

The Day of Pentecost

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church
Orinda, California
9:30am on May 28, 2023

Welcome to Worship with Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, whether you worship with us in-person and online (on Facebook Live or archived at www.holyshepherd.org.) May you know God's grace as we worship.

Pentecost – the fiftieth day after Easter – is a day for us to celebrate the Holy Spirit, God's presence within and among us. In the Book of Acts, the Spirit arrives in rushing wind and flame, bringing God's presence to all people. And in Paul's letter to the Church in Rome, we learn that same Spirit leads us, guides us and strengthens us in faith.

Know that You Are Welcome! We share in Holy Communion during the context of this morning's service. This is the table of the Lord. Jesus is the host and we are his guests. He welcomes everyone to come and eat and be nourished, fed and forgiven. Come and eat and live!

Your Offerings We have resumed the practice of 'passing the offering plate' during our musical offertory. If you would prefer to support the work of our congregation electronically, visit our website at www.holyshepherd.org and utilize Givelify, our online giving platform.

▲ indicates that you are invited to stand as you are able

GATHERING MUSIC JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE THEE
Shepherd's Bells / arr. by Arnold B. Sherman

OUR CALL TO WORSHIP

- L: We gather here in this place in a spirit of honesty.
Just as we are, not just as we hope we might be.
Whole yet broken, filled yet empty, hopeful yet
hopeless.
- P: **May God's Spirit of wholeness blow through our
lives.**
- L: We gather in a spirit of humility. Thankful that God
has given us in Jesus Christ a gift which we could

never obtain on our own.

- P: **May God's Spirit of truth open our eyes to God's
goodness.**
- L: We gather in a spirit of unity. Side by side at God's
table of grace, that we might be fed by the Bread of
life.
- P: **May God's Spirit work of healing work in us and
through us. May God's blessing alive in us
becoming a blessing to those around us.**

▲ **GATHERING SONG** O DAY FULL OF GRACE (vss. 1/2/4)
Lyrics by G. Thorson / Music by C. Weyse / ELW #627

**O day full of grace that now we see
appearing on earth's horizon,
Bring light from our God that we may be
abundant in joy this season.
God shine for us now in this dark place,
your name on our hearts emblazon.**

**For Christ bore our sins and not his own,
when he on the cross was hanging;
And then he arose and moved the stone,
that we, unto him, belonging,
Might join with angelic hosts to raise
our voices in endless singing.**

**God came to us then at Pentecost,
the Spirit new life revealing,
That we might no more in death be lost,
its power over us dispelling.
This flame will the mark of sin efface
and bring to us all true healing.**

▲ **OUR OPENING LITANY** CALLED TO BE CHURCH
based on the Book of Acts

- L: The last time Jesus was with His disciples, he told
them: "When the Holy Spirit comes on you, you will
be able to be my witnesses in Jerusalem, all over
Judea and Samaria, even to the ends of the world."
- P: **So we pray, 'Come, Holy Spirit.'**
- L: And the Spirit came among them.
- P: **And they began to speak to their neighbors about
the amazing love of God.**
- L: And the Spirit stayed among them.
- P: **And they devoted themselves to learning and
fellowship, to worship and prayer.**
- L: And the Spirit wove them together.

P: **And they supported one another as they could, and were thankful for what they had.**

L: The Spirit called them into action.

P: **To speak the truth and to speak for God.**

L: The Spirit challenged their assumptions.

P: **And their eyes were opened to new possibilities.**

L: The Spirit invited them to journey

P: **And wherever they went, they spoke of the mighty acts of God.**

L: May the same Spirit which called, gathered, enlightened and sanctified those first Christians be present with us.

P: **For we pray, 'Come, Holy Spirit.'**

L: So let us pray

P: **Great Spirit, you have lit upon each of us a flame to serve you in all that we do. Ignite your flame, and help us to burn brightly for you. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 2:1-4

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 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. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:14-39

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, 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. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. 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 groanings too deep for words. And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? As it is written, "*For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.*" No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

KIDTALK

Pastor John Valentine

A SONG OF PRAISE

CREATOR SPIRIT, HEAVENLY DOVE

Lyrics by R. Maurus / Music Old Hundredth (ELW #578 alt.)

***Creator Spirit, heav'nly dove,
descend upon us from above;
with graces manifold restore
your creatures as they were before.***

***To you, the Comforter, we cry;
to you, the gift of God most high,
true fount of life, the fire of love,
the soul's anointing from above.***

*Your light to ev'ry sense impart,
and shed your love in ev'ry heart;
your own unfailing might supply
to strengthen our infirmity.*

*Teach us to know the Father, Son,
and you, of both, to be but one;
that through the ages all along
your praise may be our endless song.*

THE SERMON

Pastor John Valentine

▲ OUR AFFIRMATION OF FAITH THE APOSTLES' CREED

*We confess the faith of the Church this Pentecost Day
using words that have been used by worshiping Christian
communities for the past 1400 years.*

**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.**

THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*Empowered by the Holy Spirit to manifest the Good News
to the ends of the earth, we pray for the church, for people
in need, and for all of creation, utilizing the prayer refrain
"God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**"*

THE OFFERTORY BE PRESENT, SPIRIT OF THE LORD

Lyrics by Thomas Dudley Smith / Music by Mary Kay Beall

▲ THE COMMUNION LITANY

L: Let us pray: Lord Jesus, you came to us as a tiny Baby
born in danger and discomfort. You grew into a Man
whom the world can never forget. You offered up
your body and blood for the sake of our broken lives
and our broken world. So come to us now in this
bread and this wine. Unite us and strengthen us by
your presence and through your Word, that we might
be your faithful children in this world.

P: For together we remember that – on 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."

L: And that same Jesus who called us to remember, and
who is present with us now, is the One who taught us
all to pray:

P: **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.**

HOLY COMMUNION

*As we share in the gift of Holy Communion this morning,
we invite you to come to the Altar Rail and kneel or stand
as you are able.*

*During the serving of Holy Communion, you are invited to
sing the following song with our Worship Team.*

O SPIRIT OF LIFE (ELW #405)

Lyrics by J. Niedling / Music arr. by J.S. Bach

**O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God,
in ev'ry need thou bring us aid,
proceeding forth from heaven's throne,
from God, the Father and the Son;
O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God.**

**O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God,
increase our faith in our dear Lord;
unless your grace the pow'r should give,
none can believe in Christ and live;
O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God.**

**O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God,
make us to love your sacred word;
the holy flame of love impart,
that charity may warm each heart;
O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God.**

***O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God,
enlighten us by that same word;
teach us to know God's radiant love,
lead us to Christ who reigns above;
O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God.***

SPIRIT OF GOD, DESCEND UPON MY HEART
Lyrics by G. Croly / Music by F. Atkinson / ELW #800

***Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;
stoop to my weakness, strength to me impart,
and make me love you as I ought to love.***

***I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,
no angel visitant, no op'ning skies;
but take the dimness of my soul away.***

***Have you not bid me love you, God and King;
all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling.
Oh, let me seek you, and, oh, let me find!***

***Teach me to love you as your angels love,
one holy passion filling all my frame:
the baptism of the heav'n-descended dove,
my heart an altar, and your love the flame.***

THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

▲ THE BENEDICTION

L: Go now into the world to be God's witnesses —
sustained and supported by the Pentecost Spirit.

P: **Amen!**

▲ THE SENDING SONG

COME, JOIN THE DANCE
Lyrics by Richard Leach / Music Traditional / ELW #412

***Come, join the dance of Trinity,
before all worlds begun —
the interweaving of the Three,
the Father, Spirit, Son.
The universe of space and time
did not arise by chance,
but as the Three, in love and hope,
made room within their dance.***

***Come, speak aloud of Trinity,
as wind and tongues of flame
set people free at Pentecost
to tell the Savior's name.***

***We know the yoke of sin and death,
our necks have worn it smooth;
go tell the world of weight and woe
that we are free to move!***

***Within the dance of Trinity,
before all worlds begun,
we sing the praises of the Three,
the Father, Spirit, Son.
Let voices rise and interweave,
by love and hope set free,
to shape in song this joy, this life:
the dance of Trinity.***

▲ THE CHARGE

L: Go – in peace – to love God by serving your
neighbor!

P: **Thanks be to God!**

SENDING MUSIC PRAISE GOD, PRAISE HIM
Shepherd's Bells / arr. by Kevin McChesney

Thank you to this morning's Worship Team for sharing
their gifts of music with us today, including:

Bethany Valentine – Vocalist & Creative Director
Gretchen Stenson – Vocalist
Diana Riveness – Vocalist
Pastor Pam Schaefer Dawson – Vocalist
Joe Zingale – Vocalist
Pastor John Valentine – Vocalist
Julie Hamre – Organist and Pianist

And thank you to Shepherd's Bells for providing prelude
and postlude music today, including:

Julie Hamre — Shepherd's Bells Director
Michael Stenson **Barbara Swanson**
Nils Kjell **Joan Birke**
Janet Zingale **Bethany Valentine**
Joan Kiekhaefer **Juanita Gilbertson**

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