



**+ Day of Pentecost**  
**May 23, 2021**

**St. Andrew Lutheran Church**  
**304 Morewood Ave.**  
**Pittsburgh, PA 15213**

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## **+ Day of Pentecost Order for Worship**

*Fifty days after Easter, the church celebrates the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Crossing all boundaries that would separate us, the Spirit brings the wideness of God's mercy to places we least expect it—to a crowd of strangers of different lands and tongues, to dry bones, to our weak hearts. Jesus promises his disciples that they will be accompanied by the Holy Spirit, and that this Spirit reveals the truth. We celebrate that we too have been visited with this same Spirit. Guided by the truth, we join together in worship, and then disperse to share the fullness of Christ's love with the world.*

***A few notes on precautions and protocols, which apply to everyone regardless of vaccination status, as St. Andrew returns to worship in the sanctuary:***

- Name and contact information will be recorded for all worshipers in attendance in case the need for contact tracing should arise.
- Face masks that fully cover both your mouth and nose are required at all times for everyone over the age of two (2) – the only exception being the brief moment of moving mask aside to partake in Holy Communion.
- Outside food and drink are thus not permissible during worship.
- Physical distancing of at least six (6) feet will be observed at all times for people not from your household.
- Singing and corporate prayer spoken in unison will not be a part of the worship service. Both of these practices have been proven to increase the amount of droplets in the air, potentially facilitating the spread of the coronavirus. We will pray and share music during worship, but we ask that you pray/follow along silently or whisper under your mask.
- We ask that everyone use hand sanitizer, either your own or from the bottles throughout the sanctuary, especially prior to Holy Communion.

## Prelude

## Welcome

## Gathering

*Please rise as you are able.*

## Lament and Praise upon Re-Gathering

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,  
who upholds us through adversity, who consoles us in our sorrows,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: *A reading from Isaiah:*

For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed,  
but my steadfast love shall not depart from you,  
and my covenant of peace shall not be removed,  
says the LORD, who has compassion on you.

P: Let us pray.

We lament before you, O God, Comforter in our distress,  
the losses that our congregation and this community have suffered in this past year.

We have missed:

- our weekly assembled worship;
- our sharing of bread and cup;
- our communal song;
- our greetings of peace;
- the full observances of Holy Week, the Three Days, Easter, Pentecost, and Trinity;
- Baptisms, Confirmations, weddings, and funerals;
- gatherings for education;
- coffee hours;
- the mutual consolation of the faithful embodied and enacted each Sunday;
- and we mourn members, friends, and family who have died.

P: O God, we lament our losses, for they are many. Comfort, heal, and restore us, gracious God.

**C: Comfort, heal, and restore us, gracious God.**

P: We lament before you, O God, Sustainer of the universe,  
the tragedies that our world has experienced.

We lament:

- the millions sickened;
- the countless dead;
- thousands unemployed;
- medical systems depleted;

economic security threatened;  
political discord escalated;  
despondency rampant;  
racial injustice intensified;  
communal engagements canceled.

O God, we lament the world's tragedies, for they are incalculable.  
Comfort, heal, and restore us, compassionate God.

**C: Comfort, heal, and restore us, compassionate God.**

P: Yet today, O God whose everlasting arms hold us close,  
we rejoice at this re-gathering of our congregation:

we praise you for Sunday worship in word and sacrament;  
for the personal presence of one another;  
for people of all ages together;  
for live music;  
for return to in-person Bible study and Christian education events;  
for service with one another for the wider community;  
for the mutual consolation of the faithful embodied and enacted on Sundays  
and throughout the week.

O God, we rejoice at this re-gathering for baptismal life together.  
Empower your church, faithful God.

**C: Empower your church, faithful God.**

P: And we pray, O God of safe harbor, for the emergence of a wholesome world:  
we rejoice at this re-gathering of our congregation:

with health restored;  
mourners consoled;  
vaccines available;  
hospitals restocked and health care workers refreshed;  
new opportunities for employment;  
poverty alleviated and averted;  
sustenance shared;  
travel resumed and relationships renewed;  
fear replaced with hope;  
sorrow turned to joy.

O God, we pray for the emergence of a wholesome world.  
Renew the whole world, merciful God.

**C: Renew the whole world, merciful God.**

P: Give us your peace, eternal God, and lead us into new life by the power of your Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

*Worship continues with the Gathering Hymn.*

*We ask that those present in the church sanctuary refrain from singing the hymns aloud.*

*The assembly gathered online is encouraged to sing!*

## Gathering Hymn

*Njoo kwetu, Roho mwema / Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading*

v. 1-2

*ELW 401*

- 1 Gracious Spirit, heed our pleading,  
fashion us all anew.  
It's your leading that we're needing,  
help us to follow you.**

### *Refrain*

**Come, come, come, Holy Spirit, come.  
Come, come, come, Holy Spirit, come.**

- 2 Come to teach us, come to nourish  
those who believe in Christ.  
Bless the faithful, may they flourish,  
strengthened by grace unpriced.**

### *Refrain*

**Come, come, come, Holy Spirit, come.  
Come, come, come, Holy Spirit, come.**

Text: Wilson Niwagila; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922. Music: Wilson Niwagila. English and Swahili text and tune © Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net # A-722139.

## 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.**

## Prayer of the Day

**P:** Let us pray.

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.

**C:** **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## **Word**

### **First Reading – Acts 2: 1-21**

<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] 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 nation 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, “Men of Judea 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.’ ”

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **Second Reading – Romans 8: 22-27**

<sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; <sup>23</sup>and 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. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

<sup>26</sup>Likewise 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. <sup>27</sup>And 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.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Please rise as you are able.*

## **Gospel Acclamation** (*Spoken*)

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

## **Gospel – John 15: 26-27; 16: 4b-15**

P: The holy Gospel according to St. John.

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

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

<sup>16:4b</sup>“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. <sup>5</sup>But now I am going to [the one] who sent me; yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ <sup>6</sup>But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. <sup>7</sup>Nevertheless 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. <sup>8</sup>And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: <sup>9</sup>about sin, because they do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup>about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; <sup>11</sup>about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

<sup>12</sup>“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. <sup>13</sup>When 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. <sup>14</sup>He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup>All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.  
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

*Please be seated.*

## Sermon

*Please rise as you are able.*

Hymn of the Day

**O Day Full of Grace**  
v. 2, 4

*ELW 627*

**2 O day full of grace, O blessed time,  
our Lord on the earth arriving;  
then came to the world that light sublime,  
great joy for us all retrieving;  
for Jesus all mortals did embrace,  
all shame and despair removing.**

**4 God came to us then at Pentecost,  
the Spirit new life revealing,  
that we might no more in death be lost,  
its pow'r over us dispelling.  
This flame will the mark of sin efface  
and bring to us all true healing.**

Text: Scandinavian folk hymn; tr. Gerald Thorson, 1921-2001, alt. Music: Christoph E.F. Weyse, 1774-1842. Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net # A-722139.

## Prayers of the People

P: Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God, who promises to receive them in steadfast love.

*After each petition*

P: God of mercy,  
C: **Hear our prayer.**

P: In the hope of new life in Christ, we lift up our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your goodness and mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
C: **Amen.**



*Please be seated while the table is being prepared.  
We offer ourselves, our gifts, and our faithful service to God.  
An offering plate is available at the back of the sanctuary for those who would like to offer gifts  
as you leave worship today.*

## **Meal**

*Please rise as you are able.*

### **Offertory Prayer**

P: Let us pray.

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing.  
Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need,  
through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### **Dialogue**

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 our thanks and praise.**

### **Preface**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ...  
... and join their unending hymn.

### **Sanctus**

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## **Eucharistic Prayer**

P: Thanks be to you, O God, for the power of your loving Spirit ...  
... Do this for the remembrance of me.

On this bread and wine, come, Holy Spirit.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: Manifest here the body and blood of Christ. Come, Holy Spirit.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: Into this assembly, come, Holy Spirit.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: We plead for your Spirit to cry aloud in us, with us, and for us ...  
... God of justice and peace, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

P: Gathered as one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C: Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## **Fraction and Invitation**

### ***Agnus Dei / Lamb of God***

**C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

*Please be seated.*

## **Holy Communion**

- *For Holy Communion, we will not be kneeling at the altar rail due to the need for physical distancing.*
- *At the invitation of the usher, worshipers from the pulpit side will proceed forward first, followed by the center section, and then the lectern side.*
- *The Communion bread/wafer is in small cups on the left side of the altar table as you come forward. Cups of wine (lighter liquid) and grape juice (darker liquid) are on your right.*
- *A blessing will be provided for anyone who does not yet receive the sacrament, following physical distancing guidelines.*
- *Everyone is asked to wait until you return to your place to consume the wafer and wine/grape juice, and then promptly replace your mask.*
- *Worshipers can place the paper cups in the receptacle by the door at the back of the sanctuary as they leave through the Centre and Morewood Ave. vestibule.*

## **Hymn during Holy Communion**

*Veni Sancte Spiritus / Holy Spirit, Come to Us*

**ELW 406**

*Ostinato [repeated continuously]*

**Veni Sancte Spiritus. Veni Sancte Spiritus.**

**Holy Spirit, come to us. Holy Spirit, come to us.**

Text: Pentecost sequence; Taizé Community. Text © 1978, 1980, 1991 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net # A=722139.

*When all have returned to their places, please rise as you are able.*

## **Blessing**

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

**C: Amen.**

## **Prayer**

**P:** Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **Sending**

### **Benediction**

P: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**C: Amen.**

P: The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: The God of all grace ✝ bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Share the good news!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

*Abbreviations*

P: Pastor/Presiding Minister

**C: Congregation**

***ELW: Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal***

*Those serving in worship today*

Prelude

Hymnody

Director of Faith Formation

Presiding Minister

Jeff Denlinger, Piano

Jeff Denlinger, Piano

Jimmi Kocher-Hillmer, Organ

Christopher Atwood

Pastor Ross Carmichael

*Liturgy and Hymnody Acknowledgements*

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