

Pentecost
Confirmation Sunday
May 28, 2023

Greetings and Welcome

Prelude by Susan Roegge – "Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart"
arr. Victor Labenske

GATHERING

**Confession and Forgiveness*

P: Returning again to the waters of baptism, we begin in the name of the Father and of the
+ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin before God and in the presence of one another.

Silence

P: Gracious and merciful God,

C: We confess to you the truth of our broken lives. We have not trusted your promises or walked in your ways. We have hoarded and squandered the gifts of your creation. We have failed to welcome the stranger and the outcast, and to make room at the table for the homeless and the hungry. We have neither worked to release the oppressed nor admitted our own captivities. Forgive our sin, heal our lives, and set us free that we might live with your whole creation in the justice and joy of your promised future.

P: God, who is merciful and kind, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, hears the cries of all who plead for mercy and, in these last days, has sent Christ Jesus to announce the good news of forgiveness and release to all who are bound by guilt or broken by shame, that they might praise God and serve the world with glad and generous hearts.

P: For freedom Christ has set you free.

C: Thanks be to God.

**Sharing of the Peace*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

All are invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.

Gathering Song – “Holy Is Our God / Holy, Holy, Holy”

Refrain: Holy is our God, whose name we praise forever.

Glory to the Son, who reigns in majesty!

*Come, Spirit, come and fill our hearts with wisdom,
that we may long to worship You alone.*

1. **Our Father is the great Creator of all we have and all we see.
He made us in His image that we may honor and worship Him.** *Refrain*
2. **For Jesus is the Father’s only Son, given in love for ev’ryone.
Lamb of sacrifice, a humble King, He gave His life so we might live.** *Refrain*
3. **Oh Spirit, come and unite us in one communion with our Lord.
Free us from the chains that bind us, for the Comforter has come.** *Refrain*

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee.
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.** *Refrain*

Children’s Sermon

WORD

First Reading: Acts 2:1-4

Reader: Sharon Woodworth

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.

P: The Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’ ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 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.

²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

‘For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.’

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

P: The Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Reading:* Matthew 28:16-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 28th chapter.

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

¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’

P: The gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Song of the Day – “Love Divine, All Love’s Excelling” ELW 631

- 1 **Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.**
- 2 **Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit; let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.**
- 3 **Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.**

- 4 **Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise!**

Rite of Confirmation – Adam Krohe, Kellon Oldenettel, and Josie Rajaguru

“Words for your Affirmation of Baptism”

Adam, Josie, and Kellon, years ago, you began a journey.
In the waters of Holy Baptism, words were spoken –
Spoken by your parents, godparents, congregation, and God,
Saying, “Oh, dear child, how you are loved.”

And that love stayed with you,
It was with you when you were strong,
It was with you when you were weak,
It was with you when you laughed,
And it was with you when you cried.

That love has been with you, every day,
No matter what you did or didn't do, because,
It's a love with no strings attached.
That love is God's “yes” to you.

And strengthened by the “yes” of God's love,
Standing firm on the foundation of God's love,
You have grown. My how you have grown!
You are not the same person brought to the font so many years ago.

You have grown and you have learned.
You have experimented and you have explored.
You took chances and you made mistakes.
You have loved and you have been loved.
You are not the same, and yet, you are:
You are a beloved Child of God!

And today is your chance to say “yes,”
To say “yes” to the love of God that has so drenched your life.
To say “yes” to the Christian faith that makes us one.
To say “yes” to continuing to live in God's love... and, with God's help,
To claim the promises of baptism as your own.

Adam, Josie, and Kellon, as you affirm your baptism this day,
Know that we remain by your side.
Parents, godparents, Faith Family and friends,
And most of all, God, the one who has been with you all along,
The one who always says to you,
“Yes, my dear child, oh how you are loved!”

P: Dear friends in Christ, we give thanks for the gift of baptism, and we come before God with Adam, Josie, and Kellon as they make affirmation of their baptism into Christ.

Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you that you have made us your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called us to yourself, enlightened us with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished us in the community of faith. Uphold us and all your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

C: Amen.

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the son of God?

**C: 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 into hell.
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.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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.**

P: You have made profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Adam, Josie, and Kellon: Yes, I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P: People of God, do you promise to support Adam, Josie, and Kellon and pray for them in their lives in Christ?

C: Yes, we do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P: Stir up in Adam, Josie, and Kellon the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us rejoice with Adam, Josie, and Kellon, our sister and brothers in Christ.

C: Adam, Josie, and Kellon, we rejoice with you in the life of Baptism and celebrate the "yes" of God's love in your life. Together, let us give thanks and praise to God as we proclaim God's good news to all the world.

**Prayers*

Stewardship Time

"Sweet, Sweet Spirit," arr. Sharon Wilson
Susan Roegge

—Please take a moment to sign into the Welcome Folder in your pew—

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

P: The Sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion are gifts of God's grace to claim and sustain us in our lives as disciples of Jesus. Baptism proclaims our identity, that we are beloved children of God, called to love God and our neighbors. Holy Communion reconnects us to the Body of Christ and nurtures our lives of faith with forgiveness and life.

C: We give thanks to God as we receive this gift of grace anew today.

**Great Thanksgiving*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**Words of Institution*

P: 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.

**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.

Communion Songs

“Lamb of God”

1. **Your only Son no sin to hide, But You have sent Him from Your side
To walk upon this guilty sod And to become the Lamb of God.**
2. **Your gift of love they crucified, They laughed and scorned Him as He died,
The humble King they named a fraud And sacrificed the Lamb of God.**
*O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God.
O wash me in His precious blood, My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.*
3. **I was so lost I should have died, But You have brought me to Your side
To be led by Your staff and rod, And to be called a lamb of God.**
*O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God.
O wash me in His precious blood, My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.*

"Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading" ELW 401

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*

"Be Thou My Vision " ELW 793

1. **Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**
2. **Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower,
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.**

3. **Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou, and thou only, first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.**
4. **Light of my soul, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

**Post-Communion Blessing*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**

**Closing Prayer*

**Song:* "By Your Hand, You Feed Your People ELW 469

1. **By your hand you feed your people, food of angels, heaven's bread.
For these gifts we did not labor, by your grace have we been fed:**

*Refrain: Christ's own body, blessed and broken, cup o'erflowing, life outpoured,
Given as a living token of your world redeemed, restored.*

2. **In this meal we taste your sweetness, bread for hunger, wine of peace.
Holy word and holy wisdom satisfy our deepest needs. *Refrain***
3. **Send us now with faith and courage to the hungry, lost, bereaved.
In our living and our dying, we become what we receive: *Refrain***

SENDING

"A Blessing For After" (by Jan Richardson)

This blessing is for the moment
after clarity has come,
after inspiration, after you have agreed
to what seems impossible.

This blessing is what follows
after illumination departs
and you realize there is no map
for the path you have chosen,
no one to serve as guide,
nothing to do but gather up
your gumption and set out.

This blessing will go with you.
It carries no answers, no charts, no plans.
It carries no source of light within itself.
But in its pocket is tucked a mirror
that, from time to time,
it will hold up to you
to remind you of the radiance
that came when you gave
your awful and wondrous,
“Yes!”

**Benediction*

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord make his face to shine on you
and be gracious to you, may the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

**Sending Song – “Ablaze”*

**1. Cold is the wind that blows in the night.
The darkness is deepest where there’s no light.
Who will You send to carry the flame? Who will proclaim your name?
People are lost and don’t even know it.
If we know the way, then why don’t we show it?
Ignite the flame, O Lord fan the spark that we may shine in the dark.**

*Chorus: Set us ablaze, O Lord. Set us ablaze to tell Your story.
Shout aloud the hope of glory so that the lost will find the way.
Set us ablaze, O Lord, and fill your church with holy fire,
To share your love our one desire All our days. Set us ablaze.*

**2. For You, Lord, alone are the one who can save.
Your cross alone, and Your empty grave.
Hearts to renew, and sins to forgive that all of the world might live.
Ignite the flame, O Lord, send your Spirit,
that we proclaim, and that they may hear it
Send us to show them the way that is true. Send us to lead them to You.**

Chorus twice

**I've got a calling. I've got a mission.
Out of the boat and on with the fishing, Ablaze!
Hearts that are burning, minds that are learning,
filled with a yearning to see lives turning. Ablaze!**

Dismissal

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Song Credits

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Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Pam Devlin

Greeter: Liddy Stark

Reader: Sharon Woodworth

Ushers: Char & Paul Hubbard

Pastor: Adam Dichsen

Music Director: Jean Welch

Musician: Susan Roegge

Drummer: John Demien

Financial Assistants: Mindy Carlson & Mike Oldenettel

Chancel Committee: Kim Heise

Coffee Hosts: Donna Chenoweth & Laura Sweatman



Singers:

Benen Dichsen	Rigby Dichsen	Adam Krohe	Carol VanderKloot
Louis Dichsen	Kelly Hartz	Kris Roth	
Marilyn Dichsen	Terri Kimler	Melissa Street	

Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson	Kelly Hartz	Patty Nelson	Monica Proefrock
Ken Devlin	Greg Kimler	Mike Oldenettel	Kelly Street
Marilyn Dichsen			

The plants at the altar today are donated by
Carol Rauen in loving memory of Jeanette Brix
and

by Judy Dillard & Vicki Robson in memory of David & Chuck's birthdays

What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, May 28, 9:30am: Worship – Confirmation Sunday

Monday, May 29, 11:15-12:30: Doorbell Dinner Delivery

Tuesday, May 30, 11:15-12:30: Doorbell Dinner Delivery

Wednesday, May 31, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group
11:15-12:30: Doorbell Dinner Delivery

Thursday, June 1, 11:15-12:30: Doorbell Dinner Delivery
5:15pm: Parish Worship Committee Meeting

Friday, June 2, 11:15-12:30: Doorbell Dinner Delivery

Sunday, June 4, 9:30am: **Outdoor Worship & Picnic** – Lukas Routh Baptism

Wednesday, June 7, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

News Updates

Outdoor Worship and Picnic June 4

A summer staple for our Faith Family has been our outdoor worship service. The fresh air, breeze blowing through the trees, and barking dogs provide a beautiful sanctuary. Last year we experimented with outdoor worship once each month with a picnic and games...

it was a hit! Join us again this summer June 4, July 2, August 6, and September 3. To assure all can participate, there will be seating and communion stations on the grass, on the parking lot, and indoors (with worship visible through windows), as well as being live streamed. Following the service, we are providing a cookout picnic and time for games and activities for all. Our hope is that this will not only be a time of vibrant worship and blessing to our Faith Family, but also to others, so please invite a friend and join us for these wonderful times together!

Music Update

I wish everyone a safe and fun summer, and we will meet again in the fall. If anyone is interested in doing something musical during the summer, please contact me.

Jean Welch, *Director of Music*

Men's Breakfast

Join us on Saturday, **June 3** for some delicious food and fellowship with the guys! Come at 8:00 to help in the kitchen and at 9:00 for food and conversation.

Discipleship Group

Join us at 10:00am on Wednesday, June 21, in the Faith Library as we meet for great conversation and fellowship time. If you haven't attended before, now's a great time to give it a try! For more information, please contact Kelly Hartz at (217) 502-1979 or by email at khartz@sompo-intl.com.

Women of Faith Fellowship Night

Join us on Wednesday, June 21st at 6:00pm for dinner out at Kitchen 63 at K's Creek Golf Course. Please RSVP to Monica **by Sunday, June 18th** if you plan to come.

Bishop John's Retirement Party

As you may know, Bishop John Roth will be retiring at the close of his term as bishop on August 31, 2023. You are invited to a Retirement Dinner in his honor on Saturday, July 15, 5:00-7:30pm at Erin's Pavilion, Southwind Park, in Springfield. Tickets are \$30 each, and reservations can be made at csis-elca.org/retirement **by July 1**. Additional donations toward the cost of the dinner are being accepted and can be included when you make your reservation. Any donations beyond the expenses of the dinner will support our companion synods in the Malagasy Lutheran Church in Madagascar.

Sign-Up Sheets

are available at the podium in the gathering area. Please take a moment to sign up to be an Usher, Reader, Greeter, Communion Assistant, Coffee Host, Chancel Committee volunteer, and to Donate Altar Plants. **Thank You!** *We are Gifted to Serve!*

Fairly-Traded Coffee/Tea

Check out the coffee display from Equal Exchange (on the counter outside of the coat closet). Simply select the product(s) you would like to purchase, and place the money in the container provided by the display. Checks should be made out to Faith Lutheran Church with “*coffee*” designated in the memo area.

Faith Telephone Directory

A new Faith Directory is available in the gathering area on the Coffee Sales counter by the Mission & Ministry Center for all to take home (1 per household, please).

Contribution Envelopes for 2023

are in the gathering area at the Coffee Bar. If you don't see a box with your name on it, please mention this to Barb Davenport, Pam Devlin, or Kris Roth. We will happily provide you with a box. If you would like to register for our easy, **automatic online giving service**, contact the church office.