

“The Lord and Giver of Life”  
*The Feast of Pentecost*  
May 20, 2018

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Fargo, North Dakota



I will  
put my  
**spirit**  
within  
**you,**  
and you  
**shall live...**

Ezekiel 37:14, NRSV

*God unleashed His Spirit, igniting the growth of the Church through the proclamation of disciples in every region of the world. So also, through faithful proclamation of Law and Gospel, God continues to grow the Church today. It is the Church's continuing endeavor to proclaim the Word of God in every community and in every tongue, fueling the flame of that first Day of Pentecost!*

Holy Communion is being celebrated today. In the Sacrament of the Altar, Jesus gives us His own body and blood in and with the bread and wine. He delivers to us the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation that He won for us on the cross. Public expression is also made of our oneness in doctrine and practice. Out of respect for the sacredness of the Lord's Supper (1 Cor. 11:27-29), and a desire to provide responsible pastoral care, our congregation observes the historic practice of close communion. Welcome to commune with us today are all communicant members of the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod. We joyfully stand ready to assist those who wish to prepare to commune with us.

*(11:00 am) Sunday School Teachers and High School Graduates Recognition*

**Opening Hymn**

***“Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord”***

***LSB 497***

**+ The Lord Comes to His People in the Power of His Name +**

*(Congregation please rise.)*

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

**C: Amen.**

**P:** Gathered in the name of the Triune God, we celebrate His grace and mercy today.

**C: **May our hearts be shaped by His Holy Spirit that with burning desire we may joyfully receive His Word and accomplish His will in our lives.****

**+ The Lord Forgives Our Sins +**

**P:** Therefore, let us confess our sins together, seeking God's forgiveness for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C: **Almighty God, we were conceived and born in sin and continue to commit transgressions against You. Not only have we broken Your Law, but we have failed to accomplish the good You would have us do. Grant us forgiveness for all of our sins and renew us by Your Holy Spirit, that we might follow Your leading and guiding, being Your instruments that carry the proclamation of Jesus to a world in need. In His name, we pray. Amen.****

**P:** It is not by your own accord that you have been able to confess your sins before God this day. The Holy Spirit, who brought you to faith, has revealed to you the sin present in your life. With faith and trust in the mercy of God you have made your confession and God has heard your cry for mercy. Therefore, upon this your confession, I as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto you, and at the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*(John 20:23)*

**C: Amen! The Lord is faithful and He will do it.**

**Hymn of Praise**     *“Holy Spirit, Light Divine”*

*LSB 496, vv 1&2*

**Holy Spirit, light divine, Shine upon this heart of mine;  
Chase the shades of night away, Turn the darkness into day.**

**Let me see my Savior’s face, Let me all His beauties trace;  
Show those glorious truths to me Which are only known to Thee.**

**Prayer of the Day**

P: O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day, by the same Holy Spirit, to have a right understanding in all things and to forever rejoice in His holy consolation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

**+ The Lord Speaks to Us in His Holy Word +**

**Old Testament Reading**

*Ezekiel 37:1-14*

E: The Old Testament Reading for the Feast of Pentecost is from Ezekiel, chapter thirty-seven.

The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD." So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.' Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your

graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD."

E: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Special Music**

*"Holy Spirit, the Dove Sent from Heaven"*

*LSB 502*

**Epistle Reading**

*Acts 2:1-21*

E: The Epistle Reading is from Acts, chapter two.

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians--we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others mocking said, "They are filled with new wine." But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel: "And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day. And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

E: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Please rise as we sing)*

**Gradual Hymn**      *“Holy Spirit, Light Divine”*

*LSB 496, vv 4&5*

**Holy Spirit, joy divine, Cheer this saddened heart of mine;  
Yield a sacred, settled peace, Let it grow and still increase.**

**Holy Spirit, all divine, Dwell within this heart of mine;  
Cast down ev’ry idol throne, Reign supreme, and reign alone.**

**Holy Gospel**

*John 16:4-15*

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

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

I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you. "I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Confession of Faith**      *(Third Article to the Apostles' Creed)*

P: We confess our faith together.

**C: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

P: What does this mean?

**C: I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all**

**my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.**

*(Please be seated)*

**Children’s Message**

**Hymn of the Day**    **“Creator Spirit, by Whose Aid”**

**LSB 500**

**Sermon**    **“Dry Bones Live”**

**Ezekiel 37:1-14**

**+ The Lord Hears Our Prayers +**

After each petition:    **P: Lord, in Your mercy,**  
**C: Hear our prayer.**

**The Lord Receives Our Tithes and Offerings**

*(During this time, we invite you to sign our Friendship Register [red folder near center aisle].)  
Special Music: Etude in E Flat Major, by John A. Behnke*

**Reception of New Members**

**11:00 Service concludes:**

**Hymn**    **“Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”**

**LSB 528**

**The Lord’s Prayer / Collect**

**Benediction**

**Announcements**

**Closing Hymn**    **“Rise, Shine, You People”**

**LSB 825**

**(8:15 Service)**

**+ The Lord Delivers His Gifts to Us in His Holy Supper +**

*(Please rise.)*

**P: The Lord be with you.**

**C: And also with you.**

**P: Lift up your hearts.**

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P: Glorious Father in heaven, we, Your children, who are filled with Your Spirit and guided by Your Word of truth, lift Your name on high and sing Your praises this day. You have redeemed us from sin, death, and Hell through the sacrifice of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. As Your forgiven children, we come to Your throne of grace to receive the gift You provide for us, the true body and blood of our Savior. Nurture our faith in Christ as we stand united with the Church on earth and the Church in Heaven, lifting our voices and singing:

*(LSB 633, v 1)*

**At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to our victorious King,  
Who has washed us in the tide Flowing from His pierced side. Alleluia!**

### Lord's Prayer

### The Words of Jesus as He Instituted His Holy Supper

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

**C: Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! We eagerly desire Your gifts.**

### The Hymn of Preparation

*(LSB 633, v 2)*

**Praise we Him, whose love divine Gives His sacred blood for wine,  
Gives His body for the feast— Christ the victim, Christ the priest. Alleluia!**

*(Please be seated)*

### Hymns During the Distribution

*“Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face”*

**LSB 631**

*“Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”*

**LSB 528**

*“Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness”*

**LSB 636**

### Hymn of Thanksgiving

*(LSB 633, v 7)*

**Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy;  
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, Newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia!**

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

P: We thank You, heavenly Father, that You have granted to us the assurance of forgiveness by giving to us the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Nourished in Him, enable us to yield our lives to Your will, guided by the Holy Spirit who dwells within us.

**C: Help us to bring glory to You as we proclaim Jesus Christ as the Savior of all the world. We ask this in the name of our Lord Jesus, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**+ The Lord Places His Blessing Upon His People +**

## **Benediction**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon each of you with His favor, and give you His peace.

**C: Amen!**

*Announcements (including Sunday School Teachers /HS Graduates Recognition)*

## **Closing Hymn**

***“Rise, Shine, You People”***

***LSB 825***