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Affiliation: Church of the Lutheran Confession

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WELCOME: *To all who are present today, we offer a heart-felt welcome in Jesus' name.*

The Lord who once promised to pour out His Spirit upon His people fulfills that promise through the risen and ascended Christ, who sends the Holy Spirit to His Church through the proclamation of the Gospel. By that Spirit, the world is convicted of its sin and unbelief, while terrified sinners are brought to repentance, faith, and the comfort of Christ's forgiveness. Thus the Spirit does not draw attention to Himself, but glorifies Christ by delivering to His people the salvation won through His death and resurrection and creating in them the confident hope of eternal life.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OPENING PRAYER: *We ask the Lord's blessings on our worship.*

HYMN: #739

Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

**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 gracious gifts unpriced.**

**Holy Spirit, ever working
Through the Church's ministry,
Teaching, 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.**

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Cong: *(spoken)* Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

Cong: If we walk in the light as He is in the light we have fellowship with one another and the blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanses us from all sin.

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and His truth is not in us.

Cong: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Pastor: Then let us confess our sins to God in prayer and seek His forgiveness for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Cong: Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray, of Your bountiful mercy, be merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

Pastor: Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness let us praise the Lord.

Cong: 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.

**Holy Spirit, God of Love,
Who our night dost brighten,
Poured on us from heav'n above,
Now our faith enlighten.
In Thy light we gather here;
Show us that Christ's promise clear
Is Amen forever.
Jesus, our ascended Lord,
Oh, fulfill Thy gracious Word:
Bless us with Thy favor!
Amen.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Pastor: O God, on this day You sent forth Your Holy Spirit to teach the hearts of the Apostles and to fill them with understanding so that they might proclaim forgiveness of sins through Your Son, Jesus Christ. By the same Spirit of Truth, open our hearts that we might receive our Savior by faith, and that He might guide us into all truth and cause us to be faithful witnesses of our Lord Jesus Christ; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit—one God, forever and ever.

Cong: Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Joel 2:23-32

(EHV) Celebrate, you people of Zion! Rejoice in the LORD your God, because he has given you the autumn rains in righteousness. He sends you abundant showers, both autumn and spring rains, as he did in the beginning. (24) The threshing floors will be filled with grain. The vats will overflow with new wine and olive oil. (25) I will repay you for the years eaten by the swarming locusts, by the young locusts, the mature locusts, and the grasshoppers, my great army that I sent among you. (26) You will have plenty to eat. You will eat until you are full, and you will praise the name of the LORD your God, who

has worked wonders for you. Never again will my people be put to shame! (27) Then you will know that I am in the midst of Israel, that I am the LORD your God, and that there is no other. Never again will my people be put to shame! (28) After this, I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh. Your sons and your daughters will prophesy. Your old men will dream dreams. Your young men will see visions. (29) Even on the servants, both male and female, I will pour out my Spirit in those days. (30) I will show warning signs in the heavens and on the earth: blood and fire and pillars of smoke. (31) The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the great and terrifying day of the LORD. (32) And everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved. So on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there will be deliverance, as the LORD has promised, among the survivors whom the LORD calls.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Acts 2:1-21

(EHV) When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. (2) Suddenly a sound like the rushing of a violent wind came from heaven, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. (3) They saw divided tongues that were like fire resting on each one of them. (4) 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. (5) Now there were godly Jewish men from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. (6) When this sound was heard, a crowd came together and was confused, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. (7) They were completely baffled and said to each other, “Look, are not all these men who are speaking Galileans? (8) Then how is it that each of us hears them speaking in his own native language? (9) Parthians, Medes, and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, and of Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, (10) Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt, and the parts of Libya around Cyrene; visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes; (11) Cretans and Arabs—we

hear them declaring in our own languages the wonderful works of God.” (12) They were all amazed and perplexed. They kept saying to one another, “What does this mean?” (13) But others mocked them and said, “They are full of new wine.” (14) 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. (15) These men are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only the third hour of the day. (16) On the contrary, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: (17) 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. (18) Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. (19) I will show wonders in the sky above, and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and a rising cloud of smoke. (20) The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. (21) And this will happen: Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostolic Creed

I believe God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;

And 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: #224

Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord

**Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord!
Be all Thy graces now outpoured
On each believer's mind and heart;
Thy fervent love to them impart.
Lord, by the brightness of Thy light
Thou in the faith dost men unite
Of every land and every tongue;
This to Thy praise, O Lord, our God, be sung.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**Thou holy light, guide divine,
Oh, cause the Word of life to shine!
Teach us to know our God aright
And call Him Father with delight.
From every error keep us free;
Let none but Christ our Master be
That we in living faith abide,
In Him, our Lord, with all our might confide.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**Thou holy fire, comfort true,
Grant us the will Thy work to do
And in Thy service to abide;
Let trials turn us not aside.
Lord, by Thy power prepare each heart
And to our weakness strength impart
That bravely here we may contend,
Through life and death to Thee, our Lord, ascend.**

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Amen.

THE SERMON: John 16:4-15

(EHV) But I have told you these things so that when their time comes, you may remember that I told them to you. I did not tell you these things from the beginning, because I was with you. (5) “But now I am going away to him who sent me, and not one of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ (6) Yet because I have told you these things, sorrow has filled your heart. (7) Nevertheless, I am telling you the truth: It is good for you that I go away. For if I do not go away, the Counselor will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. (8) When he comes, he will convict the world about sin, about righteousness, and about judgment: (9) about sin, because they do not believe in me; (10) about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will no longer see me; (11) about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. (12) “I still have many things to tell you, but you cannot bear them now. (13) But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. For he will not speak on his own, but whatever he hears he will speak. He will also declare to you what is to come. (14) He will glorify me, because he will take from what is mine and declare it to you. (15) Everything the Father has is mine. This is why I said that he takes from what is mine and will declare it to you.

The Two-Fold Work of the Spirit

He Gets the Word Out

He Gets the Word In

GENERAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

**We now implore God the Holy Ghost
For the true faith, which we need the most,
That in our last moments He may befriend us
And, as homeward we journey, attend us.
Lord, have mercy!**

**Shine in our hearts, O most precious Light,
That we Jesus Christ may know aright,
Clinging to our Savior, whose blood hath bought us,
Who again to our homeland hath bro't us.
Lord, have mercy!**

**Thou sacred Love, grace on us bestow,
Set our hearts with heav'nly fire aglow
That with hearts united we love each other,
Of one mind, in peace with ev'ry brother.
Lord, have mercy!**

**Thou highest Comfort in ev'ry need,
Grant that neither shame nor death we heed,
That e'en then our courage may never fail us
When the Foe shall accuse and assail us.
Lord, have mercy!
Amen.**

THE BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

Cong: Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIBLE CLASS: We will be starting two new Bible studies this next week. For Wednesday, we will be starting a Bible study on the three ecumenical creeds which will take us through the majority of the summer months. Beginning next Sunday, we will start a study on the book of Revelation, which will take us through the end of the church year calendar, ending in November. Please consider joining us for these classes.

RELOCATION: The Wenner family of the Kansas City, MO group will be relocating this summer. Justin applied for and was hired for a new job in the Rapid City, SD area. Kinley, who has been in catechism class for the past two years, will continue her classes with Pastor Gantt and will be confirmed at Faith before their transfer to Good Shepherd of Rapid City. We wish them God's blessings on their new ventures and pray that God will bless both them and Good Shepherd with their relocation. This will effectively end our monthly work in the Kansas City area.

CONVENTION DELEGATES: The CLC General Convention is scheduled for June 24-28. Each CLC congregation is allotted two lay delegates to the convention for the purpose of voting on the business of the CLC. As of yet, we do not have any delegates for either Faith or Zion. If you would like to serve as a delegate, please let Pastor Gantt know so that he can ensure that you are properly registered to be seated as a voting delegate at the convention.

CALL NEWS: St. John's Lutheran Church, Okabena, MN, has extended two part-time, one-year teaching calls to Lori Ruthenbeck and Lydia Buck. <> Pastor David Pfeiffer of Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, West Columbia, SC, has returned the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI. <> Teacher Stephen Krause of Grace Lutheran School, Valentine, NE, has returned the call to Faith Lutheran School, Markesan, WI. <> Pastor Chad Seybt of Morning Star Lutheran Church, Fairchild, WI, Peace with God Lutheran Church, Onalaska, WI, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Melrose, WI, and Trinity Lutheran Church, Millston, WI, has received the call to Living Hope

Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI. <> Pastor Chad Seybt of the Western Wisconsin Quad Parish has also received the call to St. Luke's Ev. Lutheran Church, Lemmon, SD. <> ILC Education Program Graduate Ms. Riley Naumann has accepted the call to teach 3-4 grades at Messiah Lutheran School, Eau Claire, WI. <> Pastor Ben Libby of Redeemer Ev. Lutheran Church, Cheyenne, WY, has received the call to Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, Madison Heights, MI.

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

May 25 – May 30, 2026

Mon Acts 2:1-13 Many things happened on Pentecost: the sound like wind, the tongues like fire, even mockery (v13). But the Spirit's gift was each one hearing the wonderful works of God in his own language.

Tues John 14:23-31 It is so important that we hold on to Jesus' word! That is why He sends the gift of the Holy Spirit: to remind His disciples of everything that He had told them and so to give them peace with God.

Wed Joel 2:28-32 The pouring out of God's Spirit was promised long ago through the prophet Joel. This gift would be not just for the leaders but for young and old, male and female, looking to the day of the LORD.

Thurs Psalm 104:1-4 With the psalmist we ponder the glory of God as revealed in His creation of the world. On the first two days the light and sky remind us that there is no darkness in Him who is over all.

Fri Psalm 104:5-23 On days three and four, God made the dry land appear so that plants might grow to feed the coming animals. The sun, moon, and stars mark the days and nights, months and seasons for all.

Sat Psalm 104:24-35 Days five and six saw the creation of animals as well as people to praise God in psalms. On the seventh day the LORD rejoiced to see that His creation was very good (v31). Hallelujah!