

APOSTLES' LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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The community of Apostles Lutheran Church warmly welcomes you to worship today!

As Lutheran Christians, we proclaim that there is nothing, no human action that we can undertake, to earn God's love or the gift of God's grace. It is a gift promised and given to us through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Word of God made flesh. It is a gift given to everyone regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, or background. This Easter promise, this gift of grace, frees us from the fear of having to earn God's love and it moves us to simply try to love our neighbor as best we can. We have been blessed to be a blessing to others and proclaim that there is a place for you at Christ's table.

Welcome, celebrate this good news with us!

Pastor Peter Edwardsen

APOSTLES' LUTHERAN CHURCH
Service of Holy Communion

The Day of Pentecost
May 28th, 2023

Pentecost derives its name from the Jewish festival celebrating the harvest and the giving of the law on Mount Sinai fifty days after Passover. Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the Holy Spirit as God's presence within and among us. In Acts the Spirit arrives in rushing wind and flame, bringing God's presence to all people. Paul reminds us that though we each have different capacities, we are unified in the Spirit that equips us with these gifts. Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit on his disciples, empowering them to forgive sin. We celebrate that we too are given the breath of the Holy Spirit and sent out to proclaim God's redeeming love to all the world.

Order of Confession and Forgiveness

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

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + One God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life. **C: Amen.**

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring. In mercy and might you have forgiven our sins, freed us from death, and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Water is poured into the font

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quenches our thirst, and nurtures both crops and creatures. Praise to you for the life-giving waters of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for our neighbor.

Holy God, satisfy the world's need for this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, rain down hope. Where chaos reigns, let peace flow. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

All: Amen.

P: Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave His only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, + forgives in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power. **All: Amen.**

Gloria

(pg. 176 ELW)

Gloria, gloria, gloria, glory to God on high!

Gloria, gloria, gloria, glory to God on high!

And on earth...peace to God's people. Glory to God.

And on earth...peace to God's people. Glory to God.

Prayer of the Day

P: The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, be with you all.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray together the prayer for this day, the Day of Pentecost, Sunday May 28th, 2023.

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the

Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Gathering Hymn: “O Holy Spirit, Root of Life” #399 ELW

O Holy Spirit, root of life, creator, cleaner of all things: anoint our wounds, awaken us with lustrous movement of your wings.

Eternal vigor, Saving One, you free us by your living Word, becoming flesh to wear our pain, and all creation is restored.

O Holy Wisdom, soaring pow’r, encompass us with wings unfurled, and carry us, encircling all above, below, and through the world.

Please be seated.

WORD

First Reading: Acts 2:1-21

R: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

104:24 O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

104:25 Yonder is the sea, great and wide, creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great.

104:26 There go the ships, and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.

104:27 These all look to you to give them their food in due season;

104:28 when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

104:29 When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

104:30 When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground.

104:31 May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in his works--104:32 who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke.

104:33 I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

104:34 May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the LORD.

104:35b Bless the LORD, O my soul. Praise the LORD!

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

R: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

***Anthem: "Holy Spirit, Live in Me" by Jack Schrader, Fanny Crosby,
and Charles Kirby.
Performed by Phyllis Griffiths.***

Please rise, if you are able, for the Gospel reading.

Gospel Acclamation

pg. 179 ELW

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia!

Today we are reminded that the risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Gospel: John 20: 19-23

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the twentieth chapter.

All: Glory to you O Lord.

After the reading

P: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word, this is the Gospel of our Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: *The Rev. Peter Edwardsen*

Please rise if you are able.

Hymn of the Day: “God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind” #400 ELW

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 blazing, God of burning, all that blocks your purpose purge! Through your church, Christ’s living Body, let your flaming Spirit surge! Where deceit conceals injustice, kindle us to speak your truth, kindle us to speak your truth!

God of earthquake, God of thunder, shake us loose from lethargy! Break the chains of sin asunder, for earth’s healing set us free! Crumble walls that still divide us; make us one in Christ our Lord, make us one in Christ our Lord!

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!

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith:

Apostles Creed (pg. 105 ELW)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the

dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers and Concerns of the Community
“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” #752 ELW
(sung three times)

Lord, listen to your children praying. Lord, send your Spirit in this place; Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.

D: United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence

D: Passionate God, you sent your Spirit through the gifts of fire, wind, and word. As you equipped the disciples for their work, equip us to bring the good news to all those who long for you. Hear us, O God. **All: Your mercy is great.**

Deacon or worship assistant continues with the prayers of intercession.

D: Rejoicing in the victory of Christ’s resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and merciful God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **All: Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ

Offering

P: As a people of God we have been named and claimed through our waters of baptism into the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. From those waters we are called into community with one another and called to share abundantly with others from those gifts that God has first given us.

Offertory music: “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Lord” #184 ELW

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Offertory prayer:

D: Generous God, at this table you offer your very self. We give thanks for the gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen

The Meal

The Great Thanksgiving:

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

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

**All: It is right to give our thanks
and praise.**

Preface: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Fulfilling the promise of resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn :

(#190 ELW)

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow’r and might, holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow’r
and might, heaven and earth are full, full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest,***

hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Eucharistic Prayer:

P: 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 salutary command, his life giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to life as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer:

P: And now let us pray as our Lord Jesus has taught us.

All: 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.

(#199 ELW)

*Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world, grant us peace, grant us peace.*

Invitation to Communion

P: Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

C: Thanks be to God!

Communion Hymn: “Spirit of Gentleness” #396 ELW

*Refrain: Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness calling and free.
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.*

*You moved on the waters, you called to the deep, then you coaxed up the mountains
from the valleys of sleep; and over the eons you called to each thing: “Awake from
your slumbers and rise on your wings.” [Refrain]*

*You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand, and you goaded your people
with a law and a land; and when they were blinded with idols and lies, then you spoke
through the prophets to open their eyes. [Refrain]*

*You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill, then you whispered in silence when the
whole world was still; and down in the city you called once again, when you blew
through your people on the rush of the wind. [Refrain]*

*You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes. From the bondage of sorrow all
the captives dream dreams; our women see visions, our men clear their eyes. With bold
new decisions your people arise. [Refrain]*

Please stand if you are able.

Table Blessing

P: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep in you in his grace, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

Canticle: “Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise” 207 ELW

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell ev'ryone what God has done. Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ. Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Post Communion Prayer

P: Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in the name of Jesus Christ. **C: Amen.**

THE SENDING

Blessing

P: The God of all, who raised + Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation. **C: Amen.**

Sending Hymn: “Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling” #582 ELW

Holy Spirit, ever dwelling in the holiest realms of light; Holy Spirit, ever brooding o'er a world of gloom and night; Holy Spirit, ever raising those of earth to thrones on high; living, life-imparting Spirit; you we praise and magnify.

Holy Spirit, ever living as the church's very life; Holy Spirit, ever striving through us in a ceaseless strife; Holy Spirit, ever forming in the church the mind of Christ: you we praise with endless worship, for your gifts and fruits unpriced.

Holy Spirit, ever working through the church's ministry; quick'ning, strength'ning, and absolving, setting captive sinners free; Holy Spirit, ever binding age to age and soul to soul in communion never ending, you we worship and extol.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Risen Christ.

C: *Thanks be to God!*

**The flowers on the altar are given by Joan & Nick Tartamosa,
in Loving Memory of Nicholas and Cornelia Tartamosa.**



We pray for those celebrating Birthdays:

5/31 Camille Barnard, 6/1 Mina Jonas, 6/3 Dawn Goffredo



Please keep in prayer...

- . . . all communities contending with the loss of their loved ones due to violence.
- . . . all communities suffering and mourning due to natural disasters, especially all those across the country impacted by the recent severe storms and tornados.
- . . . all communities and peoples that suffer from intolerance, injustice, racism, and violence.
- . . . all areas of the world living under threat of violence and war.

We stand with those communities and organizations, faith-based and secular, that work towards healing, justice, and peace.

We pray that the Holy Spirit brings comfort to those who mourn, strength to those who advocate for change, and peace to those who struggle to make sense of the senseless.

God's purpose for the church is to witness to God's grace, forgiveness, compassion, and justice. We fulfill this promise by serving and caring for your local and global communities.

Today's Altar Volunteers:

***Deacon: Mark L, Acolyte: Nicole G,
Greeter: Sylvia D, Usher: Stephanie M
Readers: Eleanor B, Mark L
Set Up & Clean Up: Tracy D***

June 4th Altar Volunteers: *Deacon: David S, Acolyte: Nicole Goldstein,
Greeter: Joan T, Usher: Carol B
Readers: Sandy P, David S p: Thea M, Clean Up: Sylvia D*

June 1st: Grief Share 10:30 am. All are welcome.

June 8th: Food Closet, 1-3 pm.

June 12th: Council Meeting, 6:30 pm.

Please remember to let the office know the wording of your Altar Flower dedication, at least one week prior to the date you have chosen. Thank you.

- **If you wish to bring snacks for the Sunday Coffee Fellowship, there is a signup sheet in the Narthex.**
- **The Vanco system for online giving can be found on the Apostles' website. Any questions, please see Frank or Nick. Thank you.**
- **We are collecting the following: Linens--towels, sheets, and blankets. Medical supplies-- Alcohol wipes, infusion set-ups, non-expired medications, tubing, syringes, etc. Also, dog food, empty ink cartridges of all types, and pull tabs from aluminum cans for dialysis credits.**