

Sunday, May 31, 2020



IN TODAY'S WORSHIP Fifty days after Passover (which is now days our Easter time) came the Festival of Pentecost. It celebrated the barley harvest, and thousands of people again filled Jerusalem. But God had another harvest in mind. The Holy Spirit came upon Jesus' followers just as Christ had promised. The Holy Spirit empowered them to proclaim Jesus,

and there was a great harvest of 3,000 people who were brought to faith in Christ Jesus as Savior and they were baptized. God's age-old effort to save all people from sin and death, kicked into a new gear on Pentecost. Same mission. God's people now, however, were truly living with God and He with them. And it showed in them. The lives gave witness to the Holy Spirit living in them. Today, we are God's people. Do we show God's Holy Spirit alive within us? Will we people the people He uses to bring in the harvest of souls in our time?

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant to us today that by the same Spirit we may have a right understanding in all things and that we always rejoice in the Holy Spirit's guidance and comforting. Amen

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: God promised: *"I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour out My Spirit on your offspring, and My blessing on your descendants."* Isaiah 44:3 Jesus promised: *"If you love Me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Helper, to be with you forever, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. You know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you."* John 14:15-17

Congregation: Jesus said: *"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you."*
John 14:26

Pastor: God keeps His promises! On the first Pentecost Day the Holy Spirit was poured out on the believers in Jerusalem. We also have received the gift of the Holy Spirit, poured out on us as through the water and the Word of Holy Baptism, when we were made children of God. He claimed us as His own through the words that call us together: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER FOR PENTECOST WORSHIP

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, as in the day of Pentecost, unleash Your Spirit upon the Church, for great is the need for revival. As David prayed, so do we today: *"Restore unto us the joy of Your salvation, and renew Your Holy Spirit among us!"* Amen.

HYMN*"Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord"*

LSB 497

- 1 Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord,
With all Your graces now outpoured
 On each believer's mind and heart;
 Your fervent love to them impart.
Lord, by the brightness of Your light
In holy faith Your Church unite;
 From ev'ry land and ev'ry tongue
 This to Your praise, O Lord, our God, be sung:
 Alleluia, alleluia!**

- 2 Come, holy Light, guide divine,
Now cause the Word of life to shine.
 Teach us to know our God aright
 And call Him Father with delight.
From ev'ry error keep us free;
Let none but Christ our master be
 That we in living faith abide,
 In Him, our Lord, with all our might confide.
 Alleluia, alleluia!**

- 3 Come, holy Fire, comfort true,
Grant us the will Your work to do
 And in Your service to abide;
 Let trials turn us not aside.
Lord, by Your pow'r prepare each heart,
And to our weakness strength impart
 That bravely here we may contend,
 Through life and death to You, our Lord, ascend.
 Alleluia, alleluia!**

CONFESSING OUR SINFULNESS

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You and worthily praise Your holy name, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

*(Silence for reflection on God's Word, self-examination,
and personal confession of sin to God.)*

P: With sincere hearts, let us confess together that we, through sinful thoughts, careless words, and loveless deeds, have transgressed God's righteous Law and deserve His punishment now and eternally.

C: Almighty God, merciful Father, we acknowledge our sinful nature and repent of our sins in our thoughts, words, deeds. For the sake of Jesus, grant us Your forgiveness so that, as Your redeemed people, we may be fit places for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit and may serve You in time and in eternity. Amen.

FORGIVENESS OF SINS

P: Upon your confession, I, by the power of my office, as a Called and ordained servant of God's Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the place and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

"Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of

our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it."

1 Thessalonians 5:23

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray:

O Holy Spirit, You call Your people to faith and faithfulness. Enlighten our hearts that we have a right understanding in all things and may rejoice in the power and blessing of Your Word among us. May the promise of Pentecost be fulfilled in and through us in our times and places. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with You and the Father are one God, world without end.

C: Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Ezekiel learns by a vision of dry bones that the Lord can give new life to His people.

The hand of the Lord was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?"

I said, "Sovereign Lord, you alone know."

Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and

you will come to life. I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord.”

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to it, ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.’” So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.

Then he said to me: “Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.’ Therefore prophecy and say to them: ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says: My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you, my people, will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the Lord have spoken, and I have done it, declares the Lord.’”

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

ACTS 2, selected verses (1-4, 14-18, 38-40)

The long-awaited Holy Spirit was given to the apostles. Today, you are given the Holy Spirit and forgiveness in your Baptism.

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from

heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

"In the last days, God says,
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,
your young men will see visions,
your old men will dream dreams.
Even on my servants, both men and women,
I will pour out my Spirit in those days,
and they will prophesy.

"Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.

Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SONG

"Awake My Soul" COMP. CHRIS TOMLIN

JC Conley

THE GOSPEL LESSON

JOHN 14: 23-31

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

Jesus promises the coming of the Holy Spirit who will bring all the blessings Christ has won.

²³ Jesus [said], "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. ²⁴Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.

²⁵ "These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I will come to you.' If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe. ³⁰ I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on me, ³¹ but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

CREED *Third Article of the Apostles' Creed*

P: We confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.
Although not written by the apostles of the first century, it expresses

the faith they brought to the nations as the Holy Spirit enlarged the Church. Today we confess the Third Article of the Apostles' Creed, which testifies to the person and work of the Holy Spirit, and speak together the section of Luther's Small Catechism that explains this article of faith.

C: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

P: What does this mean?

C: I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.

In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.

On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

This is most certainly true.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Kendis Bender, Director of Christian Education

SERMON *"STARTING OVER AS CHANGED PEOPLE"*

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor
And ✠ give you peace.
C **Amen.**

HYMN *"O Day Full of Grace"* (DEN SIGNED DAG)

LSB 503, vss. 1,4,5

1 **O day full of grace that now we see
 Appearing on earth's horizon,
Bring light from our God that we may be
 Replete in His joy this season.
God, shine for us now in this dark place;
 Your name on our hearts emblazon.**

**4 God came to us then at Pentecost,
 His Spirit new life revealing,
That we might no more from Him be lost,
 All darkness for us dispelling.
His flame will the mark of sin efface
 And bring to us all His healing.**

**5 When we on that final journey go
 That Christ is for us preparing,
We'll gather in song, our hearts aglow,
 All joy of the heavens sharing,
And walk in the light of God's own place,
 With angels His name adoring.**

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POSTLUDE