

**Redeemer Lutheran Church of Leisure World
and
St. Theodore of Canterbury Episcopal Church
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***Holy Communion Service
Pentecost Sunday
May 19, 2024***

PRELUDE

played by organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

WOV [Blue Book] # 687

“Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading”

GREETING

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Let us seek the healing grace and love of God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

C **God of grace and glory, you have brought us through the night of our human imperfection into the light of Jesus' resurrection. Our lives and our world are in need of your forgiveness. Raise us to new life in Christ, O God. Renew us as you make all things new. Rescue us from failings and fallings. Restore us by your grace, and reconcile us that we may live with you, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**

P Let us rejoice with all creation! The light and love of the risen Christ cleanses us from all that would keep us from God. We are forgiven followers of Jesus Christ who loves us dearly and + sets us free from the errors of our ways. Alleluia!

C **Alleluia! Amen!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

C Mighty God, you breathe life into our beings, 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. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD’S HOLY WORD PROCLAIMED

INTRODUCTION

Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate 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 languages, to us when we are in need or our hearts are weak. 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.

The First Lesson is from Acts chapter 2 verses 1-21

Originally Pentecost was a Jewish thanksgiving-type festival celebrated seven weeks after Passover. On this particular Pentecost, however, the Holy Spirit is poured out upon the entire community of believers just as Jesus had promised and the scriptures had prophesied. Empowered by the Spirit, the entire community bears witness to God's activity in multiple languages.

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 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."

The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. (Ps. 104:30)

²⁴How manifold are your works, O LORD!

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

²⁵Yonder 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.

²⁷All of them look to you

to give them their food in due season.

²⁸You give it to them; they gather it;

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

²⁹When 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.

³¹May the glory of the LORD endure forever;

O LORD, rejoice in all your works.

³²You look at the earth and it trembles;

you touch the mountains and they smoke.

³³I 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!

The Second Lesson is from Romans chapter 8 verses 22-27

By pouring the Holy Spirit into our hearts, God gives us the promised first fruit of eternal life so that we await God's future in hope. In the meantime, the Spirit also intercedes for us by carrying the prayers of our weak human hearts to God.

²²We 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.

The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

(Congregation stands and sings “Halle, Halle, Hallelujah” following the Second Reading.)

The Gospel Lesson is from John chapter 15 verses 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.

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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Bishop Murray D. Finck

"Breathing, Believing, Baptizing"

CHOIR ANTHEM

"Every Time I Feel the Spirit"

Harmony and the Tambourine

Susan Sinner

Thank you to Hiroko Minei and Christina Paek for their beautiful duet last Sunday.

THE BAPTISM OF HOLLY LYNN AMIREH

P In Holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; in the waters of Baptism we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life. By water and the Holy Spirit we are made members of the Church which is the body of Christ. As we live with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

Holly is presented for Baptism

Parents and Godparents: We present Holly to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

The minister addresses the Parents and Godparents.

P In Christian love you have presented Holly for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring her to the services of God's house, and teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As she grows in years, place in her hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for her instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of her Baptism and in communion with Church, she may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ.

Do you promise to fulfill these obligations?

Parents and Godparents We do.

Baptismal Blessing and Prayer

P Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Holy Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things. In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that Holly, who is here baptized, may be given new life. We thank you as you wash away the sin of all who are cleansed by your baptismal waters and promises. Bring us all, and Holly, too, to be inheritors of your glorious kingdom. To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen.

*Addressing the baptismal group and the congregation:
Renunciation of Sin and Confession of Faith*

P I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

P Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

R We do.

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

R We do.

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead?

R We do.

P Do you 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?

R We do.

BAPTISM AND ANOINTING

P Holly Lynn Amireh, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the baptized.

P Holly Lynn, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

R Amen.

BAPTISMAL HYMN

“Jesus Loves Me This I Know”

Presentation of the White Baptismal Cloth and the Baptismal Candle

P Please keep this white baptismal towel as a remembrance that Holly has been clothed with the robe of Christ’s love and grace. Jesus Christ, who is the Light of the World, commissioned us to teach and baptize. This candle reminds us that Holly has been baptized into God’s holy name. Jesus said, “Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16)

R Amen.

Blessing of Parents and Godparents.

P O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon Wendy, Nicholas, Paige and Ryan, and the rest of Holly's family and friends. Let them ever rejoice in the gift and privilege you have given them. Help them to be teachers and examples of righteousness for Holly. Strengthen them in their own Baptism so that they may share eternally with this precious little girl the salvation and promise you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

Presentation to the congregation.

P In Holy Baptism God the Father has made us members of his Church. Today, we receive Holly in Jesus' name as our sister in Christ that together we might hear God's Word, receive His gifts, and proclaim the praises of him who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

C Amen. We welcome you in the name of the Lord.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L ... God of grace,
C hear our prayer.

OFFERTORY

"Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart"

OFFERING PRAYER

P Risen Lord, you call us to believe and tell the story of your grace. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Help us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LBW [Green Book] Page 71

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup. The Table of the Lord is ready. All are welcome!

Communion Distribution (The Congregation is invited by the ushers to come forward to receive Communion. If you are unable to come to the altar, Communion will be brought to you in the pew. We believe Christ is truly present in, with, and under the bread and wine/juice. Anyone with any questions may speak with the Pastor. The inside circle of glasses contains grape juice.)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

C Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Now send us forth from this heavenly banquet, these green pastures and still waters, to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

BLESSING

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

WOV [Blue Book] # 684

"Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

DISMISSAL

P Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

played by organist

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Interim Pastor: The Rev. Murray D. Finck, Bishop Emeritus

Organist: Sharon Heck

Flowers are given by: *Ryan and Paige Mize, Godparents, in Honor of Holly's Baptism Today.*

THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY

<i>Presider:</i>	The Rev. Murray D. Finck, Bishop Emeritus
<i>Communion Assistant</i>	Carmen Leslie
<i>Acolyte</i>	Sylvia Makus
<i>Reader / Prayer Leader:</i>	Carol Costello
<i>Financial Team:</i>	Wendy Alfageme and Sylvia Makus

THIS WEEK

Wednesday: Bible Study 12:00 noon

Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Communion Service

Redeemer Finance: May Offering through May 12, 2024

Budgeted Monthly Expense	\$7,308.00
Offering	<u>\$3,625.00</u>
Needed to meet budget	\$3,683.00

CHURCH COUNCIL

President Kay Pushman, **Vice-President** Wendy Alfageme,
Secretary Nancy Anderson, **Treasurer** Phyllis Mackey, **Finance**
Chair Doris Weinert

Members at Large, Sandy Langdale, Carmen Leslie, Betty Lucero,
Sylvia Makus, and Michael Vanvales

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Jean, Kathy, Wendy, Beverly, Dena, Nancy, Evelyn, Shirlene, Jerry, Carol, Mickey, Evelyn, Gloria, Christa, Alice, Barbara, Cedric, Lucy, Karen, Kelly, Raymond, Dick, Marilyn, Brian, Carl, Jessica, Carol, Rose, Ken, Sandra, Elaine, Carmen, Barbara, Betty, Nancy, Phyllis, Sylvia, Gil, Flo, Eileen, Erich, Leslie, Linda, Ronnie, Kay, Violet, Linda, Ron, Collette, Lisa, Patty, Barbara, Joan, Dee, Susan, Norma, Lathy, Juanita, Clarence, Debbie, Joan, Anne, Doris, Linda, Bruce, Alma, Martha, Marianne, Robert, Laura, Jim, Loretta, Ray, Patty, Delrie, Bill, Betty, Lorna, M. Teresa, Joan, Mike, Frankie, Donna, Ernie, Eileen, Darlene, Sharon, Danota, Lynne, Ethan, Kurt, Brinly, McCall, Kathy, Nayleen, Nicole, Donald, Maria, Andy, Owen, Tom, Anastasia, Claire, Fran, Chris, Kyle, Michele, Bill, Wes, Sam, Kolt, Maeve, Brigid, Joanna, Dale, Karla, Sands, Gloria, Tom, Rosalia, Wendy, Elaine, and Rachel. Please contact the church to add people to the prayer list.

Please pray for our Bishop David Nagler, (ELCA) and Bishop John Taylor (ECUSA), the victims of the Ukrainian/Russian and Israel/Hamas conflicts, and victims and families of all violence and natural disasters.

Gracious God, none who trust in your Son can be separated from your love. Give to those who live alone peace and contentment in their solitude, hope and fulfillment in their love of you, and joy and companionship in their relations with others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

- † Welcome to everyone this morning, and especially to our guests and visitors. Visitors are invited to fill out a card found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. Everyone is invited down to the Fellowship Hall after Service for coffee, treats, and fellowship (we have tea, too!).
- † We especially welcome Holy Lynn to the Family of God! We are honored that you were baptized into the family of God with us today. She is here with her parents, Nicholas and Wendy Amireh and her cousins, Ryan and Paige Mize as her Godparents, who were also baptized here at Redeemer by Pastor Gil. She is the great-granddaughter of our long time member, Juanita Townsend.
- † Please take a moment and fill out the attendance slip found in the rack in the pews. Please place it in the offertory plate. Thank you!
- † Thank you to Hiroko Minei and Christina Paek for their beautiful duet last Sunday.
- † Please take a look at the latest update of the contact list on the table in the entryway and check that your information is correct and up to date. We are trying to do this correctly.
- † Call on Tuesdays, after 5:00 pm, for the Leisure World Bus if you are having issues with it in regards to getting to Church on Sundays. (562) 431-6586 extension 2379.
- † Pastor Lisa had a neurology appointment on Tuesday. It was a hopeful evaluation. Covid settled in her spinal column. She will be having more test over the coming months. Prayers for her continued progress.
- † Alma Zamzow has been transferred to Alamitos Belmont Rehabilitation 3901 E. 4th St.; Long Beach 90814. You can try calling her on her cell at (562) 522-6259.
- † Pastor Gil Moore is in his new apartment at 12151 Dale St. Apt. C 235; Stanton, CA 90680. His direct line at Rowntree Gardens is (714) 971-6700.

- † Bible Study will be meeting on Wednesday, May 22nd. We are going through Chapter 3 of the book, *Set free from Demons* Mark 5:1-20 [also Matthew 8:28-34 and Luke 8:26-39]. Please attend: bring friends, your Bible and book, and your lunch if you wish!
- † If you are having a little problem with hearing on Sundays, please remember that there are speakers in the ceiling light fixtures so sitting closer to one of those may help.
- † The NEW Flower Chart is available for sign-ups in the entryway. One bouquet is \$15.00. Both are \$30.00. Please include any dedication for your flower request when signing up or include a note beforehand if there is a dedication. If you take the flowers in the plastic holders, please return the holders. We try to reuse them and are currently out of them.
- † Printed copies of our current newsletter are available in the entryway. It is online on our website at: www.redeemersealbeach.com. It is sent out via email, if we have your email address. If you are not receiving the newsletter by email, or the midweek communiqué from the pastor, please put your email address on the attendance sheet in the pew pocket and put it in the collection plate, so we can add you or correct the address we have.