, The Promise of the Holy Spirit

TALK: Consider some of these ideas:

**“When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them,
“Receive the Holy Spirit.”**

– John 20:22

The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

- When have you experienced cross-cultural understanding as the work of the Spirit? (Acts 2:1-21)
- What spiritual gifts have you encountered? Does this list include them all? (1 Corinthians 12:3b-13)
- When the risen Jesus breathes on the disciples, what other biblical passages come to mind? (John 20:19-23)

PRAY: O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

BLESS: The God of all, who raised Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation. Amen.