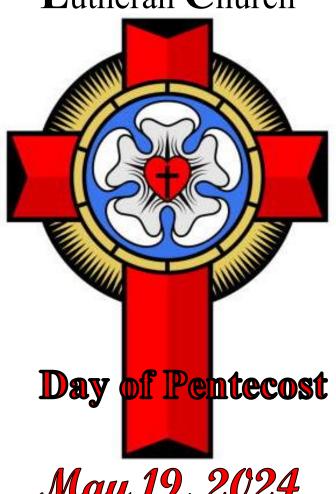
elcome to Worship

St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church



May 19, 2024



Disciples and Ministers: All the People

Pastor:

NWOS Bishop: Daniel Beaudoin

ELCA Presiding Bishop: *Elizabeth Eaton* Companion Church: *Mwanawotta, Tanzania*

Web Page: http://www.stlukesnb.org

eMail: <u>StLukesNB@gmail.com</u> Church Phone: 419-257-3253

Whether this is your first time with us or you have been here your whole life, **WELCOME** to the place where we stand together before God as equals. If you are new here and seeking a church home, please contact the church office at 419-257-3253 and leave a message.

Assisting in Worship

Organist: Janet Goldner

Worship Leader: SAM Bob Fett

Scripture Reader and Prayer Leader: JoLynn Stewart

Ushers: Pam & Rick Van Mooy Videographer: Beth Williams

To the Glory of God

May Altar Candles: Carol Williams
May Bulletins: Laura & Tony Damon
May Newsletters: Laura & Tony Damon

The flowers are given by Carol Williams in thanksgiving and glory to God.

North Baltimore Food Pantry May requested donations include: <u>peanut butter</u>, <u>jellies and jams</u>. Without our help, some families in our community will go without. Please give generously.



Order of Morship

Day of Pentecost, May 19, 2024

God is glad you have joined us for worship today. At the symbol № assembly members may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked upon us at baptism.

*please stand, sit, or kneel as you feel comfortable.

Pandemic update: we will continue monitoring the CDC and following their guidelines.

GOD GATHERS US

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE WITH SILENT MEDITATIVE PRAYER

Use your breath as a form of prayer as you listen to the music. When you breathe in, pray, "Holy Spirit." When you exhale, pray, "guide my life."

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In those days, says the Lord -

ALL: in those days after Jesus rose from the dead, in those days when no one really knew what was going on or what was going to happen –

<u>Leader</u>: in those days God exhaled the Holy Spirit.

ALL: And when the disciples pushed out their fear

Leader: and as dancing flames heralded the arrival of something new

ALL: and as the birth cry was the cries of many languages, all understood –

<u>Leader</u>: in those days, the church was born, out of fear and fire,

ALL: with joy and awe.

Leader: The church was born.

ALL: Our church.

Leader: God's church.

ALL: Let us worship God.

*GATHERING HYMN #800 SPIRIT OF GOD, DESCEND UPON MY HEART

*An Offering of Confession

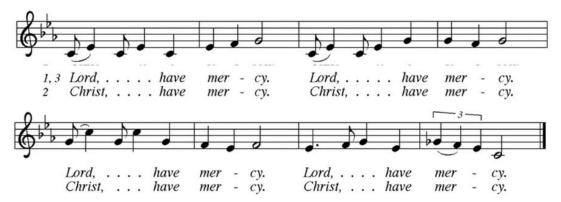
<u>Leader</u>: Can you bottle a breeze? Can you blow out a forest fire? Can you help but breathe? We pray that God's Spirit will come to us, bringing grace, hope, and forgiveness. So now, we confess our sin to God.

Please take a moment for personal reflection.

Leader: God of the Holy Spirit,

ALL: For those times we stifle your Spirit, O God;
For those times we ignore your whispers and shouts;
For those times when we turn away from your wonders and miracles: forgive us.

***KYRIE HYMN #151**

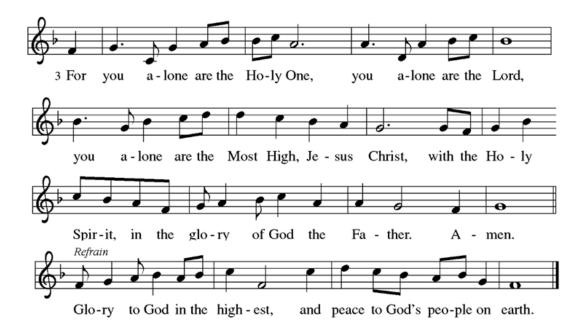


*CONFESSIONAL RESPONSE

<u>Leader</u>: The breeze is loosed on the world. The fire is consumed. We breathe deeply, for indeed, we are forgiven.

ALL: Alleluia! Thanks be to God!





*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us pray together:

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

GOD SPEAKS TO US

FIRST READING ACTS 2:1-21

<u>Reader</u>: When the day of Pentecost had come, the apostles were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue

rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. ¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. ²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. ²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'"

Reader: Word of God, word of life. ALL: Thanks be to God.

PSALM READING

(responsively)

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

<u>Reader</u>: How manifold are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

ALL: Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number, living things both small and great.

<u>Reader</u>: There go the ships to and fro, and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.

ALL: All of them look to you to give them their food in due season.

<u>Reader</u>: You give it to them; they gather it; you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

ALL: When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

<u>Reader</u>: You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth.

ALL: May the glory of the LORD endure forever; O LORD, rejoice in all your works.

<u>Reader</u>: You look at the earth and it trembles; you touch the mountains and they smoke.

ALL: I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being.

Reader: May these words of mine please God. I will rejoice in the LORD.

ALL: Bless the LORD, O my soul. Hallelujah!

Reader: Word of God, word of life. ALL: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

ROMANS 8:22-27

<u>Reader</u>: We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the

redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Reader: Word of God, word of life. ALL: Thanks be to God.



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*GOSPEL READING

JOHN 15:26-27; 16:4B-15

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

<u>Leader</u>: The holy gospel according to John. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<u>Leader</u>: Jesus said, ²⁶"When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. ²⁷You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

^{16:4b}"I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' ⁶But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. ⁷Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your

advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, and you will see me no longer; ¹¹about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

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

<u>Leader:</u> The gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

THE MESSAGE

*HYMN OF THE DAY #396

SPIRIT OF GENTLENESS

*Pentecost Affirmation of Faith

Leader: As God's people, we proclaim our faith!

ALL: We believe that, in the Holy Spirit, Jesus is always with us.

We believe the Spirit moves us to faith, renews our hearts, stands with us in our need, and makes our lives holy.

We believe in the rich variety of the Spirit's gifts, and we delight in the creative work of the Spirit.

We believe that the spirit gives each believer what we need for God's praise and our neighbors' welfare. Amen

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE INTRODUCTION

<u>Prayer Leader</u>: Trusting God's promise of new life, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and the people of a world in need.

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

<u>Prayer Leader</u>: Lord, in your mercy, **ALL**: **Hear our prayer**.

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

<u>Leader</u>: Let the Holy Spirit bring peace to your heart and let us share that peace with one other. The peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: and also with you.

Please share God's peace."

Invitation for Offerings

<u>Leader</u>: Holy Spirit, we invite your presence into our efforts to sow seeds in faith. Empower us with the knowledge that our giving is not a transaction but an act of trust in your unfailing promises.

OFFERTORY

*Offertory response #186

CREATED IN ME A CLEAN HEART

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Leader: Let us pray together.

ALL: Everlasting God, you have raised us to new life in Christ. Give us voices to proclaim the Good News, and live with resurrection joy and holy peace, wherever your Spirit leads us, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

GOD NOURISHES US

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

<u>Leader</u>: God's love binds us together. Grace comes to us through Christ Jesus. The Spirit moves among us giving us life.

ALL: All praise to God who is holy, almighty, and merciful.

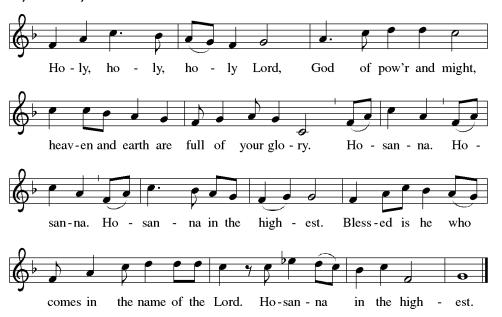
<u>Leader</u>: As children of God, in baptism, we were sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

ALL: With our hearts lifted high, we give God thanks and praise.

<u>Leader</u>: 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, who in the multitude of your saints did surround us with so great a cloud of witnesses that we, rejoicing in their fellowship, may run with patience the race that is set before us and, together with them, may receive the crown of glory that does not fade away. Therefore, give thanks to the One who raises us to new life and sing to the God of everlasting love.

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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*Words of Institution

<u>Leader</u>: Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is my body, given to you. This do in

remembrance of me." In the same way, 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 covenant in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do in remembrance of me." **ALL: Amen**

<u>Leader</u>: With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith;

ALL: By the Spirit, we believe that Christ died for us.

By the Spirit, we affirm that Christ was raised.

Be the Spirit, we proclaim that Christ will come again.

<u>Leader</u>: In the unity of the Holy Spirit, we pray the prayer Jesus taught us saying,

*THE PRAYER OUR LORD TAUGHT US

All: 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

We break this bread and drink this cup, for it is the Holy Spirit who gathers us together around this table.

ALL: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

DISTRIBUTION



*TABLE BLESSING

<u>Leader</u>: Through the body, blood, and spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven. This is God's promise to us. May his love and mercy strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **ALL: Amen**

*HYMN AFTER COMMUNION #204

THANKFUL HEARTS AND VOICES RAISE

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Leader: Please join me in prayer,

ALL: By your Holy Spirit, O Lord, keep us in your love, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GOD SENDS US

*BLESSING

<u>Leader</u>: The Holy Spirit will guide our lives. The Holy Spirit will give grace to our lives. The Holy Spirit calls us to be disciples of Jesus.

ALL: By the Spirit's power, we will speak God's language of love. By the Spirits power, we will tell the Good News.

***THE AMEN**



*SENDING HYMN #400

GOD OF TEMPEST, GOD OF WHIRLWIND

*DISMISSAL

Leader: Alleluia! Go in peace in communion of the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

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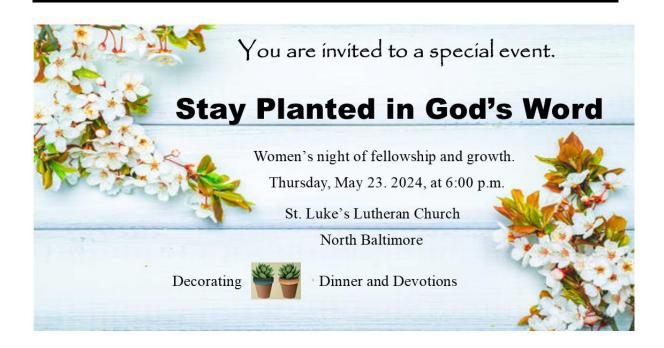
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The **RED GERANIUMS** are available for purchase, but we are asking that the remain in the Sanctuary for Memorial Sunday, May 26. The cost is \$5.00. Drop a note in the offering plate if you are interested.

Next Sunday, **May 26**, Bob Fett will not be with us as his daughter is getting married that weekend. Beth Williams will lead our worship. There is a change in the church office hours for **May 27** and **May 29**. Dana will be in the office on Monday, May 27, so that she can be available on May 29, to drive a friend to Cleveland Clinic. Thanks for allowing me such flexibility.



Help is needed – if you have not been personally impacted by the tornadoes ripping through our country, give thanks to God. Lutheran Disaster Response is out and about helping to assess damages and begin reaching out to those in need. With the number of communities devasted money and volunteers are greatly needed. If you would like to make a

financial donation you may do so through the church. Make you check out to St. Luke's Church, mark it for tornado assistance (or "where need most") and put it in the offering plate. If you would like to volunteer to physically help in the storm torn communities contact Lutheran Disaster Response.

https://elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response

Include God in everything you do.



Vacation Bible School July 21-25, 2024, here at



Keep watch for opportunities on how you can participate this summer. You can begin right now with prayers for those who are organizing the SCUBA Adventure, and prayerfully considering where you will fit in.







Fisher

Sermon Notes

Write 3 teachings or ideas you heard in today's sermon:
1.
2.
3.
Something I might do to put this sermon into practice.
Write a brief prayer relating to the sermon.



Please help to keep our Prayer List up-to-date by notifying the church office of any changes, additions or deletions.

WE GIVE THANKS: for the gift and guidance of the Holy Spirit. Thanks be to God!

MEMBERS: Lorraine Ferguson, Sue & Dave Ebersole, Emily Meyerson, Carl Lieser, Jim Wymer, Pat Wheeler, Rick Van Mooy, Kolton Williams, Ron Bean, Cheryl & John Kruse, Shirley Heilman, Larry Slaughterbeck, Bob Kelley, Caroline

Lieser, Marilyn Ziegler, Bertha Carter, Barb Williams.

<u>FAMILY AND FRIENDS</u>: Jennifer Dochod, Tony Matthes, Ron Stewart, Chase, Bob, Emelyn, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery Breece, Caroline, Ethan, Brent Bradley, Richard Roberts, Deanna Griffith, Laura, Michael Sullivan, Cindy.

GRIEVING: for **Pat Wheeler** and family following the death of her sister.

MILITARY: for all those who are in training and who are serving in the military & their families; the chaplains (especially those in combat zones); grieving families and friends of those who died while serving.

<u>COMPANION CHURCH</u>: Mwanawotta Lutheran Church, of the Dodoma Diocese, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania.

<u>WIDER CHURCH PRAYERS</u>: all ministries of the ELCA (<u>E</u>vangelical <u>L</u>utheran <u>C</u>hurch in <u>A</u>merica), our presiding <u>Bishop Elizabeth Eaton</u>, all our bishops, pastors, and leaders of the congregations of the <u>NWOS</u> (<u>Northwestern Ohio Synod</u>), <u>Bishop Daniel Beaudoin</u>, and our 15 Central Conference congregations.

<u>THE WORLD</u>: for peace in our country and around the world. For the end of violence against one another. For world leaders to seek guidance from you.



The Holy Spirit's Groaning

Few sounds capture a groan like birth pangs. It is the raw sound of life and birth as well as of pain. It is the guttural desire for the end of the waiting



for what has been anticipated and desired. For any who have been present through such an event, it is difficult to ever forget. It is in equal parts beautiful, stunning, and holy, as well as raw, painful, and horrific. "Creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves . . . groan inwardly while we wait for adoption," writes Paul to the church in Rome. He describes aptly that painful wail of our souls for the redemption we know so

well, the restoration of all things promised in Christ. As Lutherans we know this all too well as the "now but not yet" proposition of our faith. We have been told of the return of the Messiah. We prepare for this coming and see how the whole of creation groans for her own restoration. We join this creation waiting for our own hearts, souls, and bodies to be restored. We know this is coming and as in pains of labor groan for this reality. While we wait, we are given a midwife, a Spirit of God to join us in our waiting for the birth of a new world and a new reality. This gift is given this day, the day of Pentecost. May the Spirit join us in our cry to God, eagerly awaiting the begotten, the Son of God, Jesus.