



PENTECOST
RITE OF CONFIRMATION
MAY 19, 2024 – 10:00 AM

Hymnal References:

LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship (Green Hymnal)
ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Red Hymnal)

A limited number of ELW red hymnals may be found at the sanctuary doors on the usher tables. On occasions when hymns are from other resources, a limited number of printed sheet music may be found in a folder on the usher tables. Please return the red hymnals and/or sheet music to the folder at the conclusion of worship. Thank you!

You are invited to give your gifts and tithes to the Lord online through [PushPay](#). This can be done through the church website or the church mobile phone app.

Please register your worship attendance via yellow insert, the online “[yellow slip](#)” found on the church [website](#) (click on “[Worship with Us](#),” just below the live stream) or on the mobile phone app (click “Connect” then “Worship Check-In”).

Receiving Holy Communion

*Holy Communion is a Christian Sacrament – a Holy Rite where we receive God’s divine grace and presence – practiced to respond to God’s invitation to believe and trust in him. All those who would like to receive this Sacrament, or a blessing, are encouraged to approach the altar at the usher’s instructions with faith, humility, and reverence. Please follow the usher’s instructions to the altar rail. Those receiving communion should hold out their hand as the ministers come by with the bread and wine. Those receiving a blessing should fold their hands under the railing. **Gluten-free wafers** are available in the round container on the bread plate and should be taken by those who require them. For those who prefer **grape juice** rather than wine: the center ring of glasses on the communion tray is white grape juice.*

For those who are not able to come to the railing, or who are not yet comfortable with coming to the railing, simply remain in your pew, and a communion assistant will come to you with the tray of elements for you to take while in your seat.

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Prelude: “Rubrics” by Locklair

Welcome and Announcements

Senior Quilts—*Kaysha Benjamson, Christian Osborne, Samuel Webster*

Meditation

*We pause for a moment of silent meditation.
Please stand as you are able.*

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Pastor: Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. You welcome the sinner to come before you to unpack their sin and receive forgiveness. In this moment of silence hear our personal prayers of confession.

Silence is observed for personal reflection and confession.

Pastor: Together we make our corporate confession.

Congregation: We confess we have sinned against you. We know our transgressions and our sin is always before us. Create in us pure hearts, O God, and renew steadfast spirits within us.
(Psalm 51:3 & 10)

Pastor: Having made our confession, we now hear and receive God’s forgiveness. Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool. Your sins are forgiven! God now calls you Righteous and Faithful!
(Isaiah 1:18b & 26b)

Congregation: Thank you, Lord Jesus!

Pastor: The peace of God and the presence of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

Congregation: And also with you.

Share the peace of the Lord with one another.

“God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind”

ELW #400

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Music: John Hughes, Text ©2000 GIA Publications, Inc.
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Verses 1 & 4

God of tempest, God of whirlwind, as on Pentecost descend!
Drive us out from sheltered comfort; past these walls your people send!
Sweep us into costly service, there with Christ to bear the cross,
There with Christ to bear the cross!

God of passion, God unsleeping, stir in us love’s restlessness!
Where the people cry in anguish, may we share your heart’s distress.
Rouse us from content with evil; claim us for your kingdom’s work,
Claim us for your kingdom’s work!

Praise and Proclamation

Pastor: I will extol the Lord at all times;

Congregation: His praise will always be on my lips.

Pastor: I will glory in the Lord;

Congregation: Let the afflicted hear and rejoice.

Pastor: Glorify the Lord with me;

Congregation: Let us exalt his name together.

(Psalm 34:1-3)

Hymn of Praise



(ALL) This is the feast ___ of vic-tor-ry for our God Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia!



(WOMEN) Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



(ALL) This is the feast ___ of vic-tor-ry for our God Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia!



(MEN) Pow - er, rich-es, wis-dom, and strength, and hon - or, ___ bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



(ALL) This is the feast ___ of vic-tor-ry for our God Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia!



(WOMEN) Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Bless - ing, hon - nor, glo - ry and might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er A men.



(ALL) This is the feast ___ of vic-tor-ry for our God Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia!



(MEN) For the Lamb ___ who was slain has be - gun his ___ reign. Al-le - lu - ia.



(ALL) This is the feast ___ of vic-tor-ry for our God Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia!

Prayer of the Day (*in unison*)

Pastor: Let us pray.

Congregation: God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, as you sent upon the disciples the promised gift of the Holy Spirit, look upon your Church and open our hearts to the power of the Spirit. Kindle in us the fire of your love, and strengthen our lives for service in your kingdom; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

Special Music: “Spirit, Song”

RLC Choir

First Reading: Zechariah 7:4-10 (*NIV*)

⁴ Then the word of the LORD Almighty came to me: ⁵ “Ask all the people of the land and the priests, ‘When you fasted and mourned in the fifth and seventh months for the past seventy years, was it really for me that you fasted?’ ⁶ And when you were eating and drinking, were you not just feasting for yourselves?’ ⁷ Are these not the words the LORD proclaimed through the earlier prophets when Jerusalem and its surrounding towns were at rest and prosperous, and the Negev and the western foothills were settled?’”

⁸ And the word of the LORD came again to Zechariah: ⁹ “This is what the LORD Almighty said: ‘Administer true justice; show mercy and compassion to one another. ¹⁰ Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, the foreigner or the poor. Do not plot evil against each other.’”

Second Reading: James 1:19-27 (*NIV*)

¹⁹ My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, ²⁰ because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires. ²¹ Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

²² Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. ²³ Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror ²⁴ and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. ²⁵ But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

²⁶ Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that God our Fa-

ther accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

Lector: The word of God for the people of God.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Please remain standing, as you are able

Gospel Reading: Luke 8:16-21 (NIV)

¹⁶“No one lights a lamp and hides it in a clay jar or puts it under a bed. Instead, they put it on a stand, so that those who come in can see the light. ¹⁷For there is nothing hidden that will not be disclosed, and nothing concealed that will not be known or brought out into the open. ¹⁸Therefore consider carefully how you listen. Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what they think they have will be taken from them.”

¹⁹Now Jesus’ mother and brothers came to see him, but they were not able to get near him because of the crowd. ²⁰Someone told him, “Your mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to see you.”

²¹He replied, “My mother and brothers are those who hear God’s word and put it into practice.”

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Please be seated.

No Children’s Church this week.

Sermon: “Just Do It!”

Pastor Steve Ernst

Please stand as you are able.

“Christ, Be Our Light”

ELW #715

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Verses 1 & 2

Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.

*Refrain: Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.*

Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow’r to save us. Make us your living voice.

Refrain

Please be seated.

Rite of Confirmation

Pastor: I now ask these confirmands to come forward...

Olivia Benjamson, Bentley Daniels, and Trell Miles

Introduction

Pastor: These young people have been instructed in the Christian faith and now wish to make a public affirmation of their Baptism and a public profession of their faith.

This is a unique opportunity for you confirmands. Let’s face it, our society isn’t going to embrace you because of your faith...it will ridicule you and persecute you. And yet, we know that they did the same to our Master, and this is an opportunity to shine the light of Jesus to those who don’t know Him.

It was in baptism that our Lord received you and made you members of His church. You have been taught the truths and promises of Scripture; you have received the gifts of grace present in Holy Communion; and you have been called to be witnesses of our living Savior, Jesus Christ.

Commitments

Pastor: We know that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Therefore, your walk with Christ will always be one of dependence on Him. With this in mind, and knowing that you are saved by grace through faith and not by works, will you commit, in response to His great love, to do your best:

- To love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, and mind, and soul, and strength?
If so, answer, “**Yes, with the help of God.**”

- To love Jesus Christ as your Lord, the Master of your life and as your Savior, the one who saved you from the punishment of your sins? If so, answer, **“Yes, with the help of God.”**
- To love your neighbor as generously as you love yourself? If so, answer, **“Yes, with the help of God.”**
- To live a life of grace, compassion, mercy, and hope? If so, answer, **“Yes, with the help of God.”**
- To commit to studying God’s Word; to continue in fellowship and worship; and to share your faith with the lost? If so, answer, **“Yes, with the help of God.”**

Congregation, please stand as you are able.

Profession of Faith:

As a sign of unity in the church, with one voice, as one body, will the congregation please stand and join these confirmands as we profess our faith together with the words of the Nicene Creed:

All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Congregation please be seated.

Prayer for the Confirmands:

Pastor: We now ask for the families of those confirming their faith to come and stand behind their confirmand and join us in prayer.

The pastor prays for each confirmand, reads his/her confirmation verse, and gives the certificate booklet to parents. When all have been prayed for the group is dismissed back to their seats.

Please stand as you are able.

Prayers of the Church and the Lord's Prayer

Pastor: God has said, "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven...now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place." We now pray for God's people and all others according to their need.

(2 Chronicles 7:14-15)

The minister will conclude each prayer, "Lord, in your mercy," Congregation will respond: "Hear our prayer."

Minister: We close our prayer together praying as our Lord Jesus taught us...

Congregation: 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.

Please be seated.

Offering

Pastor: We now observe and practice the spiritual discipline of giving, remembering to thank God for his provision.

Tithes and offerings may be given in the wood offering box located just outside the sanctuary doors in the narthex, or via the online giving portal found on the website and RLC smartphone app.

Special Music: "Praise Him, Praise Him All You Little Children"/"Mercy is Falling"
RLC Kids' Choir

Please stand as you are able.

The Offertory:



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Offertory Prayer

Pastor: Gracious God,

Congregation: We give to you generously and willing to share with those in need. Help us to put our hope in you, not in wealth. For you richly provide us with every-thing for our enjoyment. Amen.

(c.f. 1 Timothy 6:17-19)

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts!

Congregation: We lift them to the Lord!

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

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

Pastor: It is indeed right and salutary ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



☞ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho- san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, 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 to them to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. (*Luke 22:17-20*)

Pastor: Feed us now, Heavenly Father, the bread of life, come down from heaven, which gives life to the world, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Congregation: Amen, come Lord Jesus. (*John 6:32-35*)

Please be seated.

The Distribution of the Sacrament

☐ 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.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below each staff. A square symbol (☐) is placed at the beginning of the first line of lyrics. The final note of the fourth staff is a double bar line.

"Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart"

ELW #800 / LBW #486

text by George Croly, Public Domain

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
Wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;
Stoop to my weakness, strength to me impart,
And make me love you as I ought to love.

I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
No sudden rending of the veil of clay,
No angel visitant, no op'ning skies;
But take the dimness of my soul away.

Have you not bid me love you, God and King;
All, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling.
Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!

Teach me to love you as your angels love,
One holy passion filling all my frame:
The baptism of the heav'n-descended dove,
My heart an altar, and your love the flame.

“Abide with Me”
ELW #629 / LBW #272
text by Henry F. Lyte, Public Domain

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.

I need thy presence ev’ry passing hour;
What but thy grace can foil the tempter’s pow’r?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, oh, abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life’s little day;
Earth’s joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death’s sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me!

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes,
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;
Heav’n’s morning breaks, and earth’s vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Post–Communion Prayer

Pastor: We were once alienated from you God, and enemies. But now we have been reconciled by Christ’s physical body through death. Presented to you holy, without blemish and free from accusation. Enable us, by this your body and blood, to continue in faith, established and firm, not moving from the hope held in the Gospel.

(c.f. Colossians 1:21-23)

Congregation: Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

Benediction

Pastor: “The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.”

(Numbers 6:24-26)

Congregation: Amen.

"How Great Thou Art"

ELW #856 / LBW #532

CCLI Song # 14181 | Stuart Wesley Keene Hine

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Verses 1-3-4

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

*Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
How great thou art! How great thou art!*

But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin;

Refrain

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain

Sending:

Pastor: Go in God's peace. Shalom!

Congregation: Shalom!

The Postlude: "Bell Symphony" by Purcell

Worship Assistants - Sunday, May 19, 2024 - 10:00 AM

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Preacher: | Pastor Steve Ernst |
| Liturgist: | Amanda Daniels |
| Musician: | Susan Miller |
| Assisting Minister: | Amanda Daniels |
| Acolytes | Shay Daniels Braedy Ingram Carter Maier Soren Miles Lillian Spinato |
| Lector: | Kristen Imhoff |
| Communion Assistants: | Pastor Steve Ernst Amanda Daniels Karen Clark Charles Davis Kathy Killand |
| Lead Ushers: | Rick Snyder Kathy Snyder |
| Assistant Ushers: | Destry Henderson **** |
| Communion Prep (before 10:00) | Charles Davis |
| Communion Clean Up (after 10:00) | Charles Davis |
| Projection Technician: | Jenny Page |
| GNMM Technical Team: | Brian Killand Adam Pilger |
| Recycle: | Kathy Snyder |
| Cashiers: (Monday) | Joanne Woehle Janet Budzeck |
| Safety Hosts (9:30-11:30) | Destry Henderson Carl Imhoff |