

Welcome to Worship at  
Trinity Lutheran Church, Osceola, WI  
Pentecost Sunday - May 23, 2021

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my Strength and my Redeemer. Amen.

**Hymn #184 - "O Holy Spirit, Enter In"**

**O Holy Spirit, enter in  
And in our hearts your work begin,  
Your dwelling place now make us.  
Sun of the soul, O Light divine,  
Around and in us brightly shine,  
To joy and gladness wake us  
That we may be truly living,  
To you giving prayer unceasing  
And in love be still increasing.**

**Give to your Word impressive pow'r  
That in our hearts from this good hour  
As fire it may be glowing,  
That in true Christian unity  
We faithful witnesses may be,  
Your glory ever showing.  
Hear us, cheer us by your teaching;  
Let our preaching and our labor  
Praise you, Lord, and serve our neighbor.**

**O mighty Rock, O Source of life,  
Let your dear Word, in doubt and strife,  
In us be strongly burning  
That we be faithful unto death  
And live in love and holy faith,  
From you true wisdom learning.  
Your grace and peace on us shower;  
By your power Christ confessing,  
Let us see our Savior's blessing.**

### **Confession of Sins:**

P: Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**C: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace and forgiveness for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. O Lord, have mercy on us!**

P: Upon this your confession, I as a called servant of Christ and His Word announce to you the grace of God, and in the place of 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.

**C: Amen.**

### **First Lesson: Ezekiel 37:1-14**

The hand of the Lord was upon me. He brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley, which was full of bones. He had me pass through them and go all over among them. There were very many on the valley floor, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Son of man, can these dry bones live?" I answered, "Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.'" This is what the Lord God says to these bones. I am about to make breath enter you so that you will live. I will attach tendons to you. I will put flesh back on you. I will cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you will live. Then you will know that I am the Lord. So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I was prophesying there was a noise, a rattling, as the bones came together, one bone connecting to another. As I watched, tendons were attached to them, then flesh grew over them, and skin covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the wind. Prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind that this is what the Lord God says. From the four winds, come, O wind, and breathe into these slain so that they may live." So I prophesied as he commanded me. Breath entered them, and they came back to life. They stood on their feet, a very, very large army. Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They are saying, 'Our bones are dried up. Our hope is lost. We have been completely cut off.' Therefore, prophesy and say to them that this is what the Lord God says. My people, I am going to open your graves and raise you up from your graves and

bring you back to the soil of Israel. Then you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my Spirit in you, and you will live. I will settle you on your own land, and you will know that I, the Lord, have spoken, and I have done it, declares the Lord.” (EHV)

**Psalm 51b**

**Refrain: Come, Holy Spirit, renew our hearts and kindle in us the fire of your love.**

**O Lord, open ‘my lips,  
And my mouth will de’clare your praise.**

**You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would ‘bring it;  
You do not take pleasure in burnt ‘offerings.**

**The sacrifices of God are a broken ‘spirit;  
A broken and contrite heart, O God, you will ‘not despise.**

**Refrain: Come, Holy Spirit, renew our hearts and kindle in us the fire of your love.**

**Create in me a pure ‘heart, O God,  
And renew a steadfast spirit with’in me.**

**Do not cast me from your ‘presence  
Or take your Holy Spirit ‘from me.**

**Restore to me the joy of your sal’vation,  
And grant me a willing spirit, to sus’tain me.**

**Then I will teach transgressors ‘your ways,  
And sinners will turn ‘back to you.**

**Glory be to the Father and ‘to the Son  
And to the Holy ‘Spirit,  
As it was in the be’ginning,  
Is now, and will be forever. ‘Amen.**

**Refrain: Come, Holy Spirit, renew our hearts and kindle in us the fire of your love.**

## **Second Lesson: Acts 2:1-21**

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. (EHV)

**Verse of the Day:** Alleluia. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people, and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia.

## **Gospel: John 14:25-27**

"I have told you these things while staying with you. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and remind you of everything I told you. Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, and do not let it be afraid." (EHV)

## **The Apostles' Creed:**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**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.**

## **Hymn #235 - *"Praise the Almighty; My Soul, Adore Him"***

**Praise the Almighty; my soul, adore him!  
Yes, I will laud him until death.  
With songs and anthems I'll come before him  
As long as he allows me breath.  
From him my life and all things came;  
Bless, O my soul, his holy name. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Penitent sinners, for mercy crying,  
Pardon and peace from him obtain;  
Ever the wants of the poor supplying,  
Their faithful God he will remain.  
He helps his children in distress,  
The widows and the fatherless. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Trust not in princes, they are but mortal;  
Earthborn they are and soon decay.  
Vain are their counsels at life's last portal  
When the dark grave will claim its prey.  
Since, then, no one can help afford,  
Trust only Christ, our God and Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Praise, all you people, the name so holy  
Of him who does such wondrous things!**

**All that has being, to praise him solely,  
With happy heart its amen sings!  
Children of God, with angel host  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**The Sermon:       John 14:25-27  
                          “Great Blessings From Our Ascended Lord”**

From the moment of His birth to the moment of His death, Jesus lived in **humility** - not as a **king**, but as a lowly **servant**. Jesus **held back** the full use of His godly power, in order to allow Himself to be nailed to the **cross**, and to make the only **sacrifice** which would **save** us from our sins. But now Jesus has **risen** from the dead, and has **ascended** to His Father in heaven. His suffering is **over**, and He **lives** and **rules** over **everyone** and **everything** at God’s right hand. Jesus has been **exalted** as the King who rules over the whole **world**. He’s **everywhere** - He sees **everything** - and He uses His perfect **knowledge** and His almighty **power** to guide the events of the **universe**, as well as the events of our individual **lives** - all for our eternal **good**. But there’s also **more** to His wonderful **ruling** in our lives - **much** more. Our text brings us words which were spoken by our Lord on the **night before** His death on the cross, and just a **few weeks** before His ascension into heaven. They are words which assure us of **Great Blessings From Our Ascended Lord**.

The blessings **begin** in the two verses which **precede** today’s sermon text. There Jesus told His disciples, *“If anyone loves me, he will hold on to my word. My Father will **love** him, and we will **come** to him and **make our home with him**.”* Here Jesus reveals the first great blessing which He gives to all those people who **love** Him, and **hold on** to His Word. They would have a very **close** relationship with God the **Father** and God the **Son**. The Father and the Son would **love** them, **come** to them, and make Their **home** with them. The heavenly Father **loves** us as His dear **children**. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit have literally **moved in** with us - God has made His **home** with us. **Jesus** is the unseen **guest** at every meal and conversation in our homes. The **Holy Spirit** has made our body His **dwelling** place, and He has made our heart the place where our spiritual **worship** takes place. When the stormy **winds** of life blow on us, God is our solid **foundation** and we will not fall. Even when our life here on the earth **ends**, Jesus says, *“In my Father’s house are many **mansions** ... I am going to prepare **a place for you**. And if I go and prepare **a place for you**, I will **come again** and take you to be **with me**, so that you may also be **where I am**.”* Jesus lives on high in majesty, and when the time is **right**, we will live and reign **with Him**.

But Jesus **also** said, “*The one who does **not** love me does **not** hold on to **my words**.*” Those people would **not** share in the second **Great Blessing From Our Ascended Lord**, because **God’s Word** is that second blessing. As Christians, we **do** hold on to and obey God’s Word, and Jesus daily **blesses** us through that Word. We **love** Jesus because of the great love **He** has shown to us. We were born into this world as **slaves** to sin - **unable** to obey God - **rebellious** against His claim on our lives - and pursuing only the **evil** desires of our sinful **flesh**. Life had become a living **hell** filled with **guilt** and **despair**, and we were **doomed** by our sins to suffer the eternal anguish and tortures of **hell**. But God saw our **wretchedness**, and with a **loving** fatherly heart He turned to us and gave us His dearest **treasure** - His **Son**. Jesus obeyed His Father’s will in **everything** - being **born** of a virgin Mother - becoming our holy and sinless **brother** - and dying the death on the cross of Calvary which **we deserved**. Even after He **rose** again from the dead, Jesus used His position as the Lord over sin and death, to lead us to **know** Him, to **trust** Him, to **love** Him, and to **follow** the guidance of His Word. God’s Word holds the **top** priority in our **lives** and in our **teaching**, because in His Word we learn about **Jesus**, our **Savior** from sin - and Jesus calls us to **repent** of our sins, to believe in God’s **forgiveness**, to **pray** for His help in our times of need, and to always **love** one another.

Jesus also spoke to His disciples about a third blessing that would follow His departure to heaven. He said, “*The **Counselor**, the **Holy Spirit**, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you **all things** and **remind** you of everything **I** told you.*” Perhaps the disciples were **worried** that when Jesus was **gone** they would **forget** His words, or maybe they thought that they would never completely **grasp** what He meant. But Jesus took those worries **away** when He promised to send the **Holy Spirit** to them. The blessing of the Holy Spirit was very **important**, because not only would He **remind** them of everything that **Jesus** had said, but He would also **teach** them **anything else** they needed to know.

That promise was fulfilled on the Day of **Pentecost**, when the Father **and** the Son poured out the **Holy Spirit** on the disciples who had gathered in Jerusalem. From that day on, the Spirit taught them the **full** meaning of Jesus’ life, death and resurrection, and He also inspired **several** of those disciples to **write down** the words of Jesus, in the gospels and letters of the New Testament.

God also sends **us** the blessing of the Holy Spirit through the Scriptures, and He **reminds** us of the words and promises which our Lord Jesus spoke, and **teaches** us the way of **salvation** through Jesus. The words of the Bible **are** the

words of Jesus Himself. They are words which were written down for us by men, “*who spoke as they were carried along by the **Holy Spirit**.*” The Holy Spirit **teaches** us through God’s Word. He **teaches** us **not** to trust in our **own** works to try and **cover up** our sins. He **teaches** us **not** to try to build a ladder to heaven out of our good works, because that ladder would only **collapse**. But rather, He **teaches** us to put **all** of our trust in **Jesus** for the forgiveness of sins, and to rest our hope for **eternal life** on **His** resurrection from the dead. Through the **Word of God** the Holy Spirit also **reminds** us of the promises of Jesus. The words which Jesus spoke some 2,000 years ago, still speak to our hearts **today**. **Remember** what He **said** - “*I am with you **always**, to the end of the age*” ... “*I am the **resurrection and the life**. Whoever believes in me will **live**, even if he **dies**. And whoever lives and believes in me will **never perish**” ... “*I will **never** leave you. I will **never** forsake you.*”*

And that leads us to the fourth blessing which we receive from our ascended Lord. Jesus said, “***Peace** I leave with you. **My peace** I give to you. Not as the **world** gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be **troubled**, and do not let it be **afraid**.*” Jesus **frequently** provided His disciples with **peace** - answering their **questions**, calming their **fears**, and forgiving their **sins**. And now that Jesus has returned to heaven, He also provides **us** with peace each and every day.

That **peace** is something we can’t obtain on our **own**, but it’s something which we desperately **need**. So often we get **scared** - even at times **overcome** with fears, worries, and anxiety. No matter how hard we **try**, we poor, wretched sinners can’t give ourselves **peace**. But Jesus **can** - and He **does**. And Jesus doesn’t give us the kind of peace which the **world** expects - like peace between **nations** - or getting **terrorists** to stop their attacks - or stopping random people from stirring up **trouble**. Jesus gives us peace with **God**. And that peace depends entirely on what **He** has done - coming to the earth as the Lamb of God, whose **sacrifice** paid for our sins - living on high and **ruling** the world for the sake of His Church - answering our **prayers**, and **caring** for us. The peace which **Jesus** brings is a **sure thing**, and it assures us that we are in **good standing** with God because of the **forgiveness** which He **won** for us.

The peace of **God** which surpasses all **understanding** quiets our conscience, and convinces us God is **always** working for our eternal **good**. Jesus is in heaven, and everything is **right** with the world, so even when things seem to be **falling apart** all around us, our hearts and minds can rest **at ease**. We **believe Jesus** when He says, “*You heard me say, ‘I am going away and I am **coming back** to you.’ If you loved me, you would be **glad** that I am going to the Father for the Father is*



*greater than I.*” We **believe** that He lives **on high** in glory and majesty, and that He **rules this world** with all authority in heaven and earth. And we **believe** that Jesus is coming **back** for us on the Last Day. So until that day comes, let’s remember that we have **Great Blessings From Our Ascended Lord**. Jesus **loves** us - He has made His **home** with us - He has sent the **Holy Spirit** to us - He speaks to us through His **Word** - and He gives us eternal **peace**. Amen.

### **Prayers:**

Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank You for graciously promising to hear **all** those who call on You in **faith**. Hear now **our** prayer, as we ask especially for those things which are good for our **spiritual** welfare. Don’t count our many **sins** against us, but rather, wash us **clean** in Jesus’ blood, and continue to **guide** us by Your Holy Spirit. Give us a **vigorous** faith - a faith which trusts only in **Your** mercy and grace, and **never** let us put our trust in our **own** merit and worthiness. Fill **each** of us with a longing for Your **Word**, that by **reading** it, **studying** it, and **hearing** it preached, we may **grow** in our **faith** toward You, in our **knowledge** of the Truth, and in our **love** for one another. Graciously give us the Savior’s spirit of **humility**, and cast **out** of our hearts all sinful **pride** and **doubt**.

Capture our hearts with Your **love**, that we may be **faithful** to You in every way, and **fruitful** in every good work. Teach us to place **all** our burdens and cares on **You** through fervent and frequent **prayer**, and remind us that when we **ask** for things that are pleasing to You, we will **receive** them. Help us to count our **blessings**, and to remember that **every** good gift comes from You. May our love for **You** always be a cheerful **response** to Your great love for **us**.

When we are **chastised**, give us the patience and strength we need to **bear** whatever burden You place on us. Give us the grace to **learn** the spiritual lessons You want to **teach** us. Cheered by the knowledge that in **all** things You work for the **good** of those who love You, enable us to bear our lot in life without **complaining**. Give us strength to **endure** all trials to our faith, and to **overcome** every temptation. **Uphold** us by Your **power** that we may never falter or fail in our allegiance to You, nor lose our hold on the eternal life which You have prepared for us.

And finally, that Your kingdom of grace may be brought to the hearts of many **others**, give us all a godly **zeal** to show Your salvation in our lives from day to day, and from place to place. May we never **fear**, or be **ashamed**, or **hesitate** to confess Your name to those around us. Amen.

**The 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.**

**Hymn #237 - *"Lord of Lords, the Sparkling Heavens"***

**Lord of lords, the sparkling heavens  
Show the greatness of your hand,  
Brilliant galaxies unfolding,  
Distant suns your wisdom planned,  
Morning stars in concert singing -  
Praise the one whose pow'r we see:  
Lord of might and majesty.**

**Lord of light, your gift of beauty  
Fills our planet here below.  
Crystal snow and silver moonlight,  
Forest green with life aglow,  
Sapphire ocean, flaming sunset  
Your creative joy proclaim!  
Lord of all, we praise your name!**

**Lord of love, we bow before you,  
Humbled by your constant grace.  
Word incarnate, sent from heaven,  
On the cross you took our place.  
By your death and resurrection  
We shall live through endless days!  
Lord of life, we sing your praise.**

**Lord of nations, by your Spirit  
Cause our fear and greed to cease;  
Restless hearts and lives refashion  
By the entrance of your peace.  
May we now with firm commitment  
Follow in obedience true;  
Lord of lords, we worship you!**

P: Lord, now let Your servant depart in peace, according to Your Word, for my eyes have seen Your salvation, which You have prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Your people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit! As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

**The Blessing:**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you,  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

**Hymn #185 - "O Holy Spirit, Grant Us Grace"**

**O Holy Spirit, grant us grace  
That we our Lord and Savior  
In faith and fervent love embrace  
And truly serve him ever,  
So that when death is near at hand  
We at his cross may firmly stand  
And there find our salvation.**

**Help us that we your saving Word  
In faithful hearts may treasure;  
Let e'er that bread of life afford  
New grace in richest measure.  
Make us to die to ev'ry sin;  
Each day create us new within  
That fruits of faith may flourish.**

**Then when our earthly race is run,  
Death's bitter hour impending,**

**May your good work in us begun  
Continue till life's ending,  
Until we gladly may commend  
Our souls into our Savior's hand  
To rest in peace eternal.**