

# Messiah Lutheran Church

GATHER, EMPOWER, SERVE



✠ Holy Communion ✠  
Day of Pentecost  
May 24, 2026

**DAY OF PENTECOST**



*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.*

**GATHERING**

**PRELUDE**

*Stand*

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

**P:** Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

**P:** In the name of the Father, and of † the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** **Amen**

**P:** Let us give thanks for the gifts of Holy baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font*

**P:** Heavenly Father,  
We thank you for the waters of creation  
that nourish us.

**P:** Blessed are you.

**C:** **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

**P:** Jesus Christ,  
We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.  
Lead us to drink of those waters that gush up to eternal life.

**P:** Blessed are you.

**C:** **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

**P:** Holy Spirit,  
As once you descended upon our Christ and us at Holy Baptism,  
descend upon us once again and fill us with the breath of peace.

**P:** Blessed are you.

**C:** **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

**P:** Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of Holy baptism,  
and for making us a new creation.  
We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,  
now and forever.

**C:** **Amen**

Please stand to sing the hymn and turn to face the processional cross.

**GATHERING HYMN**

**Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove .....LBW 475**

1 Come, gra - cious Spir - it, heav'n - ly dove, with light and  
 2 The light of truth to us dis - play and make us  
 3 Lead us to Christ, the liv - ing way, nor let us  
 4 Lead us to heav'n, that we may share full - ness of

com - fort from a - bove. Come, be our guard - ian  
 know and choose your way; plant ho - ly fear in  
 from his pas - tures stray; lead us to ho - li -  
 joy for - ev - er there; lead us to our e -

and our guide; o'er ev - 'ry thought and step pre - side.  
 ev - 'ry heart, that we from God may ne'er de - part.  
 ness, the road that we must take to dwell with God.  
 ter - nal rest, to be with God for - ev - er blest.

Text: Simon Browne, 1680–1732, alt.  
 Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768

**APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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

**C:** And also with you.

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE**



**A** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



**C** Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P**: Let us pray.

O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C**: Amen

Sit

**WORD****FIRST READING: Acts 2:1-22**

*Pentecost was a Jewish harvest festival that marked the fiftieth day after Passover. Luke portrays the Holy Spirit being poured out upon the disciples before the gathered and astonished people assembled in Jerusalem for the festival. Filled with the Spirit, the disciples were able to witness to the power of Christ's resurrection.*

**A**: A Reading from Acts:

<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 people 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, "Fellow Jews 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.' "

**A**: The word of the Lord.

**C**: Thanks be to God.

**May 24 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b**

*The cantor sings the refrain; the congregation repeats it.*



Send forth your Spir-it and re - new the face of the earth.

*Sung responsively between the cantor and congregation.*



<sup>24</sup> How manifold are your | works, O LORD!

In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full | of your creatures.

<sup>25</sup> **Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too man- | y to number,**

**living things both | small and great.**

<sup>26</sup> There go the ships | to and fro,  
and Leviathan, which you made for the | sport of it.

<sup>27</sup> **All of them | look to you  
to give them their food | in due season. R**

<sup>28</sup> You give it to them; they | gather it;  
you open your hand, and they are filled | with good things.

<sup>29</sup> **When you hide your face, | they are terrified;  
when you take away their breath, they die and return | to their dust.**

<sup>30</sup> You send forth your Spirit, and they | are created;  
and so you renew the face | of the earth.

<sup>31</sup> **May the glory of the LORD en- | dure forever;  
O LORD, rejoice in | all your works. R**

<sup>32</sup> You look at the earth | and it trembles;  
you touch the mountains | and they smoke.

<sup>33</sup> **I will sing to the LORD as long | as I live;  
I will praise my God while I | have my being.**

<sup>34</sup> May these words of | mine please God.  
I will rejoice | in the LORD.

<sup>35b</sup> **Bless the LORD, | O my soul.  
Hal- | lelujah! R**

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13**

*Paul is helping the Corinthians understand the relationship between our God-given unity and Spirit-created diversity. The Spirit creates the unity of faith and gives all Christians diverse gifts for the common benefit of all. We need one another's diverse spiritual gifts because the same Spirit has given them to each person for the common good.*

**A:** A Reading from First Corinthians:

<sup>3b</sup> No one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit.

<sup>4</sup> Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, <sup>5</sup> and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, <sup>6</sup> and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. <sup>7</sup> To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. <sup>8</sup> To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup> to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, <sup>10</sup> to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup> All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

<sup>12</sup> For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

**A:** The word of the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

*The Gospel is carried into the midst of the people as a reminder that Christ is present among us. Please face the processional cross.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**Cantor:** Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in us the fire of your love.

**C:** **Repeat the Alleluias**

**GOSPEL: John 20:19-33**

*The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

**C:** Glory to you, O Lord.

19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

**SERMON**.....**Pastor Kliner**

Stand

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

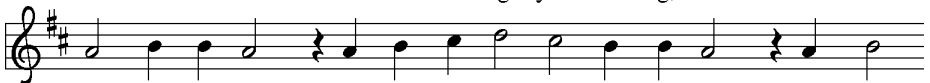
**O Holy Spirit, Enter In**..... **LBW 459**



1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, en - ter in, and in our hearts your  
2 Left to our - selves, we sure - ly stray; oh, lead us on the  
3 O might - y Rock, O Source of life, let your good Word in



work be - gin, and make our hearts your dwell - ing. Sun of the soul,  
nar - row way, with wis - est coun - sel guide us; and give us stead -  
doubt and strife be in us strong - ly burn - ing, that we be faith -



O Light di - vine, a - round and in us bright - ly shine, your strength  
fast - ness, that we may fol - low you for - ev - er free, no mat -  
ful un - to death and live in love and ho - ly faith, from you



in us up - well - ing. In your ra - diance life from heav - en now is  
ter who de - rides us. Gent - ly heal those hearts now bro - ken; give some  
true wis - dom learn - ing. Lord, your mer - cy on us show - er; by your



giv - en o - ver - flow - ing, gift of gifts be - yond all know - ing.  
 to - ken you are near us, whom we trust to light and cheer us.  
 pow - er Christ con - fess - ing, we will cher - ish all your bless - ing.

*Sit*

**THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION**

*Affirmation of Baptism*

**P:** These persons have been instructed in the Christian faith and desire to make public affirmation of their baptism: **Sydney Ann Brown**

**Alivia Marie Klemick**

**Malory Louise Klemick**

**Doriann Rose Morris**

**Weston Lee Sherman**

*The pastor addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.*

**P:** Sisters and Brother in Christ: In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you members of his Church. In the community of God’s people, you have learned from his Word God’s loving purpose for you and all creation. You have been nourished at his holy table and called to be witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Now, therefore, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin and confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we baptize.

**P:** Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

**R:** I do.

**P:** Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

**R:** I do.

**P:** Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**R:** I do.

*Stand*

**P:** Do you believe in God the Father?

**C:** **I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**P:** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C:** **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
 and born of the virgin Mary.  
 He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 was crucified, died, and was buried.  
 He descended into hell.  
 On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**P:** Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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**

*Stand*

**PRAYERS**

**P:** Let us pray for those who are affirming their baptism, and for all the baptized everywhere: That they may be redeemed from all evil and rescued from the way of sin and death: Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**P:** That the Holy Spirit may open their hearts to your grace and truth: Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**P:** That they may be kept in the faith and communion of your holy Church: Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**P:** That they may be sent into the world in witness to your love: Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**P:** That they may be brought to the fullness of your peace and glory: Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**P:** Passionate God, you sent your Spirit through the gifts of fire, wind, and word. As you equipped the disciples for their work, equip us and our confirmands to bring the good news of the Gospel to all who long to know you and to love you. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**P:** Merciful God, you anoint us with your Holy Spirit. Bless nurses, doctors, chaplains, counselors, and hospice workers as they care for those in need. We pray for all who seek your comfort and healing. We pray today especially for ..... Provide your healing love in all the ways that you know are best. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**P:** All these things and whatever else you see that we need. Grant us, O God,

**C: Amen**

*Sit*

*The pastor addresses each individual making public affirmation of baptism.*

**P:** You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:  
to live among God's faithful people,  
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,  
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,  
to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus,  
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

*Each person answers in turn.*

**R:** I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

**P:** Let us pray,  
Gracious Lord, through water and the Spirit you have made these sisters and this brother your own. You forgave them all their sins and brought them to newness of life. Continue to strengthen them with the Holy Spirit, and daily increase in them your gifts of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge, and fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

**C:** Amen

*The pastor lays both hands on the head of each person:*

### **LAYING ON OF HANDS**

**P:** Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake,  
stir up in **Sydney Ann, Alivia Marie, Malory Louise, Doriann Rose, and Weston Lee** the gift of your Holy Spirit;  
confirm *her/his* faith,  
guide *her/his* life,  
empower *her/him* in *her/his* serving,  
give *her/him* patience in suffering,  
and bring *her/him* to everlasting life.

*Stand*

*Those making public affirmation face the assembly.*

**P:** Let us rejoice with our sisters and brother in Christ.

**C:** We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.  
Together we will give thanks and praise to God  
and proclaim the good news to all the world.

### **PRESENTATION OF GIFTS**

*The Pastor and Virginia Amme will present the confirmands with their milestone gifts.*

**PEACE**

**P**: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C**: **And also with you.**

*The pastor and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord.  
Peace be with you. R: Peace be with you.*

Sit

**MEAL**

**OFFERING**

*The Offering is received as the Lord's table is prepared.*

**ANTHEM**

**Pentecost Proclamation ..... John Behnke**

Stand

**OFFERTORY**

*As the gifts are presented, the Offertory is sung*

**C** Let the vine- yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
 bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
 fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -  
 nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your  
 pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

**OFFERING PRAYER**

**A**: Let us pray.

**C**: **Merciful God,**  
 accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.  
 You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day  
 when we will hunger and thirst no more.  
 Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,  
 that goodness and mercy may follow us  
 and bless the world you love.  
 In the name of Jesus,  
 Amen

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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, 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r 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.

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

**P:** Holy and gracious Father:

In your infinite love you made us for yourself,  
and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death,  
you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son,  
to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to  
you.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross,  
and offered himself, in obedience to your will,  
a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

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

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

**P:** We celebrate the memorial of our redemption,  
O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.  
Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people  
the Body and Blood of your Son,  
the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.  
Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament,  
and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace;  
and at the last day bring us with all your saints  
into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ:  
By him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours,  
Almighty Father, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**P**: Come to the table of new life.

Receive the risen Lord.

**C**: Thanks be to God.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
 us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
 sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Sit

**COMMUNION**

*All baptized believers are invited to this holy meal. Those not communing are invited for a blessing. Please follow the instructions of the ushers to gather at the altar table. As the ministers give the bread and wine, they say these words to each communicant:*

**The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.**

*The communicant may say: Amen*

**COMMUNION HYMN**    *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.

*Stand*

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

**C:** Amen

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

**A:** Let us pray.

Holy God,  
through this meal you have made your home among us  
and are making all things new.  
Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,  
to love our enemies,  
and to bring your healing to the nations.  
In the name of Jesus,

**C:** Amen

***SENDING***

**BLESSING**

**P:** Father Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,  
+ Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,  
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,  
bless you now and forever.

**C:** Amen



**SENDING HYMN**

*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., b. 1923  
 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873-1932  
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**DISMISSAL**

**A:** Go in peace. serve the Lord. Alleluia!

**C:** Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

**POSTLUDE**

### SERVICE ASSISTANTS

**Ushers:** Mike Larson, Brian Bair, Al Cole, Sally Congdon, Kim Brofee;

**Lay Assistant:** Anita Bair; **Comm. Asst.:** Sherri Holtzman

**Acolyte/Crucifer:** Dylan Sherman; **Altar Guild:** Rita Strickler, Lauren Russell

**Greeters/Presenters:** Jody Fullmer, Carl Gee; **Cantor:** Candy Watkins;

**Flower Delivery:** Charles Luppert

### IN BLESSED MEMORY

**The Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Lee Waltz, by his family.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Welcome to Messiah Church!** It is our joy to have you worship with us. If you are visiting, please make yourself known and leave your name and information to a congregation member. *We hope to see you again.*

**The Rite of Confirmation** The following young people have fulfilled the requirements for confirmation and will affirm their baptisms at Worship this morning. Please remember them in your prayers. They are: ***Sidney Ann Brown, Alivia Marie Klemick, Malory Louise Klemick, Doriann Rose Morris, and Weston Lee Sherman.*** The Confirmands and their families invite the congregation to join them in Shaheen Hall for coffee and cake after worship.

**This is the last day to sign-up for Pastor Kliner's installation this Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm.**

***Geraniums*** can be picked up after worship this morning. ***Any flowers not picked up after the service will be planted on the church grounds.***

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** "Tropical Trek" will be held Monday, June 15 – Friday, June 19. Registration forms are available in the Bald Eagle entrance or the church office.

**Lutheran World Relief School Kits Ministry ~ Thank You!** Thank you to those who came to help with the cord cutting and knotting last week. We made short work of it and are all set for Bible School! **SAVE THE DATE: Wednesday, July 15, 9:00 a.m. – Knot-A-Sack “Knotty Party”** – Join us for a time of fellowship, good conversation, (and Sally's cookies!) while we knot the drawstrings to complete the backpacks. ***Watch for more updates later in June!***

**The choir will sing the last anthem before their summer break on June 7.** We would like to invite anyone who likes to sing join us for a Saints in Song Sunday on that day. The anthem for that day is based on the favorite hymn, “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” and it is easy to learn. Rehearsals will be after church on May 31 and at 8:45 on June 7. Please join us to sing praise to Go **The ‘Ville Harmonic Ensemble**, from Montoursville High School will share their gift of music with us on Sunday, May 31.

**Please Note: The Church office is closed Tomorrow, May 25<sup>th</sup> in observance of Memorial Day!**

**MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Rev. Gerald Kliner, STS, Senior Pastor**  
**JARED GIST, ORGANIST**

324 South Howard Street | South Williamsport, PA 17702  
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## **Deep Breath**

In the world of the Bible, the word *breath* is synonymous with “life.” Breath is necessary for a creature to be considered alive; where there isn’t breath, there isn’t life. Breath from God animates—brings to life—the creature formed from dust, the first human. When Jesus dies on the cross, three of the four gospels describe the moment using the phrase “breathed his last.”

In today’s gospel reading, Jesus appears to the disciples after the resurrection and offers his body to them for inspection. His scarred hands and side reveal that he is, in fact, Jesus, who was crucified. He is not an impostor. The disciples rejoice at the recognition. Next, Jesus breathes on them, a clear physical and symbolic assurance that he is not just a body but a *living* body. The breath that was once spent and gone has returned. He is not reanimated; he is *resurrected*. He has life in him again!

When Jesus breathes on his disciples, he also invites them to receive the Holy Spirit. This moment is extraordinary. Jesus animates the disciples in the same way God animated Adam: by bestowing divine breath, which brings not only physical life but spiritual life as well. Moreover, Jesus reveals that the Holy Spirit he promised to the disciples is, in fact, his own animating Spirit.

The earth-shaking wind of the Spirit at Pentecost is also an intimate breath of life. Through this divine exhale, there is the gift of life—body *and* spirit—and the enduring promise of resurrection.

Spend a few moments today doing some deep breathing as you give thanks for God’s gift of breath and for the Holy Spirit.

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