

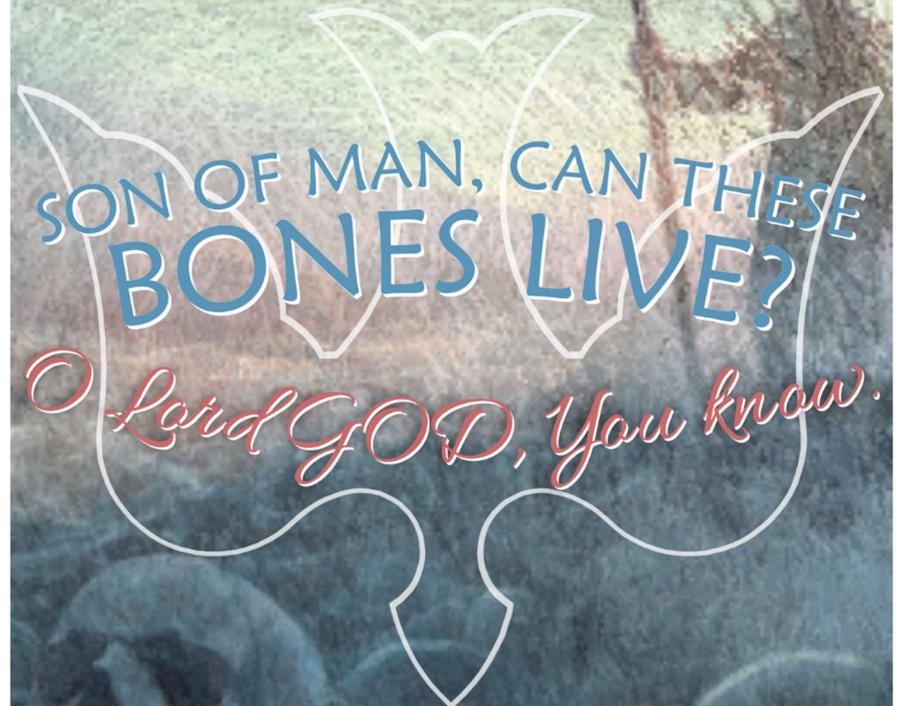
May 23, 2021

Pentecost/Promotion

Organ: Teresa Bernthal

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PRE-SERVICE MEDITATION

Psalm 51:10ff

¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
¹¹ Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. ¹³ Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. ¹⁵ O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. ¹⁶ For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering. ¹⁷ The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

✠ Order of Divine Worship ✠

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN: TLH #224:1,2 "Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord!"

- 1. Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord! Be all Thy graces now out poured
On each believer's mind and heart; Thy fervent love to them impart.
Lord, by the brightness of Thy light, Thou in the faith dost men unite
Of every land and every tongue; This to Thy praise, O Lord, our God,
be sung. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**
- 2. Thou holy Light, Guide Divine, Oh, cause the Word of Life to shine!
Teach us to know our God aright And call Him Father with delight.
From every error keep us free; Let none but Christ our Master be
That we in living faith abide, In Him, our Lord, with all our might
confide. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

P We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

G **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from *conception*.
In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

P God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will!

G Amen!

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; May 24-29, '21

Mon Ezekiel 37:1-14 In ch. 36 God prepped Ezekiel to expect renewal for Israel, but this visit to the cemetery was a shock, all the same. The skeletons responded to the LORD's command and to His breath of life, illustrating the miracle of new life God was preparing for dead Israel. God does this miracle every time he enlivens a dried-up soul by His Spirit delivered via His Word. His Pentecost miracle is still functioning in our world. Thank You, Lord Jesus.

Tues John 14:25-27 Jesus prepped His disciples to await the Holy Spirit of the Trinity, Jesus' replacement in the classroom of life. The Spirit reviews what Jesus spoke, so that Jesus' words will never be forgotten. Bottom line: The Holy Spirit uses Jesus' words to deliver God's merciful forgiveness, which brings peace to troubled, fearful hearts. We know; we were/are there.

Wed Acts 2:1-21 Jesus gave His spin on the agricultural festival of Pentecost by sending His Holy Spirit down to Earth, enabling the disciples to break the language barrier, preaching the good news of forgiveness in a way that really resonated with foreigners (5-14). Peter clarified that God had pre-programmed Pentecost into Israel's history (14-21). How great Thou art!

Thurs Psalm 51:10-14 Yes, the **Offertory** (TLH 12, 22) quotes this psalm after we have confessed our sins (1-6) and are assured that God still loves us. In the **Offertory** we tunefully beseech God to keep up His good work, to enliven us with His Spirit to live in harmony with Him (13). That's a psalm/ prayer worth rehearsing and repeating every day of our lives.

Fri Luke 12:32-34 If your world has shrunk—narrowed by illness, sorrow, or other limitations—you will benefit from God's assurance that you belong to His flock. Though it be a small flock, He delights to center His attention on each member and shares His treasures with every member (33). His treasury is supported without taxes, is safe from terrorists and cyber-attack, secure against inflation and/or depression—a treasure "out-of-this-world"!

Sat Acts 26:12-18 [If you want more details, check out the accounts in Acts 9:1-16 and 22:6-16.] Jesus explained: He stopped Paul in his tracks because He wanted to use Paul as His spokesman. But why choose such a renegade? Because Paul was the best example of what Jesus can do: He can turn the worst sinner into a messenger of God's grace and mercy. God can change the most hostile, obnoxious hater of Jesus into the opposite. Paul's intense personality, his toughness, and his resiliency would be useful when he testified that Jesus had acquired salvation, so hostile Jews would repent and receive forgiveness of their sins. Praise the Lord! Stay tuned for further developments.

INTROIT

Ps. 104:24, 27-28, 30

- P** Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia.
- C** **O LORD, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom have You made them all; the earth is full of Your creatures.**
- P** These all look to You, to give them their food in due season.
- C** **When You give it to them, they gather it up; when You open Your hand, they are filled with good things.**
- P** When You send forth Your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the ground.

LORD, HAVE MERCY and GLORY TO GOD

WS p.13

C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy
on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,

Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:

We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
Who, with the Spir - it wor - shipped and a - dored,

Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

- P** Let us pray. O God, . . . who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

1st SCRIPTURE READING – John 14:25-27 "These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

2nd SCRIPTURE READING – Acts 2:1-21 When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. ⁵ Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. ⁶ And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. ⁷ And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? ⁹ Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, ¹¹ both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians-- we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." ¹² And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³ But others mocking said, "They are filled with new wine." ¹⁴ 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. ¹⁵ For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. ¹⁶ But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷ "'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; ¹⁸ even



Galatians 4:6 *And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"*

I Believe in the Holy Spirit

Only a fool would try to take credit away from God, yet this happens every day. There are those who try to steal the Father's creative power, crediting instead the power of random chance. There are those who try to steal the Son's free grace, citing their own goodness as deserving God's love. We understand and believe that both creation and redemption are God's work alone. But when it comes to the work of the Holy Spirit, are we willing to give Him all the glory? Isn't there some reasonableness in me that leads me to believe when others doubt?

Without the Holy Spirit working faith in our hearts, God would be no more than stranger to us. His Word would read like a complex textbook that we couldn't understand. And the idea of standing before the Lord's judgment throne would bring nothing but terror and uncertainty.

Thanks to the Holy Spirit, none of this need be the case. He cries out to the Father from within us, pleading for mercy, for forgiveness, for deliverance from evil. God answers as if it were you and me crying out, happily providing the solution to our every need. Now the Spirit has opened my eyes to see a God Who loves me personally. He has taught me to read His Word and find my hope in Christ. And approaching God's judgment throne is now no more terrifying for me than it is for a toddler to run into the open arms of his daddy.

*Let me see my Savior's face, Let me all His beauties trace;
Show those glorious truths to me Which are only known to Thee.*

Prayer List **Patti Meno** continues to receive regular dialysis and is awaiting a kidney transplant. **Johanna Jaehnigen** remains mostly housebound. **Paulette Galstad** is suffering through bad back pain and other health problems. **Emily Kuehne** suffers from total blindness and severe knee pain, among other ailments. **Greg Tincher** is recovering from his recent surgeries at home and receiving frequent therapy. **Rudy Enriquez** is receiving treatment for throat cancer. **Shirley Rosenberry** is struggling with severe knee pain, please pray for successful treatment.

Additional prayers are requested for our dear brother in Christ, **Jyothi B.** in India who is in the hospital being treated for Covid. On May 15th, he was transferred to the ICU where he continues to receive treatment. Pray for the Lord's care for him and the synod which he serves.

PRAYERS & the BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

P The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

C Amen!

HYMN: WS #800 "Go, My Children With My Blessing"

- 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.**

✠ Announcements ✠

Congratulations to all of the students of Immanuel Lutheran School on their promotion to the next grade level. Also

congratulations to all of the graduates in our congregation. **Mason Goodwin** graduated today from Immanuel Lutheran School. He plans to attend Lakeland Christian High School next fall. **Hayden Morris** is graduating from Discovery Middle School and plans to attend Winter Haven High School next fall. **Mason Kuehne** graduated this past week from East River High School and plans to attend Valencia College starting in the fall. Please keep these and all of our students in your prayers!

Call Received – Pastor has received the call to become the pastor of Redeemer Lutheran in Cheyenne, WY. Please keep him in your prayers.

Last Week: WH – 57

Total Offering = \$5,140

General = \$4,640 | Tuition = \$350 | ILC Scholarship = \$50 | Property Improvement = \$100

Cleaner (5/29): Rodebaugh | **Acolyte (5/30):** Maxwell Kuehne

Looking Ahead...	
✠	May 26: Zoom Bible Class 6:30pm
✠	May 30: Masks-On Service 9 am

on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹ And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; ²⁰ the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day. ²¹ And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

- P** Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.
- C** ♪ Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

CONFESSION OF FAITH *Explanation to the 3rd Article of the Creed*

The Apostles' Creed is a summary of Christian faith as taught by the Apostles.

- C** I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him. But the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified, and kept me in true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all sins to me and all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead and give to me and all believers in Christ eternal life. This is most certainly true. Amen.

HYMN: WS #739 "Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling"

- 1. Holy Spirit, ever dwelling In the holiest realms of light;
Holy Spirit, ever brooding O'er a world of gloom and night,
Holy Spirit, ever raising Those on earth to thrones on high;
Living, life-imparting Spirit, You we praise and magnify.**
- 2. Holy Spirit, ever living As the Church's very life, Holy Spirit, ever striving
Through us in a ceaseless strife, Holy Spirit, ever forming
In the Church the mind of Christ; You we praise with endless worship
For Your gracious gifts unpriced.**
- 3. Holy Spirit, ever working Through the Church's ministry,
Teaching, strength'ning, and absolving, Setting captive sinners free,
Holy Spirit, ever binding Age to age and soul to soul,
In communion never ending, You we worship and extol.**

SERMON – 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. ² 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. ³ And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵ Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ 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." ⁷ 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. ⁸ 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. ⁹ 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." ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ 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 indeed cut off.' ¹² 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. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ 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."

The Bones Tell *Our* Story

OFFERTORY

WS p.16

In this prayer we OFFER God our hearts, asking Him for that best of all gifts, the Holy Spirit.

- ☞** *♩* **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.**

HYMN: TLH #382:1,3,5,6

"Lord, We Confess"

1. **Lord, we confess our numerous faults; How great our guilt has been, How vain and foolish all our thoughts, And all our lives were sin.**
3. **'Tis not by works of righteousness Which our own hands have done, But we are saved by God's free grace Abounding through His Son.**
5. **'Tis through the purchase of His death Who hung upon the tree The Spirit is sent down to breathe On such dry bones as we.**
6. **Raised from the dead, we live anew; And justified by grace. We shall appear in glory, too, And see our Father's face.**

GENERAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER

ILS Children Sing

"I Am His Lamb"

ILS Promotion and Graduation

Second Grade

Aubree Brooks
Katrina Bernthal

Third Grade

Lexi Kerwin

Fourth Grade

Angellina Rivera Oquendo
Bradley Jackson
Levi Chambers
Mason Loatwall
Valeria Rodriguez Nova
Yizreel Lopez
Zaiden Robinson

Fifth Grade

Ariahna Gonzalez
Clayton Hargrove
Erick Andino
Seth Bernthal
Zachary Conn

Sixth Grade

Edward Andino
Landon Goodwin
Madalynn Loatwall
Raelyn Wells
Serenity Gonzalez
Trista Williams

Seventh Grade

Grant Bernthal

Eighth Grade

Gracianne Clough
Mason Goodwin



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