

## Come, Holy Spirit!

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**The Day of Pentecost– May 24, 2015**

PO Box 411

Mars, PA 16046-0411

[www.stjohnchurchmars.org](http://www.stjohnchurchmars.org)

Phone: 724-625-1830      email: [office@stjohnchurchmars.org](mailto:office@stjohnchurchmars.org)

Rev. Robert Zimmerman, Guest Pastor & Pastoral Candidate

Jacob Gordon, Director of Music

We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church. We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning. Should you have no permanent church-home in this community, why not consider making this one your own? Please sign the guest book as you leave worship today or the attendance pad in the pew. You are most welcome here at St. John! Most elements of our service can be found in the bulletin, everything else is in the hymnal. Page refers to the numbered pages towards the front of the hymnal, hymns are bold and towards the back. Please rise when there is an \*, congregational responses are in **bold**, and underlined elements of the service are found in the hymnal.

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

**The Day of Pentecost– May 24, 2015**

*On the fiftieth day of Easter we celebrate the Spirit, through whom and in whom the people of God are created and re-created. Pentecost is sometimes called the church's birthday, but might more appropriately be called its baptism day, since the gift of the Spirit is the fullness of baptism. Romans makes it clear that God is in the process of re-creating the entire cosmos; yet the Spirit is also at work in the most intimate and personal way, praying in us "with sighs too deep for words" when we do not know how to pray.*

**PRELUDE:** Improvisation on *Veni, Creator Spiritus* – Richard Proulx

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **\*OPENING DIALOGUE**

Alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord fills the world.

**Let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God. Alleluia!**

With tongues of fire, the Spirit kindles the apostle's zeal.

**They declare in new tongues the wonderful works of God.**

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**And blessed be his kingdom now and forever.**

Alleluia! Come, Holy Spirit!

**Fill the hearts of your faithful people with your love. Alleluia!**

**\*GATHERING SONG #403: *Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song***

#### **\*GREETING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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.**



**\*THIS IS THE FEAST**

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and  
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

*Refrain*



hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

*Refrain*



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



## **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us 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.**

## **FIRST READING: Acts 2:1–21**

*Originally Pentecost was a Jewish thanksgiving-type festival celebrated seven weeks after Passover. On this particular Pentecost, however, the Holy Spirit is poured out upon the entire community of believers just as Jesus had promised and the scriptures had prophesied. Empowered by the Spirit, the entire community bears witness to God's activity in multiple languages.*

<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

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

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

<sup>17</sup>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.

<sup>18</sup>Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

<sup>19</sup>And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

<sup>20</sup>The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

<sup>21</sup>Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



**PSALM 104:24-34; 25b**



1. Lord, how great are all your work-ings, wis-dom marks them through and through.  
2. May your glo - ry reign for - ev - er. Lord, re - joice in all you make!



All the earth is your pos-ses-sion, great and small be - long to you.  
As you look on your cre - a - tion, moun-tains smoke, foun - da - tions shake.



Food you give each in due sea - son, at your hand come all good things.  
May these words and thoughts be pleas-ing, for in you my joy is found.



By your Spir - it you cre - ate us; Lord, your breath re - new - al brings.  
Bless the Lord, my soul and be-ing! With this song let praise a - bound.

**SECOND READING: Romans 8:22–27**

*By pouring the Holy Spirit into our hearts, God gives us the promised first fruit of eternal life so that we await God's future in hope. In the meantime, the Spirit also intercedes for us by carrying the prayers of our weak human hearts to God.*

<sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; <sup>23</sup>and 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.

<sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

<sup>26</sup>Likewise 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. <sup>27</sup>And 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.

The Word of the Lord.

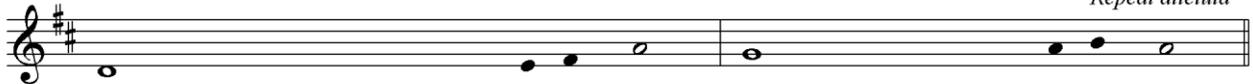
**Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*Repeat alleluia*



Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in us the fire of your love.

**\*GOSPEL READING: John 15:26–27; 16:4b–15**

*When speaking to his disciples before his death, Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit as "the Helper" and described the difference the Spirit would make in their lives and in the world.*

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>15:26</sup>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. <sup>27</sup>You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

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

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

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

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY #396: *Spirit of Gentleness***

### **\*PROFESSION OF FAITH**

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? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? **I renounce them.**

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?  
**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?  
**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.**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM**

You have made public 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?

**I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?

**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people 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. **Amen.**

**\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Trusting the Spirit's power, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

For the church as it receives your Holy Spirit and shares its hope in Christ. For advocates of truth and forgiveness and for perseverance in prayer. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For the creation as life takes root and grows. For the earth and all planets, for the sun, moon, and stars, for the natural wonders in, among, and beyond us. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For the nations as they seek guidance. For government and tribal leaders, for international organizations, for translators and interpreters, for prophets and peacemakers. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For those who suffer as they long for healing. For those who are lonely or forgotten, for those who are ill, especially Nan, Jim, Robert, Frieda, Kathy, Jim, Raymond, Wanda Jean, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Fred & Jane, and David & Ellen. For veterans, military personnel, and those who advocate on their behalf. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For this worshiping community: For acolytes and ushers, readers and intercessors, musicians and artists, for all ministries of hospitality, and for those who cannot be with us this day. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For this congregation and our pastoral candidate. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We remember saints led by your Spirit, including scientists Nicolaus Copernicus and Leonhard Euler, whom we commemorate today. Open our eyes to your work in the world and inspire hope for the world to come. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive these prayers, gracious God, and those prayers known only to you. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**\*PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY HYMN #405: O Spirit of Life

*(Please stand for the final stanza as the gifts are brought forward.)*

#### **\*OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth.

Day by day you shower us with blessings.

As you have raised us to new life in Christ,

give us glad and generous hearts,

ready to praise you and to respond to those in need,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

#### **\*DIALOGUE**

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.**

#### **\*PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

through our Savior Jesus Christ.

Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection,

you pour out the fire of your Spirit,

uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue.

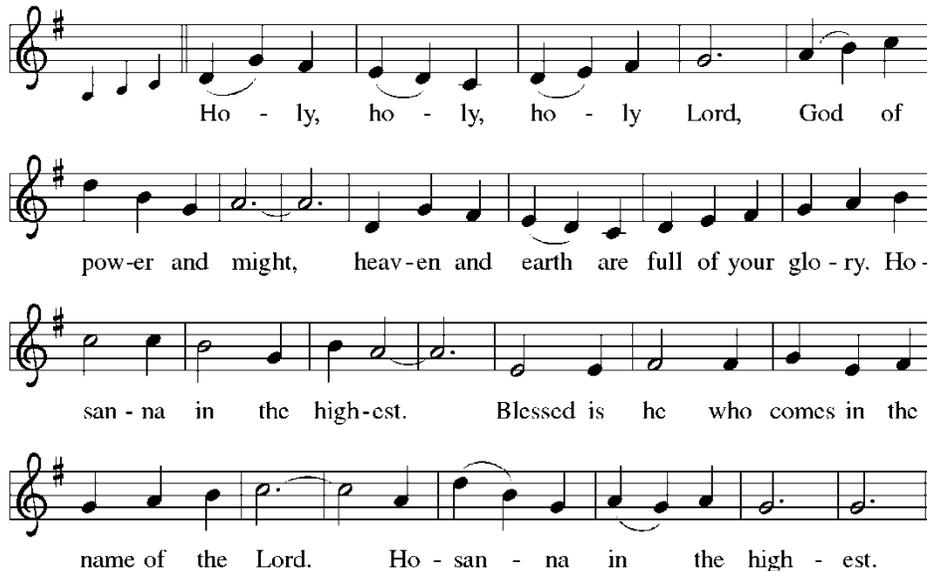
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,

with earth and sea and all their creatures,

and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

#### **\*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### \*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy,  
and great is the majesty of your glory.

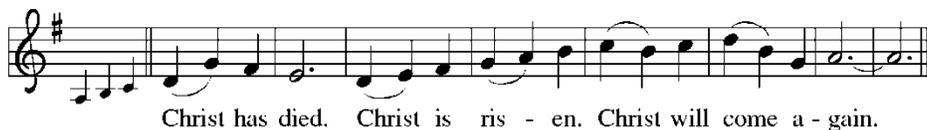
You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish  
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world  
to fulfill for us your holy will  
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,  
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,  
and the promise of his coming again,  
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,  
not as we ought but as we are able;  
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving  
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,  
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,  
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ  
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,  
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,  
may be formed to live as your holy people  
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



**\*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**

**\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**COMMUNION**

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

**COMMUNION SONG: *Lamb of God***

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

**COMMUNION ANTHEM: *Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me* – K. Lee Scott**

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would gracious be;  
help me now thy grace to see, I would be like thee;  
and, with words that help and heal, thy life would mine reveal;  
and, with actions bold and meek, for Christ, my Savior, speak.

Truthful Spirit, dwell with me, I would truthful be;  
help me now thy truth to see, I would be like thee;  
and, with wisdom kind and clear, thy life in mine appear;  
and, with actions brotherly, speak Christ's sincerity.

Holy Spirit, dwell with me, I would holy be;  
show thy mercy tenderly, make me more like thee;  
separate from sin, I would, and cherish all things good,  
and whatever I can be give him who gave me thee.

Mighty Spirit, dwell with me, I would mighty be;  
help me now they pow'r to see, I would be like thee;  
'gainst all weapons hell can wield, be thou my strength and shield;  
let they sword my weapon be, Lord, thine the victory.

- St. 1-3 by Thomas T. Lynch, alt; st. 4 by K. Lee Scott

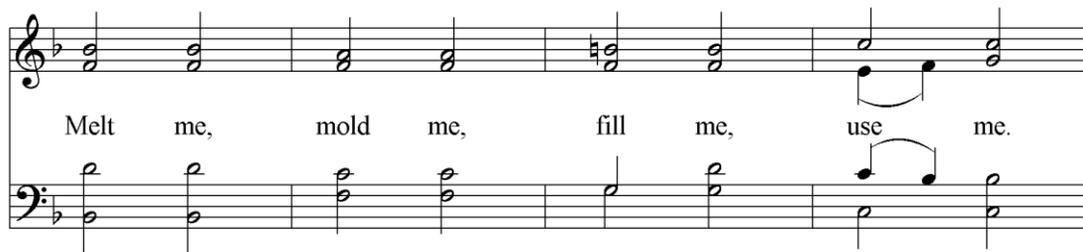
**COMMUNION HYMN: *Spirit of the Living God***



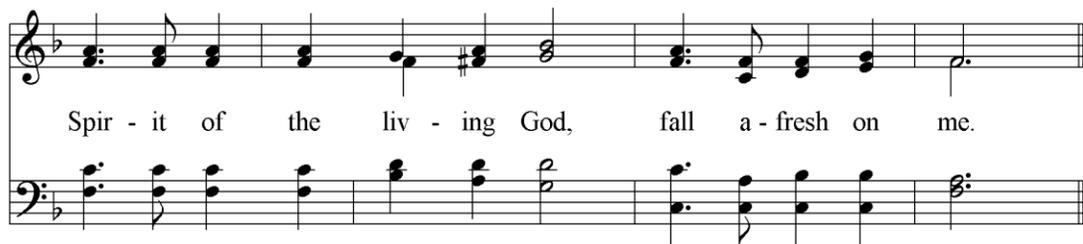
Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.



Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.



Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

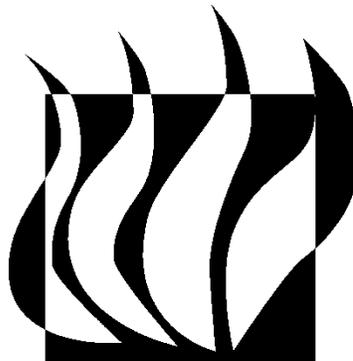


Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

**\*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in grace.

**Amen.**



**\*POST-COMMUNION HYMN: *Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart***

Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;  
Teach me to love Thee as Thine an - gels love,  
wean it from earth, through all its puls - es move;  
one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame;  
stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as Thou art,  
the bap - tism of the heav'n - de - scend - ed Dove,  
and my heart an al - tar, and Thy love the flame.  
I ought to love. love. flame.

**\*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray.  
Life-giving God,  
in the mystery of Christ's resurrection  
you send light to conquer darkness,  
water to give new life,  
and the bread of life to nourish your people.  
Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection,  
that we may show your glory to all the world,  
through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.  
**Amen.**

