



May 23, 2021

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

4515 Dobie Road
Okemos, MI 48864
517-349-0620

Day of Pentecost: Online Service

- To make disciples for Jesus Christ. . .
- . . .we **Gather** in faith for worship, prayer, study and fellowship
- . . .we **Equip** the people of God with a faith that works in real life
- . . .we **Serve** the world in the name of Jesus Christ

Pastor:..... Ellen Schoepf
 Music Director:.....Debra Borton-McDonough
 Organist/Pianist:.....Bruce Williams
 Church Secretary:..... Katie Love
 Pastor’s email:.....prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org
 Church email:.....faith@faithlutheranokemos.org
 Website:.....www.faithlutheranokemos.org
 Facebook Page:.....facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos

Introduction to the day

Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Crossing all boundaries that would separate us, the Spirit brings the wideness of God’s mercy to places we least expect it—to a crowd of strangers of different lands and tongues, to dry bones, to our weak hearts. Jesus promises his disciples that they will be accompanied by the Holy Spirit, and that this Spirit reveals the truth. We celebrate that we too have been visited with this same Spirit. Guided by the truth, we join together in worship, and then disperse to share the fullness of Christ’s love with the world.

PRELUDE

“Here I Am, Lord”

(arr. John Carter)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Holy One,
who turns dry land into rivers,
who brings forth food from the earth,
who gives breath to all creation. **Amen.**

Compassionate God, your grace is poured out on all creation.
Your mercy washes over us in the waters of baptism.
Your healing floods our lives.
Break open our hearts to name our longing for wholeness
and to receive your gift of forgiveness, through Christ, the Risen One.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Gracious God,
we have squandered the abundance you provide for all your creatures;
we have ignored the cries of the land and the water;
we have neglected your call to steward our resources with care and
generosity.
Forgive us.

We have feasted while others go hungry;
we have sought places of honor,
excluding our neighbors from a place at the table;
we have failed to provide the kind of hospitality you offer to us.
Forgive us.

We have forgotten the belovedness of every person;
we have overlooked your presence among us when we gather;
we have avoided your call to live out our faith in the world.

Forgive us.

Free us from our failures,
mend our brokenness,
draw us to you.

Make us whole again. Amen.

God's love overflows from the beginning of creation,
through our lives, and into the ages to come.

Through water and the Holy Spirit God gives you new birth,
cleanses you from sin, and raises you to new life.

In Christ your sins are forgiven.

We give thanks and praise to God

**and bear God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.
Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

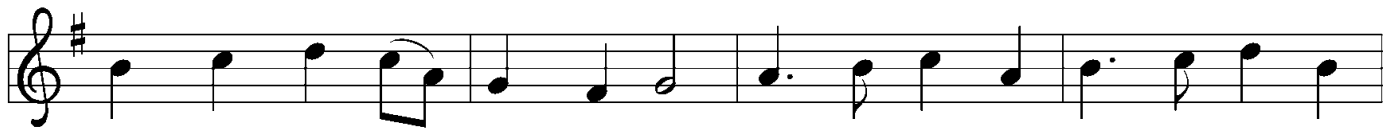
God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind



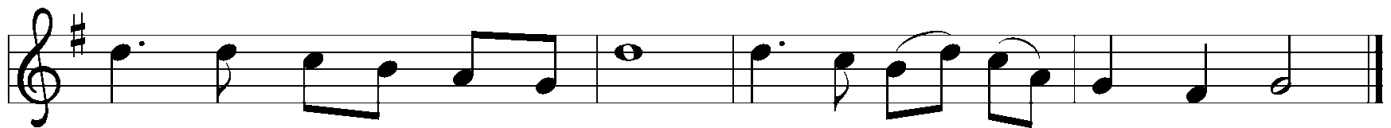
1 God of tem - pest, God of whirl - wind, as on Pen - te -
2 God of blaz - ing, God of burn - ing, all that blocks your
3 God of earth - quake, God of thun - der, shake us loose from
4 God of pas - sion, God un - sleep - ing, stir in us love's



cost de - scend! Drive us out from shel - tered com - fort;
pur - pose, purge! Through your church, Christ's liv - ing Bod - y,
leth - ar - gy! Break the chains of sin a - sun - der,
rest - less - ness! Where the peo - ple cry in an - guish,



past these walls your peo - ple send! Sweep us in - to cost - ly ser - vice,
let your flam - ing Spir - it surge! Where de - ceit con - ceals in - jus - tice,
for earth's heal - ing set us free! Crum - ble walls that still di - vide us;
may we share your heart's dis - tress. Rouse us from con - tent with e - vil;



there with Christ to bear the cross, there with Christ to bear the cross!
kin - dle us to speak your truth, kin - dle us to speak your truth!
make us one in Christ our Lord, make us one in Christ our Lord!
claim us for your king - dom's work, claim us for your king - dom's work!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007

Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

Text © 2000 GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com
800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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

Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 2:1-21

Originally Pentecost was a Jewish thanksgiving-type festival celebrated seven weeks after Passover. On this particular Pentecost, however, the Holy Spirit is poured out upon the entire community of believers just as Jesus had promised and the scriptures had prophesied. Empowered by the Spirit, the entire community bears witness to God's activity in multiple languages.

A reading from Acts.

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.

³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each.

⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” ¹³But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

¹⁴But 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. ¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷‘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.

¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.

²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’ ”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: Romans 8:22-27

By pouring the Holy Spirit into our hearts, God gives us the promised first fruit of eternal life so that we await God's future in hope. In the meantime, the Spirit also intercedes for us by carrying the prayers of our weak human hearts to God.

A reading from Romans.

²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and 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. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶Likewise 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. ²⁷And 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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
Hal - le - lu - jah.
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: 'Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.' The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

Music: Caribbean traditional; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954
Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

GOSPEL: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

While speaking to his disciples before his death, Jesus refers to the Holy Spirit as “the Helper” and describes the difference the Spirit will make in their lives and in the world.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said,] ²⁶“When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. ²⁷You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

^{16:4b}“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ ⁶But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. ⁷Nevertheless 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 him to you. ⁸And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; ¹¹about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

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

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Kim O’Brien

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Day Full of Grace



1 O day full of grace that now we see ap - pear - ing on
2 O day full of grace, O bless - ed time, our Lord on the
3 For Christ bore our sins, and not his own, when he on the
4 God came to us then at Pen - te - cost, the Spir - it new
5 When we on that fi - nal jour - ney go that Christ is for



earth's ho - ri - zon, bring light from our God that we may
earth ar - riv - ing; then came to the world that light sub -
cross was hang - ing; and then he a - rose and moved the
life re - veal - ing, that we might no more in death be
us pre - par - ing, we'll gath - er in song, our hearts a -



be a - bun - dant in joy this sea - son. God, shine for us
lime, great joy for us all re - triev - ing; for Je - sus all
stone, that we, un - to him be - long - ing, might join with an -
lost, its pow'r o - ver us dis - pel - ling. This flame will the
glow, all joy of the heav - ens shar - ing, and there we will



now in this dark place; your name on our hearts em - bla - zon.
mor - tals did em - brace, all shame and des - pair re - mov - ing.
gel - ic hosts to raise our voic - es in end - less sing - ing.
mark of sin ef - face and bring to us all true heal - ing.
join God's end - less praise, with an - gels and saints a - dor - ing.

Text: Scandinavian folk hymn; tr. Gerald Thorson, 1921–2001, alt.
Music: DEN SIGNEDE DAG, Christoph E. F. Weyse, 1774–1842
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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.

Prayers of intercession are prayed.

To each petition, the assembly responds:

Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

The presiding minister concludes the prayers, and the assembly responds:

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.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be 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.

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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. 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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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. **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,
let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ invites us to this table.
Come, eat and be satisfied.

“Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart”

(arr. Dobrinski)

Faith Bells

(extracted from May 20, 2018)

Communion – *Communion is shared among us in people’s homes.*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Wellspring of joy,

through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.

Satisfy the hunger still around us,

and send us as joyful witnesses,

that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom
to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life,

Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,

bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Spirit of Gentleness

Refrain



Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness



call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,



stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.



- 1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
- 2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
- 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
- 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;
From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;



and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing:
and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,
and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,
our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.



Refrain

“A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings.”
then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.
when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.
With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.

Text: James K. Manley, b. 1940

Music: SPIRIT, James K. Manley

Text and music © 1978 James K. Manley, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

“Prelude in C Major”

(J.S.Bach)

Year to Date January 1- March 31st, 2021

Income	\$ 66,713
Expenses	<u>\$ 72,963</u>
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (6,250)

If you have the ability to support the church's work during this time, please do so as you normally would. You can mail your check to Faith Lutheran, 4515 Dobie Road, Okemos MI 48864 or consider signing up for "Simply Giving", our online offering tool. Contact jon.harrison@comcast.net for more information on how to sign up.

5/9/21

General Fund	\$ 2,425.00
Food Pantry	\$ 50.00
Youth	\$ 12.00
World Hunger	<u>\$ 50.00</u>
Subtotal	\$ 2,537.00
Simply Giving	
General	\$ 3,225.00
Building	<u>\$ 25.00</u>
Total	\$ 5,787.00

5/16/21

Loose Cash	\$ 10.00
General Fund	\$ 3,310.00
Painting Fund	\$ 200.00
Pantry Fund	\$ 50.00
Capital Fund	\$ 100.00
Parish House	<u>\$ 100.00</u>
Subtotal	\$ 3,770.00
Simply Giving	
General	<u>\$ 375.00</u>
Total	\$ 4,145.00

Beginning the weekend of June 5 & 6, there will be two in-person worship options as we move toward a new normal.

Option # 1 – Saturday evening in-person worship in the sanctuary at 5:30 PM.

For this service:

- We are limiting attendance to 50 people.

- We encourage only **fully vaccinated people** attend this service.
- We ask that **you sign up to attend** this service through an **Eventbrite** link which you will receive early in the week, or you may call Pastor Ellen at 517-974-5570 by Friday morning to be sure you can attend.
- **Mask wearing** will be required.
- **Physical distancing** will be required.
- While a small ensemble will sing the hymns and responses, we ask that the congregation simply hum the melodies and not sing.
- This service is taking place on Saturday, because only a limited number of people can attend, and we are encouraging only vaccinated people attend. We want our Sunday service to be open to all people, including children, and many children will not yet be vaccinated.

These Saturday evening services will be recorded and then played for the online Sunday morning service.

Option # 2 – Sunday morning in-person worship outside at 10:00 AM, weather permitting.

For this service:

- **All** people are invited to attend.
- Bring your own chairs.
- Mask wearing is encouraged.
- Physical distancing will be required.

Answers to a few questions you may have:

1. Why are we encouraged to wear masks outside and required to wear masks indoors?

Pastor Ellen talked to health care professionals about this, and here is their advice:

We understand people who are fully vaccinated may have an issue with wearing a mask as the CDC has now announced that it is safe to be either indoors or outdoors in public with no mask. The issue the congregation needs to consider is that occasionally outsiders may want to stop by for worship and if they see nobody wearing masks, they may not feel comfortable/welcome as they may not be vaccinated, their children may not be vaccinated, and we don't want to have to turn anyone away. This proposal is still a big step forward and a good place to start. It can always be re-addressed in 2-3 months as new information from the CDC comes forward.

2. Why is the Saturday service being held at 5:30 and not earlier?

This service will take place at 5:30 because we have been told any earlier time will cut into people's Saturday plans.

Please note that we are making these decisions as part of a transition process through which we hope to get back to what will be a new normal. We want all people to feel comfortable, safe, and welcome. Making these decisions is not an easy process, and we will continually consult our health care professionals as we re-evaluate circumstances and procedures throughout the summer.