

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

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www.denverlutheran.com

Find us on Facebook at: "St Paul Ev. Lutheran Church"

Member Congregation:
Church of the Lutheran Confession
www.clclutheran.org



Festival of Pentecost – May 28, 2023

Order of Worship: Service of the Word

(printed on liturgy insert inside front cover of maroon hymnal)

Serving Us At God's House Today

Organist: Carly Mess

Ushers: Wayne Ruegge, Ed Chiappetti

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 51:10-19 (pew bible, p.507)
- ◆ The Hymns: 790, 500, 496, 805
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Joel 2:28-29, Acts 2:1-21
- ◆ Confession of Faith: Luther's Explanation to the Third Article of the Apostles' Creed (printed on page 6)

Sermon Text – John 16:5-11

Ascension and Pentecost: The Christian's Loss and Gain

- ◆ Offering of Thankful Hearts
- ◆ Altar Prayer & Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Benediction & Closing Hymn (805)

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Liturgical Notes for the Festival of Pentecost

Pentecost, fifty days after the celebration of our Lord's resurrection, was originally a Jewish feast, known also as the Feast of Weeks. It was a celebration of the grain harvest. Bread made from the new grain was offered in the temple. As the day Christ's promise concerning the coming of the Spirit was fulfilled, it has become in a sense the birthday celebration of the New Testament Church. Early Christians connected the old celebration of the fruits of the earth's harvest with the fruits of the Spirit's blessing. *Red*, the popular color of fire, is the color of the paraments, reminiscent of the tongues of fire by which the Spirit manifested His presence to the disciples.

Today's Scriptures

First Lesson – Joel 2:28-29

28 “And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. 29 Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.



Psalm for the Day – From Psalm 51

P O Lord, open my lips:

C And my mouth will declare your praise.

P You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it:

C You do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.

P The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit:

C A broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

P Create in me a pure heart, O God:

C And renew a steadfast spirit within me.

P Do not cast me from your presence:

C Or take your Holy Spirit from me.

P Restore to me the joy of your salvation:

C And grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

P Then I will teach transgressors your ways:

C And sinners will turn back to you.

Second Lesson – Acts 2:1-21

1 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to

5 speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. 6 Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. 7 When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. 8 Utterly amazed, they asked: “Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans? 9 Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language? 10 Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 11 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!” 12 Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this mean?” 13 Some, however, made fun of them and said, “They have had too much wine.” 14 Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. 15 These men are not drunk, as you suppose. It’s only nine in the morning! 16 No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: 17 ““In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. 18 Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. 19 I will show wonders in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. 20 The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. 21 And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.””

Sermon Text – John 16:5-11

5 “Now I am going to him who sent me, yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ 6 Because I have said these things, you are filled with grief. 7 But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. 8 When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: 9 in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; 10 in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; 11 and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.

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A Warm Welcome To Our Worship Guests. It is our prayer that your faith is strengthened today by the preaching of our Lord's pure Word and by the psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs that our Scripture-based liturgy offers every week. St. Paul is a member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC). The CLC is represented by congregations throughout the United States and Canada, with affiliated churches in Africa, India, and neighboring nations. All of our churches confess the Bible to be the inspired and unerring Word of God. We invite our Guests to record their visit by signing the Guestbook and to come worship with us again.

This Week at St. Paul

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|--------------|----------|-------------------------------------|
| Today (5/28) | 9:30 am | Worship Service |
| | 10:45 am | Bible Class & Sunday School |
| Sun (6/2) | 9:30 am | Worship Service with Holy Communion |
| | 10:45 am | Bible Class & Sunday School |

We Pray for the Lord's continuing gracious care for our fellow members: Bobbie Brethauer who is recovering from knee replacement surgery performed last Monday, and Doug Tiefel who is continuing his recovery from angioplasty surgery. <> "*Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass*" (Psalm 37:5).

Flower Donations: St. Paul's Mary & Martha ladies are taking monetary donations toward the purchase of perennial flowers for the front church planters. You can do several things:

- place your offering in an envelope & put the amount on the "Other" line
- place it in a plain envelope with "Mary Martha Flowers"
- give your offering to Crystal Ruegge, Mary & Martha Treasurer

Thank you for considering to make a donation for the flowers! For questions, please ask Lisa Sprengeler.

CLC World Missions Prayer List for May: Copies in the church entry. Help yourself!

Annual Subscription Renewals: It's time for the annual renewal of our synod publications *Daily Rest* and *Lutheran Spokesman*. If you are currently a subscriber your subscription to the *Spokesman* expires after the June 2023 issue. Your subscription for the *Daily Rest* quarterly devotion booklet expires after the June issue.

- If you are already a subscriber to one or both of these publications you need do nothing (you will automatically be included on the renewal list).
- If you are not a subscriber but would like to be, please let the pastor know by May 31, so that he may add your name to the list.
- If you are currently a subscriber but would like your name omitted from the list, kindly inform me the pastor by May 31.

Note: If you are a distant member of St. Paul you will receive a gift subscription to both publications. (You are welcome to give a donation to cover the cost for your subscription, if you wish). Subscription costs are:

- *Daily Rest*: \$15 for 4 quarterly issues
- *The Lutheran Spokesman*: \$14 for 12 monthly issues
- Payments may be made by placing an offering in the Sunday collection (earmarked for "Daily Rest" and/or "Lutheran Spokesman") or by mailing in your offering to the church.

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Confession of Faith for the Festival of Pentecost

All 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 reasoning or effort believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, nor come to Him.

P But the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts,

C sanctified, and kept me in true faith.

P In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth

C and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

P In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all sins to me and all believers.

C On the last day He will raise me and all the dead and give to me and all believers in Christ eternal life.

All This is most certainly true.



Synod News & Notes

- **Missionary Todd Ohlmann** has posted the latest CLC World Missions Prayer List for May at this internet address: missionaryohlmann.blogspot.com. Here you will also find an update on the work of the Lord being done in Bangladesh, along with pictures of evangelism efforts being carried on there for His people.
- **New Opportunity in Uganda:** The Kinship Committee and CLC Board of Missions has taken on a new and exciting opportunity—supporting a group of twenty orphans in Uganda. Please consider becoming a sponsor of one of these children. The commitment is \$45/mo. Kinship is also in need of sponsors for seminary students throughout the world. The financial commitment required to support overseas seminary students is similar, ranging from \$30 to \$50/mo. To become a sponsor or for more information, please contact Dan Roehl at 507-381-2042 or danroehl@hotmail.com.
- **Black Hills Family Bible Camp:** "Camping in the beauty of the Black Hills, studies in the beauty of God's Word. This year we will be learning about and practicing having a better prayer life. There will also be many outdoor activities available such as hiking, climbing/repelling, swimming, kayaking etc. The camp runs from the evening of Friday July 7th through the morning of Tuesday July 11th. To sign up or for more information, you can call Pastor Aaron Ude at (605) 393-1311 or email him at aaronude@gmail.com."
- **"The 2023 ManUp! Men's Weekend** will be held September 21-24, 2023, at beautiful Wyalusing State Park near Prairie du Chien, WI. The weekend will offer strength and encouragement for men 18 and older for their personal faith, family, and fellowship at church. The weekend will include Bible study, fellowship, leadership training, team building, relationship building, worship, and many outdoor bonding activities. Register and send in your payment before August 31 for the discounted rate of \$75. Registration increases to \$150 after September 1. The registration includes lodging and meals. You can register by going to the Man Up! website here: www.manup.clclutheran.org and clicking on the Registration Form."
- **Pacific Coast Women's Retreat – Grow in Grace – October 6-8, 2023 | Cusick, WA –** "We welcome all girls and women to our retreat in the beautiful Pacific Northwest! Planes, trains, and automobiles will bring you to Spokane, and then we'll lead you an hour-ish north to the Ponderosa Lodge. "Stay in the Know" by signing up on the Gethsemane Lutheran Church website for periodic updates. <https://gethsemaneclc.org/events/pacific-coast-womens-retreat/> Questions? Contact Tina Eichstadt, teichstadt@gmail.com or 651-398-2386."

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

May 29 – June 3, '23

Mon John 14:15-21 As we ponder the gift of the Spirit given on Pentecost, the apostle reminds us that this gift was promised already before Jesus was betrayed, condemned, and crucified for us all. A key word in connection with the promised Spirit of truth is “love” (vv15,21).

Tues Ephesians 2:10-22 With the gift of the Spirit Jesus’ disciples would be sent into all the world with the good news of salvation. Here Paul reminds the Ephesians that their good works were planned ahead by God, and that both Jews and Gentiles are brought together before Him by the blood of Christ.

Wed Ezekiel 36:22-28 When God’s people strayed from the truth and chased after other gods, the true God’s name was profaned among the nations where they were scattered. For the honor of His name He will bring His people back from exile, show them forgiveness, and put His Spirit within them (v28).

Thur John 15:9-16 “Jesus loves me, this I know” from readings like this one. He would have His followers abide in His love (v9). He showed us His love by laying down His life as a sacrifice for us, and we show our love to Him by serving Him in love and sacrificing for one another.

Fri Ephesians 4:11-16 The Lord did not leave us as orphans, but by the Spirit gave apostles, prophets, and other leaders to guide and to equip us for serving Him and one another in this earthly life (v12). With Christ Himself as our head, we speak the truth in love (v15), and the whole body builds itself up in love (v16).

Sat Isaiah 44:1-6 As water is to dry and thirsty ground, so is God’s Spirit to His own people, from generation to generation (v3). He brings life and refreshment in every circumstance, persuading us with joy to call ourselves children of the Lord Almighty, besides whom there is no god.]