



Pentecost
May 24, 2026

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Grant Park, IL

Theme of the Day: What Difference Does It Make? He Lives to Pour Out His Spirit

When the disciples were distressed about Jesus ascending into heaven, he assured them, “It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you” (John 16:7). That Advocate is the Holy Spirit. If Jesus had stayed in the grave, the Holy Spirit would have had no reason to enter the lives of disciples.

But Jesus lives, and it makes a difference. The Spirit provides faith and purpose for life. Pentecost, the celebration of the special arrival of the Holy Spirit, is the third great festival of the Church, along with the Nativity and the Resurrection. Pentecost closes the fifty-day period after Easter and ends the festival half of the church year. The Church dresses in red on this day to commemorate the tongues of fire that marked the Spirit’s gift as well as the blood of the martyrs.

Order of Service: Service Setting Two (CW page 172)

Prayer upon entering church: Lord, you promised to pour your Spirit out on your church to empower it to be your witness in the world. You kept your promise and your message has been proclaimed throughout the world. We ask that you continue to pour your Spirit out and bring more people into your everlasting kingdom. Amen.

Opening hymn: Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices (CW 484)

Invocation and Confession

The Word

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Holy Spirit, God and Lord, come to us this joyful day with your sevenfold gift of grace. Rekindle in our hearts the holy fire of your love that in a true and living faith we may tell abroad the glory of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Father, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading: Acts 2:1-21 – On Pentecost the disciples proclaimed the gospel. Through their words the Holy Spirit unleashes his saving power.

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the rushing of a violent wind came from heaven, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw divided tongues that were like fire resting on each one of them. They were all filled with

the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, since the Spirit was giving them the ability to speak fluently.

Now there were godly Jewish men from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. When this sound was heard, a crowd came together and was confused, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. They were completely baffled and said to each other, “Look, are not all these men who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them speaking in his own native language? Parthians, Medes, and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, and of Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt, and the parts of Libya around Cyrene; visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes; Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring in our own languages the wonderful works of God.” They were all amazed and perplexed. They kept saying to one another, “What does this mean?” But others mocked them and said, “They are full of new wine.”

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and spoke loudly and clearly to them: “Men of Judea, and all you residents of Jerusalem, understand this, and listen closely to my words. These men are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only the third hour of the day. On the contrary, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

This is what God says will happen in the last days: I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh. Your sons and your 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. I will show wonders in the sky above, and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and a rising cloud of smoke. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. And this will happen: Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

Psalm: Bless the LORD, My Soul and Being (Psalm 104)



1 Bless the LORD, my soul and be - ing! LORD my
2 LORD, you laid the earth's foun - da - tion that it
3 Grass you cause to grow for cat - tle, plants for
4 LORD, how great are all your work - ings, wis - dom
5 May your glo - ry reign for - ev - er. LORD, re -



God, you have such might. Cloaked with hon - or, grand and
would be al - ways sound. By the word of your com -
us to cul - ti - vate. Food you bring forth from our
marks them through and through. All the earth is your pos -
joyce in all you make! As you look on your cre -



glo - rious, you are clothed with pur - est light.
mand - ing, you set forth each o - cean's bound.
la - bor, wine for joy and bread for plate.
ses - sion, great and small be - long to you.
a - tion, moun - tains smoke, foun - da - tions shake.



Stretch - ing out the heav'ns like tent cloth, you are
Springs gush forth at your own bid - ding, giv - ing
Trees you give the birds for shel - ter, moun - tain
Food you give in each due sea - son, at your
May these words and thoughts be pleas - ing, for in



cham - bered on the deep. Rid - ing on the wings of
drink to ev - 'ry field. Bird and beast and all your
rock and cave for beast. Sun and moon both mark the
hand come all good things. By your Spir - it you cre -
you my joy is found. Bless the LORD, my soul and



wind - storm, flame and fire your bid - ding keep.
crea - tures in that cool - ness find thirst healed.
sea - sons, in their light we work and feast.
ate us; LORD, your breath re - new - al brings.
be - ing! With this song let praise a - bound.

Text: Fred R. Anderson

Tune: C. Hubert H. Parry

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Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3-11 – When God pours out his Spirit, it is for the benefit of the entire Church.

Therefore I am informing you that no one speaking by God's Spirit says, "A curse be upon Jesus," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. There are various kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are various kinds of ministries, and yet the same Lord. 6There are various kinds of activity, but the same God, who produces all of them in everyone.

Each person is given a manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one person a message of wisdom is given by the Spirit; to another, a message of knowledge, as the same Spirit provides it; by the same Spirit, faith is given to someone else; and to another, the same Spirit gives healing gifts. Another is given powers to do miracles; another, the gift of prophecy; another, the evaluating of spirits; someone else, different kinds of tongues; and another, the interpretation of tongues. One and the same Spirit produces all of these, distributing them to each one individually as he desires.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation *Antiphon for Pentecost*

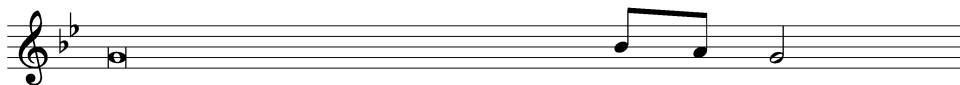


Refrain



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

Tone



Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful peo - ple,



and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Refrain

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Gospel: John 7:37-39 – Jesus promised that those who were spiritually thirsty would be filled with the living water of the Spirit.

On the last and most important day of the festival, Jesus stood up and called out, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink! As the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from deep within the person who believes in me.” By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were going to receive. For the Holy Spirit had not yet come, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

The Gospel of our Lord
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day: Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord (CW 585)

Sermon: Water Which Truly Quenches (John 7:37-39)

Apostles’ Creed (CW 181)

Prayer of the Church

Offering: We give our gifts to the Lord and sing “How Great Thou Art” (CW 612 vs. 1) in response to our offerings.

Prayer and Blessing (CW page 171)

Closing hymn: We Sing the Almighty Power of God (CW 504)

Announcements

Welcome in Jesus’ name to any and all guests and visitors here with us today. It is a joy to be able to worship with you. Help us to remember your visit by signing our guest book. Ask an usher if you need help finding the book. If you would like more information about our church please speak with pastor after church. If you need a hearing device, please speak to a greeter. Please come again!

Weekly Preview next week we will observe the First Sunday after Pentecost. Our readings will be from Genesis 1:1-2:3, 2 Corinthians 13:11-14 and Matthew 28:16-20. Our sermon will be based on 2 Corinthians 13:11-14 with the theme, "Rejoice in the Triune God's Gifts."

Hospitalized/Homebound members/people to keep in your prayers: Janice Hooten, Elmer Guritz, Myrna Vandergriff, David Moeller, Dorothy Riechers, Michelle Micheel and Don Genge.

Bible Class will be taking a break for the summer.

ILS Golf Outing The ILS Golf Outing is scheduled for Saturday, June 6 at Deer Creek Golf Club. Registration will begin at 10:45 a.m. for a noon scramble start. If interested in playing and need a team, contact David Kenyon (kenyondavid19@gmail.com) or Mark Reiners (markspringing@gmail.com). Register to play or sponsor at ilsouting.com.

Donation offering for the Micheel Family is located in the narthex. Please read the note which is there or ask Lyle Menke or Art Romadka if you have any questions about the collection. It will be there until the end of the month.

ILS Job Opportunity - Part-Time Recruitment Director The ILS Recruitment Director will promote Illinois Lutheran High School among ILS parents, ILS Federation members and the community. He/she will organize events and communication strategies to build relationships with prospective students and their families. He/she will work with ILS administrators, teachers and staff to recruit new students who would benefit from the educational opportunities available in the ILS PreK-12 system. Contact Matt Moeller at mmoeller@ilhs.org or (708) 672-3262 if interested or to seek more information.

ILS Job Opportunity - Part-Time Assistant Maintenance Director ILS is seeking candidates to assist with electrical, plumbing and other facility maintenance projects. Contact Rik McGathey at rmcathey@ilhs.org or (708) 890-5968 if interested or to seek more information.

Christian Concert The Christian Stephen Bautista will be holding a concert here at church on June 28 in place of our normal Sunday service. We'll be having a potluck after service. Please put your name on the list to bring food and invite your friends to join us!

Church cleanup day will be held on Saturday, June 13 starting at 9am.

This week at St. Paul

Today: Worship 9am
Sunday: Worship 9am

Organist: Thank you to Michelle Micheel
Last Week's Attendance: Sunday Worship 44
Sunday School 3

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