

Pentecost

Welcome!

Statement of Welcome: We are an Open and Affirming & a Reconciling in Christ Congregation – This Means:

We welcome all who are seeking God's love and grace. We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity or relationship status. We welcome all without regard to addiction, physical or mental health, imprisonment, socio-economic circumstances, differently-abled or anything that too often divides us. **Our Unity is in Christ.**



What you will need for Service (optional):

- Candle (light at beginning of the service)
- Bread/Cracker
- Wine/Grape Juice (Juice/Water)

NOTE: All are muted as they enter Zoom; mute is controlled by the host

Serving today (THANK YOU):
Assisting Ministers: Doris Molchanow
Lisa Lundgren
Dre King
Andrew Bogert

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.



Announcements

GATHERING

UNMUTED for all – Please refrain from home conversations; Turn off tv's, radios, and other devices.

We begin... **in the name of the Father, and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

We are Bethany Lutheran Church and it is our Mission: To be a welcoming community in faith, empowered by God within the life of Jesus Christ: to love God and our neighbor, as we love ourselves.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

(Pastor) Kyrie, eleison. A new heart you will give us,
and a new Spirit you will put within us (Ez 36:26).

Lord, Have Mercy.

(Pastor) Christe, eleison. You send the Spirit to help us in our weakness (Rom 8:26).

Christ, Have Mercy.

(Pastor) Kyrie, eleison. Your Spirit renews the face of the earth (Ps 104:30).

Lord, Have Mercy.

(Pastor) O God - breath of life, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the outpouring of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily praise your holy name.

(Pastor) We call upon you, breath of the living God,

**For we acknowledge our immaturity as we ponder your work in our lives:
We have forgotten the command of Jesus, to love our neighbor as ourselves,
We have missed opportunities to share, your love for us,
with our family, friends and community,
We have neglected the marginalized and oppressed all around us,
We have said and done things that have hurt those we should love.
Breathe new life into us. Empower us with the gifts of the Spirit. Amen,**

(Pastor) Father/Mother of light, from whom every good gift comes,

move your Spirit through our lives with the power of a mighty wind,
and by the flame of your wisdom open the horizons of our minds.

Loosen our tongues to sing your praise in words beyond the power of speech,
for without your Spirit we could never raise our voice in words of peace
or announce the truth of your Christ. Without your spirit we cannot fully experience the
forgiveness and grace you have freely given to us, as your children.¹

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your people, and kindle within us the fire of your love. Amen.

Silent meditation as we listen to Veni Sancte Spiritus²

MUTED for all except Readers and Assisting Minister (Please respond in bold)

WORD

(Lisa) A reading from Acts chapter 2 beginning with the 1st verse, *(Common English Bible)*

(Doris) When Pentecost Day arrived, Peter, John, James, and Andrew; Philip and Thomas; Bartholomew and Matthew; James, Alphaeus' son; Simon the zealot; and Judas, James' son, some of the women disciples, including Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers— were all together in one place – all were united in their devotion to prayer.

(Dre) Suddenly a sound from heaven like the howling of a fierce wind filled the entire house where they were sitting.

(Lisa) They saw what seemed to be individual flames of fire alighting on each one of them.

(Drew) They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them to speak.

(Doris) There were pious Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. When they heard this sound, a crowd gathered. They were mystified because everyone heard them speaking in their native languages. *(Lisa)* They were surprised and amazed, saying, “Look, aren't all the people who are speaking Galileans, every one of them? How then can each of us hear

them speaking in our native language? *[Many nations and tongues are represented here]* —we hear them declaring the mighty works of God in our own languages!”

(Dre) They were all surprised and bewildered. Some asked each other, “What does this mean?”

Others jeered at them, saying, “They’re full of new wine!”

(Drew) Peter stood with the other eleven apostles. He raised his voice and declared, “Judeans and everyone living in Jerusalem! Know this! Listen carefully to my words! These people aren’t drunk, as you suspect; after all, it’s only nine o’clock in the morning!

(Dre) Rather, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young will see visions. Your elders will dream dreams. Even upon my servants, men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

(Lisa) Spirit of the Living God, **fall afresh on me.**

(Pastor) My beloved! Receive the Spirit of God, with me and all creation... receive the renewal of your body, mind and spirit...

Lifting your palms upward in an act of receiving... we say...

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me. God has sent me to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind, to liberate the oppressed, and to proclaim God’s favor.” (Luke 4:18–19 CEB)

Amen. Breath through me Spirit of God.

*(Doris) We will read portions of Psalm 104, with the congregation responding in the **bold**... (Psalm 104:1–6) (104:10–15) (104:33–35 CEB)*

Let my whole being bless the LORD!

LORD my God, how fantastic you are!

You are clothed in glory and grandeur!

You wear light like a robe; you open the skies like a curtain.

You build your lofty house on the waters; you make the clouds your chariot, going around on the wings of the wind.

You make the winds your messengers;

you make fire and flame your ministers.

You established the earth on its foundations
so that it will never ever fall.

You covered it with the watery deep

like a piece of clothing; the waters were higher than the mountains!

Let my whole being bless the LORD! Praise the LORD!

You put gushing springs into dry riverbeds.

They flow between the mountains,

providing water for every wild animal—

the wild donkeys quench their thirst.

Overhead, the birds in the sky make their home,

chirping loudly in the trees.

From your lofty house, you water the mountains.

The earth is filled full by the fruit of what you've done.

You make grass grow for cattle;

you make plants for human farming in order to get food from the ground,

and wine, which cheers people's hearts,

along with oil, which makes the face shine,

and bread, which sustains the human heart.

Let my whole being bless the LORD! Praise the LORD!

I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I'm still alive.

Let my praise be pleasing to God; I'm rejoicing in the LORD!

Let my whole being bless the LORD! Praise the LORD!"

Let my whole being bless the LORD! Praise the LORD!

(Lisa) A reading from the 1st letter to the Corinthians the 12th chapter...

There are different spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; and there are different ministries and the same Lord; and there are different activities but the same God who produces... all of them... in everyone. A demonstration of the Spirit is given to each person for the common good. A word of wisdom is given by the Spirit to one person, a word of knowledge to another according to the same Spirit, faith to still another by the same Spirit, gifts of healing to another in the one Spirit, performance of miracles to another, prophecy to another, the ability to tell spirits apart to another, different kinds of tongues to another, and the interpretation of the tongues to another. All these things are produced by the one and same Spirit who gives what he wants to each person.

Christ is just like the human body—a body is a unit and has many parts; and all the parts of the body are one body, even though there are many. We were all baptized by one Spirit into one body, whether Jew or Greek, or slave or free, and we... all ...were given one Spirit to drink.

*(Lisa) Spirit of the Living God, **fall afresh on me.***

Sermon by Pastor Danny...

UNMUTED for all – Please refrain from home conversations; Turn off tv's, radios, and other devices.

We will express our faith by using the words of the Nicene Creed...

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYER in the Spirit – For such a time as this

(Dre) As we gradually and prudently get back to work, let us together place our hope in the inextinguishable fire and consoling hope of the Spirit's sevenfold gifts:

(Drew) For the gift of **Courage** – for those ill with Covid-19 and all those whose lives have been disrupted by unemployment, displacement, and grief due to its effects. For those in our congregation who have asked for prayer... take a moment to remember them...

(pause)

Spirit of God... **speak through us as we pray.**

(Dre) For the gift of **Understanding** – for all those family members, care givers and health professionals trying to assist the sick and dying.

Spirit of God... **speak through us as we pray.**

(Drew) For the gift of **Knowledge** – for all researchers and scientists trying to discover the laws of the Covid -19 virus and find a vaccine to stop it.
Spirit of God... **speak through us as we pray.**

(Dre) For the gift of **Reverence** – that there be an increase of mercy transmitted from person to person and that the spread of compassion be strong enough to overcome the devastation of indifference and fear.
Spirit of God... **speak through us as we pray.**

(Drew) For the gift of **Counsel** – for all those who have to make policy decisions about how to handle the pandemic on the national and local levels, that they work together to discern when and how to re-open the countries of the world.
Spirit of God... **speak through us as we pray.**

(Dre) For the gift of **Wisdom** – for all leaders, at whatever level, who hold the fate of others in their hands. Spirit of God... **speak through us as we pray.**

(Drew) For the gift of **Wonder and Awe in God's Presence (Fear of the Lord)** – that people everywhere join in acknowledging that we are not the rulers the universe, but only creatures, totally dependent on God's love to find and maintain our proper place in God's marvelous Creation.
Spirit of God... **speak through us as we pray.**

(Dre) We ask all this in the name of the one who is incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, Jesus, the Christ. **Amen.**

MEAL

THE GIVING OF OURSELVES

(The giving of our offerings to God, is an act of worship. The giving of time (volunteer), talents (help others with what you like to do) and treasures (financial and/ or material support), are some of the ways we express our generosity and hospitality towards each other, and the surrounding community.)

If you can give, please go to our website <https://bethany-lutheran.net> and click on the “donate” button at the top of the screen.

Or mail a check to Bethany Lutheran Church, 401 Martin St. Philadelphia PA, 19128

DIALOGUE OF THE DISCIPLES

(Pastor) God is 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.

MUTED for all except Readers and Assisting Minister (Please respond in bold)

PRAYER JESUS TAUGHT US *(please learn the modern version as well as the traditional)*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those
who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

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 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 he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

COMMUNION PRAYER

On the night Jesus was betrayed, he gathered with his disciples his friends around the table, then He took bread, *(all lifting the bread)* gave thanks and blessed it +, he broke it and gave it his disciples saying; Take and eat, this is my body broken for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.

Come Holy Spirit, bless this bread and open us to receive the body of Jesus Christ. *All partake of the bread.*

This IS the body of Christ, given and broken for you.

In the same way he took the cup *(all lifting the cup)* He gave thanks and blessed it +, Giving it to his disciples saying;
Take and drink, this is the new covenant in my blood
Shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sins,
Do this in remembrance of me.

Come Holy Spirit, bless this fruit of the vine and open us to receive the blood of Jesus Christ. *All partake of the cup.*

This IS the blood of Christ shed for you.

AFTER COMMUNION BLESSING & AFTER COMMUNION PRAYER

The body and blood of Jesus, strengthen you and fill you always with his grace.

(Assisting Minister) Living God, you have greeted us in our brokenness and nourished us with the body of Christ, broken for us. Risen to new life with you, send us now to bear your healing love into the wounded world, in the name of our risen Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

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BLESSING FOR OUR JOURNEY – Turn to one another and say...(Numbers 6:24-26 NLT)

May God bless you and protect you.

May God smile on you and be gracious to you.

May God show you favor and give you peace.

Beloved, receive the Holy Spirit and live in the presence of God all around us.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son +, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SENDING INTO COMMUNITY TO ANNOUNCE GOD'S LOVE FOR ALL

(Assisting Minister) YOU are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news. Hallelujah! Christ is Risen!

Thanks be to God. Christ is Risen Indeed! Hallelujah!

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1 <http://www.liturgies.net/Pentecost/vigil/vigil.htm>

2 Confirmation: Veni Sancte Spiritus · Tony Alonso · Anna Betancourt I Shall Live: Ritual Music For The Paschal Triduum © 2012 World Library Publications Released on: 2012-03-08 – Apple music

3 A Prayer to the Holy Spirit in the midst of the Covid-19 Pandemic by Rt. Rev. Mother Lucia Kuppens, Abbess May 2020 – © 2020 Abbey of Regina Laudis

Check-ins

Bible Study