



*Holy Spirit Coming, by He Qi*



# **Pentecost Sunday**

May 20, 2018 | 11 am

**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
Salisbury, North Carolina

# Welcome to St. John's!

*For more information about today's worship, please refer to the pew card found in the hymnal.*



*"Pentecost," painted by J. Olaf Olsen  
Part of the St John's altar triptych.  
Painted and installed in 1947*

## Pentecost

*For Jews, Pentecost celebrates the gift of the law at Mount Sinai and occurs 50 days after the Passover. In the book of Acts, the disciples and early followers of Jesus, gathering in Jerusalem for the Pentecost celebration, were lost and confused because of Jesus' ascension. Suddenly they were overwhelmed by the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2).*

*Since that time, the church has connected God's gift of the Holy Spirit with the day of Pentecost, now one of the three major festivals of the church year.*



## Gathering

**The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.**

**Prelude**

*Guiding Spirit*

Cathy Mocklebust

The Luther Ringers; Kimberly Lentz, Director

**Welcome** *Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it to your neighbor in the pew.*

**Call to Worship and Invoking of the Holy Spirit.** *Worship today begins in mystery. Even the song we sing has the air of mystery—a plainsong chant that dates back to the 8th century. For 1,200 years, this ancient song has escorted in the festival of Pentecost. Allow this mysterious invocation to connect us to that first Pentecost day as it welcomes us into the beauty of worship.*

# Gathering Hymn

## Creator Spirit, Heavenly Dove

Soloist will sing verse 1, Congregation joins in as led

13/4

1. Cre - a - tor Spir - it, heav'n - ly dove.

2. To you, - the Com - for - ter, - we cry;

3. Teach us - to know - the Fa - ther, Son,

2

14/4

de - scend up - on - us from - a - bove;

to you, - the gift - of God - most high;

and you, of both, - to be - but one;

3

13/4

with grac - es man - i - fold - re - store

true fount - of life, - the fire - of love,

that though - the a - ges al - a - long

4

15/4

your crea - tures as - they were - be - fore.

the soul's a - noint - ing from - a - bove.

your praise may be - our end - less song.

5

14/4

4. Praise - to your - e - ter - nal mer - it,

6

11/4

Fa - ther, Son, - and Ho - ly Spir - it;

7

10/4

A - - - - men.

**Pentecost Reading:** Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

***Verse 1—solo***

<sup>5</sup>Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup>Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup>Cretans and Arabs — in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." <sup>12</sup>All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup>But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

***Verses 2-3—All***

<sup>14</sup>Then Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup>Indeed, these are not drunk, as some of you suspect. They haven't had time to get drunk; it's only nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup>No, listen to what the prophet Joel announced would happen:

<sup>17</sup>In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup>Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

<sup>19</sup>And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

<sup>20</sup>The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

<sup>21</sup>Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.<sup>1</sup>

***Verse 4—solo***

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

*Please stand*

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

Let us pray. God our creator, the resurrection of your Son offers life to all the peoples of earth. By your Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love, empowering our lives for service and our tongues for praise, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated*



## Word

**Reading** Galatians 5:16-17,22-25 *The works of the flesh, the fruit of the spirit*

*In today's reading, Paul writes about the fruit of the Spirit, which is the result of the Holy Spirit's presence and work in the lives of Christians and in direct contrast to the "acts of the flesh" that he outlines in Galatians 5:16-21.*

*Paul writes:* <sup>16</sup>Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup>For 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.

<sup>22</sup>By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. <sup>24</sup>And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup>If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

**Anthem** *Send Forth a Dove* Joseph M. Martin

Send forth a dove from the ark of God's loving arms,  
Reaching out to a dying world with the Spirit of love.  
Over the tempest, to all who are seeking,  
Send the peace of the Father's heart. Send forth a dove.

Spirit of God, come and fill us with Thy presence.  
Be Thou our vision. Help us be like Thee  
Give us wings to rise above. Help us ride the storm.  
Let our voice carry words of hope. Let our strength be reborn.

*Please stand for the reading of the Gospel*

**The Holy Gospel** John 14:8-17

*The promise of the Holy Spirit*

*Though the disciples struggle with Jesus' nature and identity, they receive the promise that they too will be identified with God and God's mission. Though he must leave them now, Jesus promises the coming of the "Advocate" (the Holy Spirit) whom God will send to comfort and enlighten them.*

<sup>8</sup>Philip said to Jesus, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." <sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?" <sup>10</sup>Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup>Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup>Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup>I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

<sup>15</sup>Jesus continued, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, the Holy Spirit, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup>He is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

*Children leave for **Children's Worship**, returning after the sermon.*

**Sermon**

Pastor Rhodes Woolly

*Please stand*

**Hymn 582**

*Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling*

IN BABILONE

**Apostles' Creed**

*The three paragraphs of the Creed express our belief in the three-fold nature of God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The creed is found on page 105 in the front of ELW.*

**Prayers of Intercession.** *Each petition ends: "Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**"*

**Sharing the Peace of Christ**     The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Please be seated*



# Meal

Collection of our tithes and offerings and preparation of the Lord's Table

Offertory Music

Offertory Hymn *As the gifts are presented, the congregation stands and sings the Doxology:*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

Let us pray. Merciful Father,  
**we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise. ... And join their unending hymn: *Response music, page 153, ELW.*

**Eucharistic Prayer**, followed by the *Lord's Prayer*, p. 154, front of ELW

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

*Please be seated*

**Distribution of Holy Communion**, see *pew card for instructions..*

**Hymn** *Lamb of God, p. 154, front of ELW*

**Communion Hymns**    **482** I Come With Joy  
                                 **800** Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart (*Verses 1, 3 and 4*)  
                                 **402** Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ

*“Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ” — known as a plainsong chant — has been sung at the time of Pentecost since the 17th century. Notice how the melody itself invokes the power of the Spirit in our daily lives. The choir sings the first verse; the congregation sings verse two and stands to sing verse three.*

## Prayer and Blessing



# Sending

## Benediction

**Sending Hymn 537**

*On Our Way Rejoicing*

HERMAS

## Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

## Postlude

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