June 5, 2022 Pentecost Sunday



St. John's Lutheran Church Melrose Park, PA

PENTECOST SUNDAY June 5, 2022



Flower Dedications

In Remembrance of the wedding anniversary of our parents, Bernice J. Goodchild & Robert M. Goodchild, by their daughters, Louise & Ellen Goodchild & Robin Stab In loving memory of Annie Elizabeth Nickel & Marian Ramsey by their loving granddaughter & goddaughter, Joan Elizabeth Seader

John 13: 34-5 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

St. John's Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ congregation. At St. John's Lutheran Church, we welcome all because God welcomes all. We welcome all without regard to race, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or relationship status. We welcome all without regard to economic circumstances, physical or mental ability, age or legal status. Whether you are a believer or a seeker, we welcome you.
We at St. John's believe that all people have infinite worth and embrace our differences as children of God. As a community of faith, we are called to be facilitators of peace, harmony and reconciliation in our broken world. We welcome you to join us.

Please make sure your cell phones are silenced. Thank you!

INTRODUCTION

On Pentecost, we celebrate that we have been given an Advocate to accompany us. Poured out in wind and fire, water, wine, and bread, the Holy Spirit abides in and among us. We give thanks that God speaks to each of us, no matter our origins, language, or life path. Filled with the Spirit of truth, we go out from worship to proclaim the saving power of Christ's love and the freedom of God's grace with all the world.

PRELUDE Choral Variations on Veni Creator Op. 4 (1930) Maurice Duruflè

WELCOME

Welcome to worship this morning in person and via Zoom! We're glad you have joined us today! You are invited to participate in the service as you feel called and comfortable.

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia! In the waters of baptism, we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ, and we are a new creation. For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God, who was, who is, and who is to come.

We thank you, God, for your river of life, flowing freely from your throne: through the earth, through the city, through every living thing. You rescued Noah and his family from the flood; You opened wide the sea for the Israelites. Now in these waters you flood us with mercy, and our sin is drowned forever. You open the gate of righteousness and we pass safely through. In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters. You nourish us and enclose us in safety. You call us forth and send us out. In lush and barren places, you are with us. You have become our salvation. Now breathe upon this water and awaken your church once more. Claim us again as your beloved and holy people. Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear. To you, our Beginning and our End, our Shepherd and Lamb, be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever.

Amen.



***GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**



***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God our creator, the resurrection of your Son offers life to all the peoples of earth. By your Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love, empowering our lives for service and our tongues for praise, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*FIRST READING: Acts 2:1-21 A reading from Acts

When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. 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. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, 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 Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

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. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

'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.
Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.
And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.
The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

*PSALM: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

How manifold are your works, O LORD!

In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number,

living things both small and great.

There go the ships to and fro,

and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.

All of them look to you

to give them their food in due season.

You give it to them; they gather it;

you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

When you hide your face, they are terrified;
when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.
You send forth your Spirit, and they are created;
and so you renew the face of the earth.
May the glory of the LORD endure forever;
O LORD, rejoice in all your works.
You look at the earth and it trembles;
you touch the mountains and they smoke.
I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;
I will praise my God while I have my being.
May these words of mine please God.
I will rejoice in the LORD.
Bless the LORD, O my soul.
Hallelujah!

*SECOND READING: Romans 8:14-17 A reading from Romans.

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



*GOSPEL: John 14:8-17 [25-27]

The holy gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.

Philip said to [Jesus,] "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

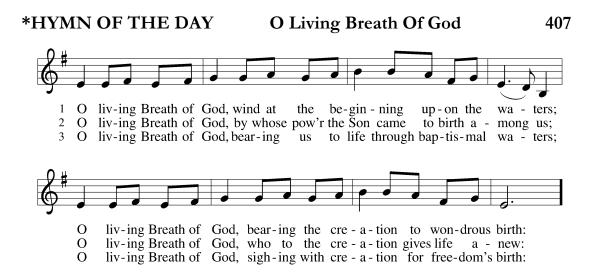
"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

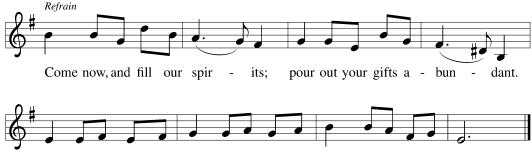
["I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."]

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

*SERMON Rev. Felicia Swartz





O liv-ing Breath of God, Ho-ly Spir-it, breathe in us as we pray.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed. I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. 13

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Holy Living One, Holy Moving One, burst open our locked doors, and by your Spirit drive us out into the world proclaiming your mighty deeds. Direct our words and actions, trusting the Advocate abiding in and among us. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Feed and care for creatures that remain hidden to us yet contribute to the vibrancy of your creation. Train us to interact with creation from a place of wonder, awe, and reverence. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Send your Spirit to places where language is a barrier to justice and mercy for those who seek it. Bless the work of translators, interpreters, and teachers. Promote understanding for the sake of those longing for true freedom and peace. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Comfort all who live in constant fear and any who are suffering. Remind them that your Spirit has made them your children and that they are never far from your glory. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Guide all bishops, pastors, missionaries, and other ministers of the gospel. Foster our relationships with partner synods and local ministry partners, that our visions and actions are Spirit-led. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Gather your people across regions, nations, and lands. Root our common life in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ, and by your Spirit bind us together with all the saints who have gone before us. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your lifegiving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.



***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

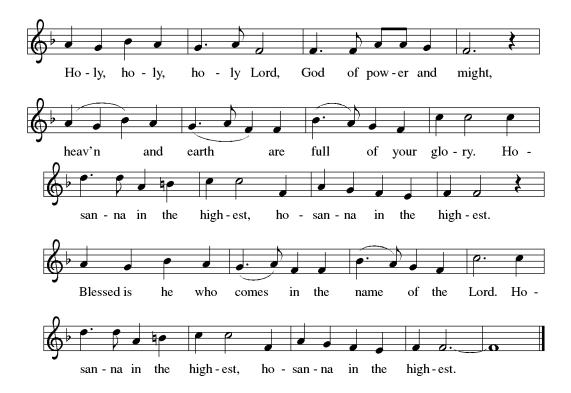
Living God, you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all. Reach out to us and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

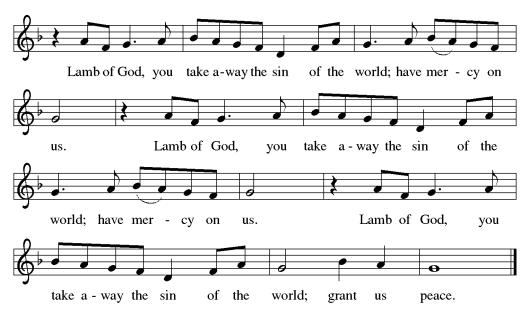
With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

*LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us now pray as Jesus taught us: 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. 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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

*LAMB OF GOD



***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

The risen Christ dwells with us here. All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come. **Thanks be to God.**

***COMMUNION**

The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you. **Amen.**

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

***BLESSING**

God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**



*DISMISSAL Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia! Go in peace. Tell what God has done. Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE Choral Variations on Veni Creator Finale Maurice Duruflè

Copyrights and Permissions

Confession and Forgiveness, Hymn of Praise, Prayer of the Day, Gospel Acclamation, Prayers of the People, Prayer of Dedication, Blessing, Dismissal, Augsburg Fortress from Sundays and Seasons. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Annual License #21709 Come Down, O Love Divine. Outside USA. Music from *The English Hymnal* ©Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind. Text ©2000 GIA Publications, Inc.

O Living Breath of God. Spanish Text ©1979 Editorial Bonum. English text ©1988 Augsburg Fortress.

Pastor Felicia Swartz - Contact Information-Email: rev.stjohnsmelrose@gmail.com Phone: 570-428-3522 Office hours (please note that hours are subject to change as emergencies arise): Wednesday: 10:00 am ~ 2:00 pm Friday: 10:00 am ~ 2:00 pm We pray for Patricia, (Marcia Boraas), Mark Murphy, (Roberta Coyle), Dolores "Lorie" Mary McMahon DiGregorio and her husband, Richard Francis DiGregoria, Sr., Donna McMahon (Madeleine McMahon), Russell Bosler, Sandy (Catherine Nold), Sarah Likly, Anne Betz, Jamie McCarthy, Debbie McCusker, Kate Saunders (Steve Brown & Sue Kershner), Dottie Malloy (friend of Norajean Flanagan), Jaclyn Kirchhoff, Joan Englebert, Wendy Beatty-Burg, Bridget Diamond McHugh, John & Joann Ducshl, Susan Hanes Stillman (friends of Rosemary & Bruce Hanes), Joyce Hirschberg, Christopher Rocklyn, Robert Rocklyn, Ron and Ryan Turner, Brittany Nentwig, Bette Wenrich (Louis Ley), Fran Pinnel, Louise Goodchild, Jack Saarela, friends and family of AJ, Debra Sloane, James Rasmussen, Susan Collins and all who are in need of healing in body, mind, or spirit.

We pray for the family and friends of John Betz.

We pray for our homebound members Louise Goodchild, Fran & Roger Pinnel, Evelyn Reutemann, and Marionne Adshead.

Giving Thanks for caregivers treating all affected by Covid19 and its variants.

Finally, we pray for those suffering from Covid-19 and its variants, those experiencing hunger, homelessness, those struggling with addiction, and those who are serving the church as missionaries.

Fran Pinnel is in the Cheltenham Nursing Home, 600 W. Cheltenham Avenue, Philadelphia, PA, 19126 for visits/cards.

Announcements for Our Life Together

Wednesday Night Prayer: We will be continuing our new practice of live prayer time together on Wednesday's at 7pm on the church's Instagram page.

Book Club: Book Club is now reading *The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison. Date for our discussion meeting will be determined.

Weekly Instagram Live Sermon- Every Tuesday at 7:00 pm anyone is welcome to join us on our St. John's Instagram page for a live retelling of the week's sermon. If you missed worship on Sunday and would like to hear the message for the week, this is a great opportunity. Or if you want to share the message with others you know who cannot be with us on Sundays, feel free.

From Sanctuary to Street-From Lament to Action: There will be an Interfaith Service honoring those taken by gun violence on June 9 at 2:00 pm at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter & Paul, 1723 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA. Questions? Contact Rev. Edward Livingston at 215.222.1012, ext. 8.

Summer Outdoor Worship: Join us this summer for multiple services in the great outdoors. We will gather at our normal time on every third Sunday from June to September-- June 19, July 17, August 21, and September 18 outside in our parking lot.

Breakfast Bags: The last Sunday of every month this summer we will be taking time following worship to pack breakfast bags for The Breathing Room.

Summer Church Picnic: Join us on Sunday, August 21 after our outdoor worship for a church picnic. This will be a potluck, so please bring a dish to share. Also, it would be helpful to bring along your own chair for the meal.

Directory: St. John's spring 2022 Directory is available in the back of the Sanctuary. If you would like to receive the Directory by mail, please let Linda know.

Summer Coffee Hour Trivia Hour- Have you ever wondered what your fellow parishioner's favorite color is? Maybe you want to know whether everyone likes pie better than cake? If you have ever wanted to know more about your neighbor in worship join us for a time of fellowship and fun as we gather during the summer for some trivia together. Every 2nd Sunday of the month following worship we will gather for a friendly game of trivia where we will answer some fun questions to help us get to know one another even better.

Worship & Coffee Hour Update: Based upon information from the CDC and Montgomery County, and with advice from the Synod, St. John's is strongly urging all who attend in-person worship to wear a facial covering whether you are vaccinated or not. We will also resume normal coffee hour following worship.

Offering Envelopes: Please continue to send in your weekly offering envelopes. You can mail checks directly to the office or place envelopes with cash/check through the mail slot on the handicapped door. Linda will acknowledge receipt of your donation. Thank you for your continued support of St. John's. Social Ministry – Food Cupboard needs food: URGENT! Thanks to all of you who have dropped off food donations at St. John's. Deliveries are ongoing, primarily to the Interfaith Food Cupboard at Salem Baptist in Roslyn. Hours are Wednesday-Thursday and Saturday 10-1. If you can get food to St. John's, we can promptly get it to those who are in need. Please contact Linda to arrange a food drop off at St. John's, or you may always donate directly to one of our designated food cupboard partners. Please, no glass can be accepted. Thank you for continuing this important ministry!

Pastor's Discretionary Fund: Now that we have a full-time pastor we are looking for donations to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. This fund is an important part of the church's outreach to those in need. The Pastor's Discretionary Fund can be used to help people in need with utility bills, grocery assistance, rent, gas funds, etc. Please consider donating to this important outreach effort.

Our next Communion Sunday—Sunday June, 19th 2022. On Communion Sundays, individual 'self-serve' wine/wafer or grape juice/wafer combinations will be available in the back of the sanctuary at the start of worship for those attending in person. They can also be picked up in advance at the church office by those who wish to participate, but will be attending via Zoom. If you plan to share in Communion from home, please call Linda in the church office to arrange a time for pick-up during the week prior to each Communion Sunday.



Social Ministry Summer Drive: During June, the Social Ministry Committee will be collecting donations to help support cats and dogs at the Montgomery County SPCA. We would appreciate donations of cat food, dog food, cat and dog treats, non-clumping kitty litter, puppy pads, clean towels and blankets.

Please call the church office at 215-635-3465 to arrange a drop off of the items or bring to worship on any given Sunday.

Thanking you in advance for your generosity!



St. John's Lutheran Church 1224 Melrose Avenue, Melrose Park, PA 19027 Office open Monday through Friday, 10:00 – 2:00 (215) 635-3465, <u>officesaintjohns@comcast.net</u> Pastor Felicia Swartz, <u>rev.stjohnsmelrose@gmail.com</u> Cell Phone: 570-428-3522

Following the way of Jesus, St. John's gathers as a caring community to serve our neighbors and share God's love.