



ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, May 28, 2023
Day of Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship

1609 Kurtz Avenue ~ Lutherville, MD 21093

www.facebook.com/SPLutherville and www.stpaulslutherville.org

Welcome to our contemporary worship service. If you haven't already done so, take a moment to silence your devices, check in on social media, and breathe a bit before we start. Directions from the pastor will invite you to stand or "rise in body or spirit" for that section, also indicated by an asterisk.

As We Gather for Worship Today

Social Distancing: Wearing a facemask is optional in this space, and disposable masks are available at the host table. Please use hand sanitizer often, and you can find a dispenser at either of the main doors. Feel free to remove a chair from a row and reposition to create more space.

Restrooms: The bathrooms alongside the entrance hallway are available – please give one another space as needed.

Communion: We celebrate the sacrament of Communion as part of our worship, and all are welcome at the Table. When directed by the Host, you may turn right at the head of the aisle to pick-up pre-packaged Elements from the basket to commune at your seat, or turn left at the head of the aisle to be served bread and receive a pre-filled cup of red wine or white grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are also available. Please use the side aisles to return to your seat.

Offering: There is a basket at the host table to receive your paper offerings, and you may also give electronically at www.stpaulslutherville.org.

GATHERING

WELCOME & PRELUDE: *Set a Fire* by Will Reagan

***CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
who greets us in this and every season,
whose word never fails,
whose promise is sure.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of our neighbors.

Merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned.

We have hurt our community.

We have squandered your blessings.

We have hoarded your bounty.

In the name of Jesus,

forgive us and grant us your mercy.

We have failed to be honest.

We have lacked the courage to speak.

We have spoken falsely.

In the name of Jesus,

forgive us and grant us your mercy.

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.

God offers boundless grace when we fail.

Claim the gift of God's mercy:

you are freed and forgiven

in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

***GATHERING SONG: *Come Holy Spirit* by Malcolm Fletcher**

Come Holy Spirit fall afresh on me ~ Fill me with Your power satisfy my needs

Only You can make me whole give me strength to make me grow

Come Holy Spirit fall afresh on me

Come Holy Spirit fall afresh on me ~ Fill me with Your power satisfy my needs

Only You can make me whole give me strength to make me grow

Come Holy Spirit fall afresh on me

***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.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us 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.

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children of all ages are welcome to come and gather on the blanket to join in a message just for them! After we pray together, they will be invited to go back to their seats or to the Prayground.

FIRST READING: Numbers 11:24-30

The spirit of God rested upon seventy elders in Israel who had been chosen to share the burden of leadership with Moses. When some became jealous that two others also had the spirit and could prophesy, Moses said that he hoped that all of God's people would be prophets.

A reading from Numbers.

²⁴Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to Moses, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." ²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen ones, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" ²⁹But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, and that the LORD's spirit would be given to them all!" ³⁰And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:3-13

Paul is helping the Corinthians understand the relationship between our God-given unity and Spirit-created diversity. The Spirit creates the unity of faith and gives all Christians diverse gifts for the common benefit of all. We need one another's diverse spiritual gifts because the same Spirit has given them to each person for the common good.

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

Paul writes: ³No one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

¹²For 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. ¹³For 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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL: John 20:19-23**

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

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Judeans, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

SERMON READING: Acts 2:1-21

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, they 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.

Now 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.'

***SONG OF THE DAY: *Shine, Jesus, Shine* by Graham Kendrick**

Lord the light of Your love is shining ~ In the midst of the darkness shining
Jesus Light of the world shine upon us ~ Set us free by the truth You now bring us
Shine on me shine on me

Shine Jesus shine! ~ Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze Spirit blaze! ~ Set our hearts on fire
Flow river flow! ~ Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth Your word, ~ Lord and let there be light

Lord I come to Your awesome presence ~ From the shadows into Your radiance
By the blood I may enter Your brightness ~ Search me try me consume all my darkness
Shine on me shine on me

Shine Jesus shine! ~ Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze Spirit blaze! ~ Set our hearts on fire
Flow river flow! ~ Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth Your word, ~ Lord and let there be light

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness ~ So our faces display Your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory ~ Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story
Shine on me shine on me

Shine Jesus shine! ~ Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze Spirit blaze! ~ Set our hearts on fire
Flow river flow! ~ Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth Your word, ~ Lord and let there be light

***CREED**

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

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

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Passionate God, you sent your Spirit through the gifts of fire, wind, and word. As you equipped the disciples for their work, equip us to bring the good news to all those who long for you. We pray for leaders throughout the whole Church, for our church-wide bishop, Elizabeth, and our local bishop, William. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Restoring God, wind and flame bring life and destruction throughout the world. We pray for those who work with wind energy, for migratory birds, for protection for lands facing destructive fire, for forestry managers and firefighters. Renew the face of the earth. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Ever-present God, your spirit embraces all. Send your spirit of understanding to immigrants, refugees, and any experiencing language barriers. Bless the work of translators, ESL teachers, ambassadors, and international peace organizations. Safely guide those fleeing war and danger. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Merciful God, you anoint us with your spirit. Bless nurses, doctors, midwives, chaplains, counselors, and hospice workers as they care for those in need. We pray for all who seek your comfort. Be present in the neighborhood surrounding us here in Lutherville. In this time, we offer prayers, concerns, and thanksgivings to you — with our voices, in our hearts, and within this open space (*we pause for spoken and silent prayers*)... Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Generous God, you impart a variety of gifts. Set aflame the desire to learn from one another, especially those who differ from us. Make your presence known through missionaries, peace workers, and through the outreach ministries of our synod and community. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Life-giving God, we give thanks for those who have died to new life in you. As we observe Memorial Day, we remember those who died in military service. Comfort all who mourn, and usher in a world where war is no more. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.
Amen.

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

You are invited to share the peace with a wave from your seat to those outside of your household group, and to use a greeting or gesture you would like to share within your group.

MEAL

ANNOUNCEMENTS, OFFERING AND CONNECTION BOOKS

The Offering is the opportunity for us to share some of those gifts for the work of the church and the needs of the world. Thank you for your generosity! For those gathering onsite, an offering basket is located towards the main entrance of the hall, and for all we encourage you to give electronically at www.stpaulslutherville.org.

As the Offering is being gathered in and the Announcements shared, please check in and let us know you're here. Beginning at the end of each aisle, please pass and sign the black Connection Books as the host hands one to you. The books help us get to know one another, welcome guests, and keep us up to date on worship participation with our members. Once the Connection Book has reached the end of the row please pass it back or hand them to the ushers as they come around to collect them.

***GATHERING AROUND THE TABLE**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal:
you we praise and glorify, you we worship and adore.

You formed the earth from chaos;
you encircled the globe with air;
you created fire for warmth and light;
you nourish the lands with water.

You molded us in your image,
and with mercy higher than the mountains,
with grace deeper than the seas,
you blessed the Israelites and cherished them as your own.

That also we, estranged and dying,
might be adopted to live in your Spirit,
you called to us through the life and death of Jesus.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember your Son,
the first-born of your new creation.

We remember his life lived for others,
and his death and resurrection, which renews the face of the earth.

We await his coming,
when, with the world made perfect through your wisdom,
all our sins and sorrows will be no more.

Holy God, holy and merciful one, holy and compassionate,
send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit,
whose breath revives us for life, whose fire rouses us to love.

Enfold in your arms all who share this holy food.

Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit,
that we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world.

Holy and benevolent God,
receive our praise and petitions,
as Jesus received the cry of the needy,
and fill us with your blessing,
until, needy no longer and bound to you in love,
we feast forever in the triumph of the Lamb:
through whom all glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One,
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

SHARING THE MEAL

As we celebrate the sacrament of Communion today, all are welcome at the Table. When directed by the Host down the center aisle, you may turn right at the head of the aisle to pick-up pre-packaged Elements from the basket to commune at your seat, or turn left at the head of the aisle to be served bread and receive a pre-filled glass of red wine or white grape juice, then placing your empty cup in the basket. If you have a gluten or food allergy, please let the server know. Use the side aisle to return to your seat. If you are not sharing in the Meal today, please join in reflection and prayer, until we all regather.

REFLECTION SONG: *Holy Spirit* by Bryan Torwalt & Katie Torwalt

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

*BLESSING

May the Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

Amen.

*SENDING SONG: *Psalm 25 - To You Oh Lord* by Krista Wiger

To you oh lord I lift up my soul ~ In you I trust oh Lord
To you oh lord I lift up my soul ~ In you I trust oh Lord

Higher than the mountains ~ Deeper than the seas
Wider than the ocean is your love for me
You're with me on the mountains and the valleys below
You are right here beside me everywhere that I go!

To you oh lord I lift up my soul ~ In you I trust oh Lord
To you oh lord I lift up my soul ~ In you I trust oh Lord

Higher than the mountains ~ Deeper than the seas
Wider than the ocean is your love for me
You're with me on the mountains and the valleys below
You are right here beside me everywhere that I go!

To you oh lord I lift up my soul ~ In you I trust oh Lord
To you oh lord I lift up my soul ~ In you I trust oh Lord

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Thank you for helping to lead our worship service this holy day!

Preacher/Presider	The Rev. Dr. Ed Kay
Interim Director of Contemporary Music	Peter Carpenter-Gonia
Assisting Minister	Josie Brock
Host/Usher	Debi Maas
Refreshments	Debbie Goodwin