

A Mission Congregation of the ELCA
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
P. O. Box 64 - 8520 Oakes Rd - Pittsburg, Ohio 45358



Pentecost: Fruits of the Spirit
May 23, 2021



Scan with your Smartphone and link to our web page, our Facebook page, and our YouTube Channel.



* HYMN OF PRAISE

“Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling”

LBW 523

(Verses 1 & 3 Only)



1 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er dwell-ing in the ho-liest realms of light;
3 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er work-ing through the church's min-is-try;



Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er brood-ing o'er a world of gloom and night;
quick-'ning, strength-'ning, and ab-solv-ing, set-ting cap-tive sin-ners free;



Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er rais-ing those of earth to thrones on high;
Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er bind-ing age to age and soul to soul



liv-ing, life-im-part-ing Spir-it, you we praise and mag-ni-fy.
in com-mu-nion nev-er end-ing, you we wor-ship and ex-tol.

* APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

* KYRIE

A: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord have mercy.**

A: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord have mercy.**

A: For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord have mercy.**

A: For this Holy House, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord have mercy.**

A: Help, save, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: **Amen.**

* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

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*** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray... Uniting God, You have gathered your children from every corner of the earth and called us your own. Continue to bring us together as the body of Christ, for the purpose of living your love and spreading the gospel of our risen Lord.

C: Amen.

• CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Theme: The Holy Spirit came on the day of Pentecost.

Object: A windsock; a strong fan

Scripture: Acts 2:1-21

You probably know this is a windsock or a type of kite. It was invented many years ago in Japan and was flown on "Boys Day." Families would hang one windsock for each son in their family. You might've seen one at an airport, too. They show pilots which way the wind is blowing so they can take off and land safely. They're even used to help guide the Space Shuttle pilots.

No one can see the wind, but we know the wind is there because it moves the windsock. But just because we can't see the wind, that doesn't mean it's not important. The wind helps us cool off when we get hot; it cleans the air from smog; and it can even be used to power our homes. What other things can you think of that the wind does? (Pause.)

God's Spirit is kind of like the wind. We can't see the Holy Spirit, but the Holy Spirit is very important and always with us. What is something else you can think of that you can't see but is still very important? (Pause.)

When God sent His Holy Spirit to be with His people for the first time, it was like a mighty, rushing wind. (Lead kids in making a "whoosh!" sound.) Many churches still celebrate that special day. It's called the day of Pentecost. A bunch of believers were all gathered together. (Turn on the fan, and blow it on the children.) When the loud wind came, they saw what looked like tongues of fire that came to rest on each of them, and all of them were filled with the Holy Spirit. How would you feel if you saw fire coming down on your head? Would you be scared? (Pause.)

The Holy Spirit helped them share God's message of love with everyone around by speaking other languages! When we believe, God puts His Holy Spirit

* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

in us, too. (While still feeling the wind from the fan, invite children to say “I believe!” and say an affirmation over each child, such as “God’s Holy Spirit lives in you!”)

There are so many ways the Holy Spirit helps us every day. You might say, “He is the wind in your socks!”

Dear God, we thank You for sending Your Holy Spirit to comfort us, guide us, and live within us. In Jesus’ name, amen.

• **SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 2:1-4; Galatians 4:1-7 [5:16-26]**

P: Our scripture reading for this day is from Acts, Chapter 2 and Galatians, Chapters 4 & 5.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

2 When 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.

4 My point is this: heirs, as long as they are minors, are no better than slaves, though they are the owners of all the property; ²but they remain under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. ³So with us; while we were minors, we were enslaved to the elemental spirits of the world. ⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

5 [¹⁶Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. ¹⁹Now

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the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness,²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions,²¹ envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.²² By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness,²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things.²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.²⁶ Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another.]

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ** (*Spoken*)

- **SERMON**

Pastor Mel Musser

Grace and peace to you from God our Father from God's only Son, Jesus Christ, and from the Holy Spirit who calls, gathers, and enlightens us, amen.

Please pray with me... Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and we shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth. O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, instructs the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

That prayer might sound familiar to you if you ever attended an Emmaus Walk or a Via de Cristo weekend. On these religious retreats this prayer is said before every talk or lesson, about 14 times give or take a few. Most of us who've

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been on a weekend knew that prayer by heart by the end of the 3 days... In that prayer we're asking God's Holy Spirit to come to us and kindle the fire within us so that by the power of God's Spirit we might participate in the renewal of the face of the entire earth. In other words, to allow us to be a part in bringing God's Kingdom to earth as it is in Heaven.

On Pentecost Sunday even Lutherans pray, preach, and talk about the Holy Spirit. Normally, we Lutheran's aren't much for talking about the Holy Spirit. We're much more comfortable talking about Jesus... We like to tell others about Jesus and his love... Stories about the outpouring of the Spirit on people in the Bible and how they could speak in foreign languages or perform miracles or other supernatural, extra-ordinary feats make us a little nervous. At least they do me... My experience of the Holy Spirit has never included speaking in tongues or being able to heal anyone's illness by laying on of hands. If only I could do a few miracles...

My experience of the Holy Spirit is more subtle. It's more like being called to become a part of this thing called Church, where I learned about Jesus and about the things Jesus taught, like loving our neighbors, but also loving our enemies. It has much more to do with what we call the gifts of the spirit or as St Paul calls them in our reading from Galatians, the fruits of the Spirit. Those gifts or fruits, in

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case you missed them are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. My goodness, if the Holy Spirit did come into the hearts of all the faithful and brought us these character traits, the face of the world would be such a different place...

In today's increasingly pluralistic culture, I often wonder if the Church can make a difference. I mean all we see and hear on the news is how divided we are. The emphasis is on how much separates us from one another. If it's not skin color, it's political ideology or your stance on abortion or sexual orientation. The media has found it to be very profitable to chop us up into little segregated groups. From there it's pretty easy to set one group against another so that pretty soon you have non-stop riots in the streets. I'm not saying we don't have longstanding, difficult problems when it comes to these complicated issues. In these United States we've been trying to deal with the aftereffects of slavery for over 150 years. It's like an earthquake. First, you get the damage caused by the quake itself, but then as time goes on, you get the aftershocks that happen some time later. I believe that's what we're still experiencing today, the aftershocks that are still reverberating from that dark era of our country's past. The question is how do we, in the 21st century deal with those aftershocks...

I think it's time for all of God's people, even Holy Spirit averse Lutherans to be continuously asking for the Holy Spirit to come into our lives and ignite the fire of God's love within all of God's faithful people. If that happens, imagine how we would treat one another with love and kindness... Imagine diffusing riots with gentleness and self-control instead of using inciting words like so many Molotov cocktails to kindle the fires... Let's make this a little more personal. Imagine your life with a big dose of peace, patience, and most importantly joy... How would your life be different? What if everyone in our Congregation was on fire with these fruits of God's Holy Spirit? What could this little country church do? We'll never know unless we ask for that Spirit to first come into us and then to kindle our spark into a flame.

On Pentecost Sunday about 2000 years ago God fulfilled the promise of sending the Holy Spirit and some really amazing things happened. Our text says the believers were all gathered together and after the Holy Spirit came to them they began to speak in other languages. Most of the time we jump right to the other languages and the speaking in tongues part, but I think the truly amazing miracle that happened on that first Pentecost Sunday was the fact that they began to speak at all. They were transformed from being so afraid that they locked themselves in the upper room into being bold proclaimers of God's promise of forgiveness of sin

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and everlasting life through the righteousness of Jesus Christ whom God raised from the dead. In their proclaiming, they were risking their very lives... despite their fear, the coming of the Holy Spirit opened their mouths to speak of God's great and mighty acts, including raising Jesus from the dead and how God made Jesus Lord of all creation. The fact that other people could understand these preachers in their own languages came after the fact that first the Holy Spirit opened the mouths of the believers to speak about God and Jesus in the first place. That's what it means to kindle the fire of God's love within us. The Holy Spirit gives us the burning desire to tell of our faith and trust in this God of hope and love despite all the obstacles and objections. It gives us the voice to stand up against all the forces of evil and the devil, including, but not limited to racism and soft bigotry. It gives us the desire for change, to make this a better world than what we started with.

I've always been a little afraid to ask for the Holy Spirit to come into me. I mean, we're talking about God's Spirit here and you never know what God might ask of you once God fills you with His fire and His love... I was asked to change the entire direction of my life and career. God's message isn't always well received and sometimes when we tell others about Jesus and his love we get rejected or laughed at or even threatened. Some of those teachings of Jesus can

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rub people the wrong way. In our culture today, people who talk about Jesus and his teachings can be overshadowed by the shouts of competing religions, and other issues that distract and deflect from us from mission of advancing God's Kingdom. It's been that way since the beginning and in our modern society it's beginning to look a lot more like it was back in the early Church. I mean, we're not being fed to the lions or beheaded in these United States, but there is still a certain risk you take on when you begin to open your mouth and tell others about Jesus. That's why we really need every one of those fruits of the Spirit.

May we all be open to the coming of God's Holy Spirit and invite that same Spirit to kindle in us the fire of God's love. May the same Spirit that opened the mouths of the faithful on that first Pentecost Sunday give us the courage to face the obstacles we have in front of us when it comes to sharing our faith with others. May the fire of God's Holy Spirit grow into an unstoppable force for love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Amen.

Silence may be kept for meditation...

• **SPECIAL MUSIC**

Robby Arling

* **NICENE CREED**

The Nicene Creed is said on all festivals and on Sundays in the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. The Apostles' Creed is said at other times. The Creed is omitted here if the service of Holy Baptism or another rite with a creed is used.

C: 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 catholic 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.

➤ *Or, He descended to the dead.*

* **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

L: We pray for the church, the world, and all those in need...

A brief silence.

L: As the fire of your gospel filled the disciples long ago, so ignite us and unite us for the work of your Kingdom. Holy Spirit,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: As students, educators, administrators, and staff begin to see the end of another academic year, we celebrate all that has been accomplished and release all that could not be fulfilled during these past nine months. Bring us into a season of rest and rejuvenation, thankful for all the blessings of our shared experience and hopeful for the future of each new generation. Holy Spirit,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Bring relief from fires burning out of control, and bring new life from scorched

* Please stand if able

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earth, as we continue to find ways to care for this beautiful creation you have made. Holy Spirit,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Heal divisions in our world and bring people to the essential awareness that we are all one, born of one creator. We thank and praise you for the healing and reprieve you've given us from this dreadful Corona Virus. May the great strides toward fewer and fewer cases of this disease continue and may the vaccines continue to provide protection from infection. Bless those who have lost a loved one or are suffering from Covid 19 and all other dread diseases. Bless all those in need your healing this day, especially... .. Holy Spirit,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: For those who grieve and those who are approaching the end of their lives, we pray your peace and acceptance of the changing seasons of life. Keep us close to those we love, whether in this world or in the next, through the uniting love of Christ. Holy Spirit,

C: Hear our prayer.

Here other petitions may be offered.

P: Incline your ear to our prayers and fill us with power to continue living out our faith, by the power of your Son our savior, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

*** SHARING OF THE PEACE**

(The Sharing of the Peace that began when the congregation arrived is now shared with the Pastor at this time...)

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

C: And also with you.

*** OFFERING PRAYER**

While the congregation is still standing say:

P: Instead of passing the offering plate, we ask you to please place your offering in the Offering Plates conveniently located on your way out of worship. For those worshipping with us from their vehicles, there is an offering basket located near the back door of the church and for those worshipping online if you go to www.pitsburgtlc.org you can make your offering online.

P: So, let's pray for the offerings we receive this day. As disciples brought the fruits of the early Spring harvest, so we also bring the fruits of our labors and offer them to you for the work of your kingdom. Bless these gifts and use us as ambassadors of your mercy throughout the world.

C: Amen.

* Please stand if able

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THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

* DIALOGUE

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 him thanks and praise.

* THE PREFACE

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who rose beyond the bounds of death and, on this day, as he had promised, poured out your Spirit of life and power upon the chosen disciples. At this the whole earth exults in boundless joy. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

* THE SANCTUS

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy God, Breath of life and Fire of love: with a mighty wind you brought creation into being, and by a pillar of fire you led your people into freedom. We praise you for the gift of your Son, who poured out your Spirit on his disciples of every race and nation.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and the sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit, we await his coming again to renew the face of the earth.

Send now your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this meal: anoint us with your gifts of faith, hope, and love, that, with thankful hearts, we may be witnesses to your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C: Amen

* Please stand if able

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*** THE LORD’S PRAYER**

P: Jesus is the “tie that Binds us together”, let us pray as Jesus taught...

C: 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**

P: You gather all to your table, even when we keep some out. You welcome all to your supper even when we limit the guest list. Your grace and mercy are enough for all; now let us come at our savior’s invitation.

• COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

During the distribution the minister says these words to each communicant:

P: At this time you may open the communion bread and partake of the body of Christ, given for you.

Now please open the wine and you may now partake of the Blood of Christ, shed for you.

The communicant may say: Amen.

• POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May this Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen, keep, and unite us.

C: Amen.

*** POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

P: Let us pray... Gracious and abundant God, you have done great things for us, and we rejoice. In this bread and cup you give us life forever. In your boundless mercy, strengthen us and open our hearts to the world’s needs, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen

• ANNOUNCEMENTS

*** SENDING BLESSING**

P: May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

* Please stand if able

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* **SENDING HYMN**

“Holy, Holy, Holy”
(Verses 1 & 2 Only)

LBW 165

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!
cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.

* **DISMISSAL**

P: Until the next time we gather together as God’s people to offer our worship and praise, depart in Christ’s Love.

C: **Seeking, welcoming, and serving all. Amen!**

* **POSTLUDE**

“Trust and Obey”

Roxanne Groff

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Trinity Worship Assistants and Staff

Ministers	All the People of Trinity
Organist	Roxanne Groff
Lector	
Greeter	
Parrish Nurse	PJ Musser

* Please stand if able


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Custodian	Mark Groff
Secretary	Sharon Fourman
Facebook Live Recorder	PJ Musser
Altar Flowers	

Health Tips for the Week
BODY: Get an eye exam
MIND: Enroll in a class of any kind
SPIRIT: Try a Bible Study



Scripture readings for next Sunday, May 30th
Psalm 1



Trinity is on the Air at FM 88.3

If you are near the Church on Sunday morning, you can tune in to FM 88.3 at 10:30 AM and hear the sermon from your car.

TRINITY TRUMPET – Please see Bev Erdmann to receive your June issue of the Trinity Trumpet.

This Week @ Trinity – May 23 thru May 30, 2021

Sun, May 23

10:30 am Worship Service

Mon, May 24

9:00 am Prayers & Squares Quilting

~~**Wed, May 26**~~

~~6:30 pm Confirmation~~

Fri, May 28

3:30 pm FISH Choice Food Pantry

Sun, May 30

10:30 am Worship Service

* Please stand if able

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Holy Communion Delivery Available to ALL:

If you or anyone you know would like to have Holy Communion delivered to a home or place of business, please call Pastor Mel at 937-626-7100. He will bring a prefilled communion chalice including both sanctified wine and a morsel of bread all prepackaged from the Concordia True Vine company. This is a safe way to stay connected to your brothers and sisters in Christ.

The FISH Choice Food Pantry would like to open the Pantry once a month on a Saturday morning from 10 to 11 am, however, they will need at least 5-7 servants to commit to this before doing so. If you would be interested in serving in this capacity on the 3rd Saturday each month, please contact Kristy Cutarelli at kristy@fishofdarke.org and copy Pastor Mel at pastor@pitsburgtlc.org as a courtesy.

Trinity Contact Info

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