

St. John Lutheran Church

Receive the Holy Spirit

JOHN 20:22



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ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Rev. Tammy P. Harmer

Deacon Betsey Eley & Deacon Ken Weaver

DAY OF PENTECOST • MAY 24, 2026

Reverent Reflection

Prelude

Welcome

Church Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

- D. Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
- C. **Amen.**
- D. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C. **Amen.**
- D. Most merciful God,
- C. **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**
- Amen.**
- D. God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
- C. **Amen**

Gathering Hymn: Spirit of Gentleness (#396)

Greeting

- D. 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.**

Kyrie p. 147

- D. In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**
- D. For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

- C. **Lord, have mercy.**
- D. For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**
- D. For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**
- D. Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C. **Amen.**

Canticle p. 149

- D. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.

- D. The Lord be with you.
- C. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray:

O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Word

First Reading: Acts 2:1-21

¹When 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 people 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, "Fellow Jews 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:

¹⁷In 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.'"

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Response: "Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. "

²⁴How manifold are your works, O Lord! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.
²⁵**Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number, living things both small and great.**

²⁶There go the ships to and fro, and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.

²⁷**All of them look to you to give them their food in due season. R**

²⁸You give it to them; they gather it; you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

²⁹**When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.**

³⁰You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth.

³¹**May the glory of the Lord endure forever; O Lord, rejoice in all your works. R**

³²You look at the earth and it trembles; you touch the mountains and they smoke.

³³**I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being.**

³⁴May these words of mine please God. I will rejoice in the Lord.

^{35b}**Bless the Lord, O my soul. Hallelujah! R**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

^{3b}No one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, ⁵and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation p. 151

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Gospel: John 20:19-23

The holy gospel according to St. John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Children's Sermon

Anthem

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.

Prayers of Intercession

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

O God, you send the Holy Spirit to gather your church into one. Inspire all ministers of the gospel to speak prophetic and hope-filled words to all whom they encounter. Bless the work of interreligious dialogue.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You send the Holy Spirit to renew the face of the earth. Protect all living things, bring forth clean water and abundant food, and grant us wonder as we contemplate all you have made.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You send the Holy Spirit to break down the barriers of communication among nations. Bestow peace in war-torn areas, guide all in government and society to work for justice, and guard those serving in the armed forces, especially this weekend as we remember those who died in service to their country.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You send the Holy Spirit to accompany those who feel abandoned. Provide food for those who hunger and drink for those who thirst, soothe those who are anxious or bereaved, comfort those who are sick or suffering, and answer all who call upon your name (especially).

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You send the Holy Spirit through the gift of baptism. Bless both those preparing for or affirming their baptism. May they be encouraged by this community of faith as they live out their baptismal promises.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for peace throughout the world: in our nation, Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, Lebanon, Sudan, and all war-torn areas. We pray for our military and their families.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You send the Holy Spirit to console us in our grief. We give you thanks for our ancestors in the faith (especially scientists Nicolaus Copernicus and Leonard Euler) whose witness to your mighty works continues to inspire our lives.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Thanksgiving for the Word p. 220

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Let us pray:

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Blessing

Sending Hymn: Christ Be Our Light (#715)

Dismissal

Postlude

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	9:30 am	Sunday Morning Worship Service
	10:30 am	Band Rehearsal
	After Worship Service	Summer Sundays (casual youth activities) thru Sept. 13th)
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Band Rehearsal
Ongoing		Shelf Stable Milk Collection Diaper Collection for Pantry, Holy Communion, Berlin
Sunday, May 31st	2:00 pm	Faith250 Workshop at Cross Keys United Methodist Church
Tuesday, June 2nd	7:00 pm	Bible Study in the Parish House
Sunday, June 7th	11:30 am to 1:00 pm	Strawberry Festival on the Church Grounds
Monday, June 8th	7:00 pm	Council Meeting in the Parish House
Saturday, June 13th	11:30 am	Community Luncheon in the Ed. Building
Sunday, June 14th	3:00 pm	Ministerium Faith250 Unity Tree Planting (Community Garden)
Wednesday, June 17th	7:00 pm	Grief Gathering in the Parish House Tea Room

Please note: All activities, dates and times are subject to change.

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following in your prayers for healing:

Jen Bailey	Marie Lentine Douglas	Quincy Jones	Bill Murray	Eric Sprengel
Krystal Booras	Tracey Drew	Ed Kagen	Renate Murray	Bill Steel
Michael Botti	Indie Fisher	Tracey Kelly	Erica Polito	Carol Taylor
Brian Byrnes	Stephanie Friant	Carl Knopp	Samantha Reed	Henry Tesone
Meadow Cantoral	Rhea Fryor	Deb Kuhn	Kimberly Rickert	Bill Todt
Randy Cantoral	Ashley Fuhrman	Donna Leek	Ashley Rosser	George Vaneman, Sr.
Debbie Capasso	Bob Garner	Bob Lindamood	Dorcas Schellhas	George Van Wagner
Janet Cappuccio	Angela Guedes	Tim McCarthy	Jean Schlotz	Beverly Warming
Joe Condoli	Stan Harmer	Joanne McVelli	Finn Schureman	Mary White
Sandra DeRitis	Michelle Walk Hewitt	Melanie Miles	Gladys Sheppard	Helen Yezusko
Helen Dominic	Valerie Hoffmann	Kent Montford	Meilani Showell	Bob Zielsdorf
Frank Donovan	Makenzie Jack	Sue Murphy	Frank Siderio III	

Please notify the office if you want to add or remove a person from this list.

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

Altar Flowers are available for dedication for \$30. Please fill out the envelope located in the pew rack at least one week before you wish to dedicate the flowers. The card may be placed in the offering plate or left in the office. Please be sure to note the date on the white board in the Narthex. Please leave payment in the Church Office.

WORSHIP BULLETIN DEDICATION

The cost (\$23) of the Weekly Worship Bulletin to fully cover the cost of paper and printing is donated by Henry and Marie Fickenscher in memory of their loved ones.

This Worship Bulletin is printed on paper that is made with renewable resources from third-party certified, sustainably managed forests.

Please place any Worship Bulletins to be discarded in the recycle bin in the narthex.

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Website: www.stjohnselc1002.org

faith250

Cross Keys United Methodist Church
1644 N. Main St, Williamstown, NJ
Sunday, May 31st • 2:00 PM

Sacred Bonds, Shared Hopes

Session #4 of 4

faith250 is 4 workshops hosted and facilitated by different clergy members of the ministerium. It is an American Scripture Project focused on "The Spiritual Side of American Democracy" using sacred, traditional Scripture along side American texts (i.e., The New Colossus, The Declaration of Independence, What to the Slave is the Fourth of July, and America the Beautiful).



Every Sunday from May 17th to September 13th
after the Worship Service in the Ed. Building.

Bible verse theme every Sunday with
crafts and outdoor games.

Please come and join the fun!

Bible Study



Tuesday, June 2nd
at 7:00 pm
in the Parish House

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNUAL

Ice Cream 🍓 Cake 🌸 Strawberries 🍓 Hot Dogs 🌸 Beverages
Freewill Donation 🍓 Music by "St. John's Little Big Band"

SUNDAY, JUNE 7th 🌸 11:30 AM TO 1:00 PM
1002 S. MAIN STREET, WILLIAMSTOWN, NJ

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL



Monday, June 8th
7:00 pm in the Parish House

Church Council Meeting



COMMUNITY LUNCHEON
Saturday, June 13th • 11:30 in the Ed. Building.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Spirit of Gentleness

396

Refrain



Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness



call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,



stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.



- 1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
- 2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
- 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
- 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;
From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;



and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing:
and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,
and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,
our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.

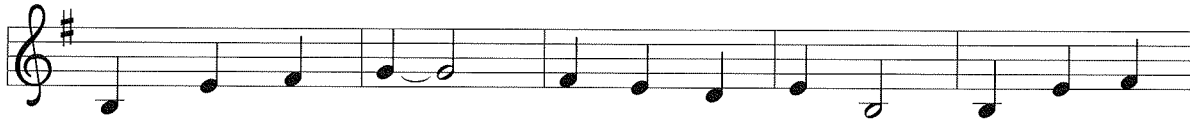


“A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings.”
then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.
when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.
With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.

Refrain

Christ, Be Our Light

715



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Refrain
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.