

# PENTECOST

May 23, 2021 – 9:30 a.m.

## PRELUDE

### OPENING HYMN “In Christ Alone” -Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

1. In Christ alone my hope is found  
He is my light my strength my song  
This Cornerstone this solid Ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled when strivings cease  
My Comforter my All in All  
Here in the love of Christ I stand

2. In Christ alone who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
Till on that cross as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live

3. There in the ground His body lay  
Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day  
Up from the grave He rose again  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

4. No guilt in life no fear in death  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
Till He returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

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## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**People: who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**People: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

Pastor: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**People: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

## **SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. 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 Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to 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.

**People: Amen.**

## **FIRST READING** *Ezekiel 37:1–14*

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 clean 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."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **EPISTLE** *Acts 2:1–21*

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 men 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.’”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** *John 15:26–27; 16:4b–15*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.

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

[Jesus said:] “When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning. . . . 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.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**HYMN** “Children of the Heavenly Father” *LSB 725*

1. Children of the heav’nly Father  
Safely in His bosom gather;  
Nestling bird nor star in heaven  
Such a refuge e’er was given.

2. God His own doth tend and nourish;  
In His holy courts they flourish.  
From all evil things He spares them;  
In His mighty arms He bears them.

3. Neither life nor death shall ever  
From the Lord His children sever;  
Unto them His grace He showeth,  
And their sorrows all He knoweth.

4. Though He giveth or He taketh,  
God His children ne'er forsaketh;  
His the loving purpose solely  
To preserve them pure and holy.

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## SERMON “What Does He Do”

### I. Clay

- What does Pentecost celebrate?

### II. The Spirit comes to t\_\_\_\_\_ about Jesus (15:26-27)

- In the Bible, the truth is...
  - P\_\_\_\_\_
  - M\_\_\_\_\_
- The Spirit works t\_\_\_\_\_ the word. We work w\_\_\_\_\_ the word.

### III. The Spirit abides with us (16:4-7)

- Where else is the word “to be of advantage” used?
- Why is it “better” Jesus leaves?

### IV. The Spirit C\_\_\_\_\_ (16:8-11)

- What is the world wrong about?
- Why does He convict?

### V. The Spirit G\_\_\_\_\_ (16:13)

Sometime ago, the Kooi family was watching a little kid show that featured a segment of someone sculpting some clay. The sculptor took a damp lump of clay in their hands, and then placed it on a round wooden block that spun around as they worked clay. The amazing thing was that it didn't take long for that ugly, gray, blobby mess to be shaped and transformed into something beautiful: a tall vase. The sculptor then poured a glaze over it, and placed it in a heated furnace. The segment then showed the sculptor taking the vase out a few hours later, and it was now completely transformed. It was graceful, shiny, and no longer a gray glob of clay. It was no longer purposeless, but purposeful. It would soon hold a beautiful bouquet of flowers. It was a neat thing to see.

Today is Pentecost, and it is the day that we celebrate the coming and work of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit comes into our lives, and like a master sculptor, He fashions and transforms us lost sinners into the redeemed people of God with a purpose to fulfill. The Spirit is sent and comes to do His work. That is what we celebrate on Pentecost, but exactly is His work? Our text from John answers that question and helps to show the significance of Pentecost.

In verses 26-27 of chapter 15, Jesus says, **“When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of Truth, Who proceeds from the Father, He will bear witness about me. And you also will be witness....”** We see here, a double procession. The Spirit proceeds from the Father, and from the Son, as we confess in the Nicene Creed. He is sent by them. What is He sent to do? The Spirit of Truth is sent to witness about the Truth, which, in the Bible, is both *a person* and *a message*.

The Truth is a *person*, Jesus. He is the One Whom the Spirit testifies about. He testifies about Jesus, the sinless Son of God. He testifies about Jesus, the One Who is both fully God, and fully man. He testifies

about Jesus, the One Who has saved His people through His suffering and death. He testifies about Jesus, the One Who has overcome death and is enthroned at God's right hand. The Spirit of Truth testifies about Jesus, *the Truth*.

He also testifies about a message. The truth in the Bible is also *a message*, it is the good news that Jesus has made righteous before God all that believe in Him. The good news that all who believe in Him will be saved and will live forever. He bears witness about the Gospel. The Spirit of Truth testifies about *the Truth*: Jesus and the beautiful Gospel message. He is called the Spirit of Truth, afterall!

And the Spirit of Truth brings this truth about Jesus and the Gospel into our hearts so that by His power, we believe. The Holy Spirit creates and works saving faith in us and sustains us in that faith. He sustains us in the Truth. What is more is that He also helps us to bear witness about this Truth. How? By the Word.

The Holy Spirit works through the Word. We work with the Word. That Word that we speak. That Word that we live out in faith. That Word that prompts our acts of service and mercy. That Word that creates that love and forgiveness that we give and show in the lives of others. The Spirit works through the Word to bring the Truth to the lives of others. He works through the Word. We work with the Word. The Spirit testifies about the Truth!

As Jesus continues, He tells us another part of the Spirit's work. He says, **"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."** The phrase "to be of advantage" (*sumphero*) is used only two other times in John's Gospel, and it is in the High Priest Caiaphas' prophecies that it is *of advantage* that one man, Jesus, die for the people than that they all perish. Just as it was "better" for Israel that Jesus was crucified, so it is "better" for the apostles that Jesus die, rise, and ascend. Neither realizes why at the time. It only comes later.

Isn't that the truth in life? Maybe we didn't get that job. Maybe that person said, "No", or never returned your call. Perhaps a plan didn't come to fruition after much prayer and planning. We don't always know what is for our good, but Jesus does! He says it is better if He leaves! Why? It is because the Helper will be with us.

In the absence of Jesus, that is, not seeing Him in a visible, physical sense, another presence would be with them (and us): His through the Helper! The word translated as "Helper" is a notoriously hard one to translate. It has too many good meanings for the Spirit. It means "one called to the side of, mediator, intercessor, comforter, counselor, helper." All of these terms describe what the Holy Spirit does, and is to us, don't they? And isn't Helper the best summary of this?

The Holy Spirit, the Helper, brings us to faith through the Word and keeps us in it. The Helper consoles us with the Gospel when our consciences are attacked, and our hearts are grieved. The Helper empowers God's people and emboldens them to share His Word, as we see in our Acts reading. The Helper makes us holy and makes us like Jesus. To go back to the clay analogy, He molds, shapes, and forms us to be like Jesus. We call this sanctification. The Helper comforts and strengthens us in the midst of trials, troubles, and temptations. He even helps us to pray. The Holy Spirit is a helper in every sense of the word. He is sent to our side.

Pentecost is the fulfillment of that promise. It is a reminder that we have been given the Spirit, the Helper, to aid us in our Christian walk and life. For the Spirit does not come to us like He did to those first disciples and apostles on Pentecost as tongues of fire and a loud wind. He comes to us through the Word: spoken, read, preached, and sacramentally. We celebrate that last way today with the confirmations of Corran and Micah. We are celebrating and confirming the Spirit's work begun in them at baptism, and that work that is continuing to be done in them. Confirmation is a beautiful reminder that the Spirit is still sent, and that He is at work among us through the Word and Sacraments, bringing people to faith, strengthening faith, increasing hope, and increasing our love for all people. He still continues His work of giving us Jesus by abiding with us, and within us.

Jesus then follows this up with another work that the Spirit does: convicting. **"And when He comes, He will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment...."** It might seem strange to us that the Spirit would convict, that He would make people guilty, but He does. The world is wrong about sin. It is wrong in how it speaks about Jesus, and it is wrong in how it talks about Satan.

The world is not righteous, but is trapped in the worst of all sins: unbelief. Sin is unbelief, and the refusal to trust in God! The world is wrong about Jesus. He was not just another moral teacher, faith healer, misguided revolutionary, idealistic leader, or misunderstood prophet whose time was cut short by a brutal end.

No. Jesus has been vindicated by the Father, raised from the dead, ascended to heaven, and revealed to be the Savior of all. He alone is the Righteous One. The world is wrong about Satan. His reign is over, and he has lost. One little word can fell him: Jesus. Jesus rules over all things. He lives and reigns, and will one day bring all things to their final restoration. He has won.

The Holy Spirit convicts with the hope of bringing the world to its senses and repentance. The Holy Spirit convicts people of these truths so that would no longer be “of the world” but “in the world”. He does it so that would come to faith, and be Christ’s. Jesus is the Son of God. He has been vindicated by the Father, and He has won. The Spirit convicts. He also guides.

**“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.”** The disciples had heard a lot that evening from Jesus. They were on information and emotion overload. Jesus promised that the Spirit would teach them, that He would serve as their guide in leading them into the whole truth. That He would make them familiar with it, let them understand and grasp it, and have them realize the grace of God. The Spirit would guide them into this.

We live in a world of unknowns, half-truths, and lying spirits. We don’t know what to believe, or who to listen to. Apologist Greg Koukl says it well when he says that truth in our day and age is so nebulous that we’re living with our “feet firmly planted in midair” with nothing absolute in which to ground ourselves. It often seems like that, doesn’t it? And that is where the beauty of the Spirit’s work comes in. He guides us into all the truth. In a world that is ever changing, ever uncertain, the Spirit guides us in all truth. He guides us in and through the Word. He reminds us of what is most necessary: Christ and Him crucified and risen for you and me. He teaches us in regards to sin, righteousness, and judgment. He helps us to follow Jesus in a world that has lost its way. The Spirit is the Guide, and He will get us home.

The day of Pentecost helps us to give pause and to see the hands that form, mold, transform, and guide us: the Holy Spirit’s. It helps to give us a chance to thank and praise the One Who bears witness to the Truth, Who abides with us, Who convicts, and Who guides.

## **CONFIRMATION**

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said: “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age.”

You have been baptized and you have been taught the faith according to our Lord’s bidding. The fulfillment of his bidding we now celebrate with thankful hearts, rejoicing to confess the faith into which you were baptized and which you yourselves will now confess before the Church.

Jesus said: “Whoever confesses me before men, I will also confess him before my Father in heaven. But he that denies me before men, I will deny him before my Father in Heaven.” Lift up your hearts therefore to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what, in the name of the Lord, as a minister of his Church, I now shall ask you. Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts which God gave you in your Baptism?

**Confirmands: I do.**

Pastor: Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

**Confirmands: I do.**

Pastor: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

**Confirmands: Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son?

**Confirmands: Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**Confirmands: Yes, 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.**

Pastor: Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

**Confirmands: I do.**

Pastor: Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

**Confirmands: I do.**

Pastor: Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

**Confirmands: I do, by the grace of God.**

Pastor: Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

**Confirmands: I do, by the grace of God.**

Pastor: Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

**Confirmands: I do, by the grace of God.**

Pastor: We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord's Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

**Congregation: Amen.**

Pastor: Give then your hand as pledge of your promise, and kneel to receive the blessing.

*(The catechumens, in turn, give their right hand and kneel. The pastor lays his hands upon the head of each one and gives the following blessing. A confirmation text is then given to each.)*

\_\_\_\_\_, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life everlasting.

*After all catechumens have received the blessing and text of Holy Scripture, the pastor says:*

Upon this your profession and promise I invite and welcome you, as members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and of this congregation, to share with us in all the gifts our Lord has for his Church and to live them out continually in his worship and service.

Pastor: Let us pray for the newly confirmed. Lord God, Heavenly Father, we thank and praise you for your great goodness in bringing these, your children, to the knowledge of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and enabling them with both heart to believe and with mouth to confess His saving name. Grant that, bringing forth the fruits of faith, they may continue steadfast and victorious to the day when all who have fought the good fight of faith shall receive the crown of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Congregation: Amen.**

Pastor: The almighty and most merciful God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you.

**Congregation: Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**VOCAL SOLO** by Sharonlee Strohkirch, "I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry"

## PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Especially on this day we thank You for the gift of the Holy Spirit, who surrounds us with Your love and brings us the saving Word of Jesus Christ, for which we give all glory, praise, and honor to You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

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## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. In these last days, You have poured out Your Holy Spirit on Your Church that Your sons and daughters might proclaim the wonders of Your salvation in Christ Jesus, our Lord. Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon Your gathered people that, faithfully eating and drinking the body and blood of Your Son, we may go forth to proclaim His salvation to the ends of the earth.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:



## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**People:** 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.

## **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## **PAX DOMINI**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People: Amen.**

## **DISTRIBUTION**

*You are invited to receive the Lord's Supper if you believe and confess that Jesus Christ is your Savior from sin, you are a baptized child of the Triune God, and you believe that He gives you His body and blood in the bread and wine you receive. White grape juice can be found in the center of each tray for those who cannot receive alcohol. Children are welcome to come forward for a blessing.*

## **MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION**

## **POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## **BENEDICAMUS**

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**CLOSING HYMN** “Go, My Children, with My Blessing” *LSB* 922

1. Go, My children, with My blessing,  
Never alone.

Waking, sleeping, I am with you;  
You are My own.

In My love’s baptismal river  
I have made you Mine forever.

Go, My children, with My blessing—  
You are My own.

2. Go, My children, sins forgiven,  
At peace and pure.

Here you learned how much I love you,  
What I can cure.

Here you heard My dear Son’s story;  
Here you touched Him, saw His glory.

Go, My children, sins forgiven,  
At peace and pure.

3. Go, My children, fed and nourished,  
Closer to Me;

Grow in love and love by serving,  
Joyful and free.

Here My Spirit’s power filled you;  
Here His tender comfort stilled you.

Go, My children, fed and nourished,  
Joyful and free.

4. I the Lord will bless and keep you  
And give you peace;

I the Lord will smile upon you  
And give you peace:

I the Lord will be your Father,  
Savior, Comforter, and Brother.

Go, My children; I will keep you  
And give you peace.

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**BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**People: Amen.**

**POSTLUDE**

**Acknowledgments**

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GENEROSITY THOUGHTS:** *Acts 2:1 – “When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place.”* Pentecost was the Old Testament harvest festival – a time of thanksgiving, bounty, and the giving of gifts. How appropriate that the New Testament takes on the meaning of a new harvest – the ripe fields of the nations. This includes bringing in the elect of every tribe and tongue to sing the Lord’s praise. Every farmer knows that it is God who gives the increase and that the harvest calls for thanksgiving.

**NEW ADDRESS DIRECTORIES** have been printed. Feel free to pick up a copy from the narthex table or the counter in the office.

**PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY:** Wednesdays we will have a prayer and Bible Study group. Please check with Pastor Kooi for the current start time. Each week, we will gather together to pray and study a text. We will be meeting in-person and virtually. For those that attend virtually, we will have you join us via Zoom (contact Pastor Kooi for the link). Please contact Pastor Kooi for more details.

**WEDDING:** All members of Emmaus are invited to help celebrate the wedding ceremony of Eric R and Tracey A on July 17, 2021 at 11:00 AM here at Emmaus Lutheran Church. A reception will follow at Bunker Hills Regional Park in Coon Rapids. If interested in attending, please RSVP by June 1st to either Eric or Tracey in person or via email. The couple do not have any household needs and so are requesting no gifts. For details, feel free to reach out or see a copy of the invitation on the church bulletin board.

**JUNE 13TH** is the date of our next congregational meeting. This meeting will take place immediately after our service. There will be a presentation updating the status of the rain garden, voting on our boards and officers for the next year, as well as other items of interest. We hope to see you there.

**SHOE DRIVE UPDATE:** Some of you have been hard at work spreading the news and collecting shoes and that is GREATLY APPRECIATED. For those who have been reluctant, I cannot stress enough how important it is that you spread the word and ASK for shoes. I mentioned this project during a recent haircut and the stylist is asking people in her workplace to collect shoes. When people hear that their old shoes will help others overseas work their way out of poverty, they are happy to help. Please reach out to those contacts in your phone, neighborhood, teachers, friends, teammates, etc. and make this a huge success. THANK YOU!

**JOHN1516TEENS IS BACK!** After a one-year hiatus, John1516teens is back! We will meet on June 15, 22, and 29, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. to do a service project and fun event. Pick-up will be at Bethel Lutheran Church on Wheelock Parkway. The cost is \$50 for all three weeks, and includes a t-shirt, lunch, transportation, and admission to the all the events. Registration forms are available in the Narthex and Church Office, and from Pastor Kooi. Please get your completed registration form to Pastor Kooi ASAP to reserve your spot since registration is limited this year. This is for all youth from 7th grade to senior year of high school. The schedule for the summer is below.

June 15: Trinity First and Zero Gravity

June 22: Global Health Ministry and Movie

June 29: Feed My Starving Children and Bunker Beach Waterpark

**HELP NEEDED:** Have you been thinking about ways you can get involved at Emmaus? We are looking for additional help on the following boards for 2021-2022. Worship, Fellowship, Social Ministry and Practical Services. Interested in helping usher, lector, count offerings, assist with Sunday School or the Youth? We have spots for you too! Please reach out to Pastor Kooi, Nicole P, Pam U or Todd P if you have questions or would like more information. We look forward to joining with you to continue the ministry of Emmaus!

**HAVE YOU VISITED** the Emmaus website lately? If you miss a Sunday, or just want to hear something again, you can find past sermons to listen to on the website. Another resource on the website is our Google calendar. If you misplace your newsletter calendar, or just want to see if an event is still happening when you think it is, check it out. [www.emmaus-lutheran-church.org](http://www.emmaus-lutheran-church.org)

**HEAR “THE LUTHERAN HOUR”** on Sunday mornings at 6:05 a.m. on WCCO 830 AM radio. Next week’s broadcast: “Before Kings” Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. The person who excels in their work will be noticed by kings. Dr. Michael Zeigler talks about the King who took note of us before we did any work. (Proverbs 22:29)