

**The Feast of Pentecost**  
May 23, 2021  
Living Faith Lutheran Church, Sechelt, BC

Preservice Music/Welcome/Announcements

**GATHERING**

Easter Acclamation

Christ is risen. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!** *(Repeat 3 times)*

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,  
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new,  
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,  
like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls,  
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.  
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.  
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.  
To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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

- 1 O Holy Spirit, root of life, creator,  
cleanser of all things:  
anoint our wounds, awaken us  
with lustrous movement of your wings.
- 2 Eternal vigor, Saving One,  
you free us by your living Word,  
becoming flesh to wear our pain,  
and all creation is restored.
- 3 O holy Wisdom, soaring pow'r,  
encompass us with wings unfurled,  
and carry us, encircling all  
above, below, and through the world.

Greeting

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

Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

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. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen**

Song of Praise (spoken)

**All glory be to God on high, and peace to earth be given!  
Let angels sing, let all reply; goodwill breaks forth from heaven!**

**Lord God Almighty, heaven's king, we worship you, our thanks we sing,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, creation's author,  
O Lamb of God, your death alone takes sin away forever.  
Stretch out your arms to every land, and, as you reign at God's right hand,  
receive our prayer; have mercy.**

**To you alone, O God, we cry, the Holy One we name you;  
for you alone are God most high, one living God we claim you:  
we worship you, Lord Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit ever blest,  
in God the Father's glory. Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

**Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us  
this Spirit, transforming us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, through  
Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## WORD

First Reading            Acts 2:1-21

<sup>1</sup>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.

<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."

<sup>14</sup>But 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 you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup>No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<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.'

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading      Romans 8:22-27

<sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; <sup>23</sup>and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

<sup>26</sup>Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel    John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15      *Glory to you, O Lord.*

<sup>26</sup>When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, it will testify on my behalf. <sup>27</sup>You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

<sup>4</sup>But I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them. "I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. <sup>5</sup>But now I am going to the One who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' <sup>6</sup>But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts.

<sup>7</sup>Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send it to you. <sup>8</sup>And when it comes, it will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: <sup>9</sup>about sin, because they do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup>about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; <sup>11</sup>about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

<sup>12</sup>I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. <sup>13</sup>When the Spirit of truth comes, it will guide you into all the truth; for it will not speak on its own, but will speak whatever it hears, and will declare to you the things that are to come. <sup>14</sup>The Spirit will glorify me, because it will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup>All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that it will take what is mine and declare it to you.

The good news of our Lord. ***Praise to you, O Christ***

Sermon

Hymn of the Day #396 "Spirit of Gentleness" v. 3 – *piano only*

***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.*

- 1 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*
- 2 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 your prophets to open their eyes. *Refrain*
- 3 *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***
- 4 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*

## Prayers of Intercession

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love. *A brief silence.*

Gracious God, you give the Holy Spirit to your church, filling it with many and varied gifts. In the church throughout the world, strengthen us in our visioning and dreaming, that it may discover anew the Spirit's creative work. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of life, your mighty works are too numerous to count. The earth is full of your creatures, living things both great and small. Open your hand and give them the necessities of this life. Send your fresh Spirit over the face of the earth. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of the nations, at the sound of the rushing wind, people speaking different languages proclaimed and heard together your deeds of power. Fill the leaders of nations with your Holy Spirit, so that they exercise your gracious will in the lives of people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of faithfulness, you tend to the needs of your people, even the sighs of our hearts. Hear those who cry out to you in distress. Restore to wholeness all who are in any need this day, *especially Margaret and Pam, Ed and Gwen, Bud and Brenda, Dorothy and Ingrid, Kathy and Linda, Erika and Rikki, Nicholas and Terry, Sharon and Phil, and those we name now in silence or aloud.* . . . Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of love, fill this congregation with gratitude for the gifts we have received from you. Renew our commitment to service of others, heal any and all divisions and brokenness, and open us to the needs of our neighbours. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of hope, those who have died in you raise their eternal song of praise. We give you thanks for the many gifts of your people and rejoice in the witness of your saints, *especially Nancy and Karsten.* Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace and Offertory (*A musical reflection is played while the table is set*)

## MEAL

### Offertory Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### Great Thanksgiving

God is with you. **And God is also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to our God.**

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 to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Fulfilling the promise of the 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:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

*A Prayer over the Gifts Meant for All, Given to All, by the God of All*

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.  
Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.  
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.  
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.  
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.  
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.  
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life:  
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.  
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us.  
Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer (*spoken*)      *From the Anglican Church in New Zealand*

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,  
Source of all that is and that shall be,  
Father and Mother of us all,  
Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

**The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!  
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!  
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!  
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.  
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.**

**For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever. Amen.**

Fraction (*Breaking of the bread*)

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

Invitation to Communion

The Spirit of the risen Christ invites us to this table. Wherever you are, eat and be satisfied.

*The feast of gladness is shared while a musical reflection is played*

Prayer after Communion

**Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled.  
My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of every people:  
a light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel.**

## SENDING

Benediction

The God of steadfastness and encouragement  
grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**  
The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**  
The God of all grace ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn      #401 “Gracious Spirit, Hear our Pleading” v. 3 – *piano only (all sing refrain)*  
*Words and melody on next page*

Dismissal (to be spoken after the sending hymn)

Go in peace in the name of the living God, filled with the Spirit of God, sent to the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

## Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading



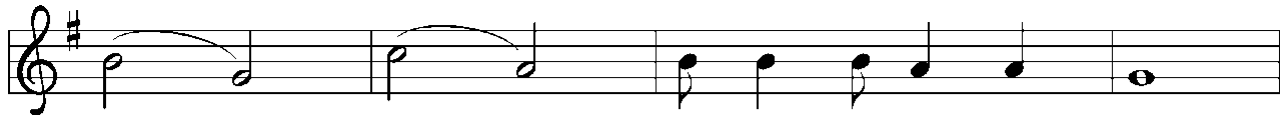
*Njo - o kwe - tu, Ro - ho mwe - ma, M - fa - ri - ji we - tu.*

- 1 Gra - cious Spir - it, heed our plead - ing, fash - ion us all a - new.
- 2 Come to teach us, come to nour - ish those who be - lieve in Christ.
- 3 Guide our think - ing and our speak - ing done in your ho - ly name.



*Tu - fu - ndi - she ya mbi - ngu - ni, tu - we wa - tu wa - pya.*  
 It's your lead - ing that we're need - ing, help us to fol - low you.  
 Bless the faith - ful, may they flour - ish, strength - ened by grace un - priced.  
 Mo - ti - vate all in their seek - ing, free - ing from guilt and shame.

### *Refrain*



*Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.*  
 Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.



*Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.*  
 Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.

- 4 Not mere knowledge, but discernment,  
 nor rootless liberty;  
 turn disquiet to contentment,  
 doubt into certainty. *Refrain*
- 5 Keep us fervent in our witness,  
 unswayed by earth's allure.  
 Ever grant us zealous fitness,  
 which you alone assure. *Refrain*

Text: Wilson Niwagila; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922

Music: NJOKWEIU, ROHO MWEMA, Wilson Niwagila

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