

And they were all filled with the

# HOLY SPIRIT.

ACTS 2:4

## **Pentecost**

*Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church*

*The Day of Pentecost*

*Saturday, May 27, 2023*

**PRELUDE**  
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**OPENING SONG**

**Stand In The Congregation**

I will stand in the congregation,  
and I will exalt you,  
I will stand in the congregation,  
and I will exalt you,  
Let the children of your salvation  
lift their praises, too!  
Halle--lu--jah!

I will stand in the congregation  
and I will praise your name,  
I will stand in the congregation  
and I will praise your name,  
With your people in every nation  
I will shout this praise!  
Halle--lu--jah!

We will join as a congregation  
as we will exalt you,  
We will join as a congregation  
as we will exalt you,  
We will sing as all creation  
lifts the song anew,  
Halle--lu--jah!

Halle--lu--jah! Halle--lu--jah!  
Halle--lu--jah! Halle--lu--jah!  
Let the children of your salvation  
lift their praises too!  
Halle--lu--jah!

**WE CONFESS THE SIN OF OUR SEPARATION**

P: God,

**C: we confess to you and to those around us that we lose ourselves in  
the small spaces of greed and selfishness. We are confined by our**

**limited imaginations and our fear of failing. We live behind walls that shut you out, God. We find ourselves empty, lonely, and afraid. We need someone to rescue us from the tombs we have created. God, we pray that you will open the doors of our self-made confinement and help us walk confidently into your resurrection promise. Amen.**

*A time of silence for meditation and reflection*

## **THE GOOD NEWS OF LIFE TOGETHER WITH GOD**

P: Here is the good news of Easter: The celebration has begun! Just as God rolled away the stone from the garden tomb, God removes the barriers of separation from him and one another that we create. We construct tombs, God moves stones and offers forgiveness for sin and freedom to live an abundant life of joy. The life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ allows Easter life to flow through us. Praise God for opening our world to forgiveness.

**C: Amen**

## **FIRST READING**

**Acts 2:1-21**

When the day of Pentecost had come, they 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 dark

ness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

## **SECOND READING**

### **1 Corinthians 12:3b-13**

No one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

For 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. For 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.

## **GOSPEL**

### **John 20:19-23**

After When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

## **SERMON**

**Pastor Shawn O'Brien**

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**ALL: I have faith in God, in response to overwhelming love. I believe God created me and all I have, and has given me gifts beyond measure. I have faith in Jesus, who emptied himself out of great love for me. I believe Christ died on a cross for my sin, conquered death and the power of evil, and was raised to life on the third day. His death is mine and his resurrection is mine. New life is a gift because of Jesus' words and work. I believe in the Holy Spirit in response to overwhelming love. I believe the Holy Spirit is present among us and lives within each person. The Spirit calls people through the Gospel and creates and builds the church of Christ. Through the power of the Spirit, I have power to stand in strength against all adversity. I believe Jesus is preparing a place for me and will come again to take me to be with him. Amen**

## **PRAYERS**

**P: Hear us, O God**

**C: Your mercy is great.**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

**P: Generous God,**

**C: in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **OFFERING SONG**

**Thy Word**

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
and a light unto my path  
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
and a light unto my path

When I feel afraid, Think I've lost my way  
Still You're there right beside me.  
And nothing will I fear,  
As long as You are near,  
Please be near me to the end.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
and a light unto my path  
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
and a light unto my path

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

P: We declare ourselves to be Easter people.

**C: We come to share the table Jesus has prepared for us.**

P: He took the bad news of sin and guilt and changed it to good news through his dying and rising for us.

**C: We are here to celebrate the Good News and the presence of Christ.**

P: Our Lord, on the night when he was betrayed took bread, gave thanks, broke it and give it to his disciples saying, "Take this bread and eat it. This is my body given for you. Do this to remember me." And in a similar manner he took a cup filled with fruit of the vine and after giving thanks he shared it with his disciples saying: "Drink of it, all of you, for this cup is the new covenant in my blood. Given for you for the forgiveness of sin. Do this to remember me!" Following our Lord's command and responding to our need for forgiveness, we come!

**C: We thank you, God, for these elements given for us in love. In this holy meal, forgive us and heal us, so we might live lives that are pleasing to you.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**ALL: 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**

## **THE DISTRIBUTION**

*Welcome!*

*St. John practices "open communion". All who are baptized and instructed are welcome to share the Lord's Supper with us today. Starting with the right side of the church, followed by the left when they are finished, the pastor will distribute the bread and the communion assistant will serve the wine. We will also have pre-sealed elements available for those who would prefer the more hygienic option (or those who wish to receive grape juice instead of wine). Indicate to the pastor that you would like pre-sealed elements and skip the wine server. Those who wish to receive a blessing should indicate their wishes to the pastor by crossing their arms over their chest.*

## **BLESSING**

P: The God of all, who raised Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

**C: Amen.**

## **SENDING SONG**

## **God Bless America**

God bless America, land that I love,  
Stand beside her, and guide her  
through the night with a light from above.  
From the mountains, to the prairies  
To the oceans white with foam.  
God bless America, my home sweet home  
God bless America my home sweet home.

## **DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

**C: Thanks be to God!**





21140 W. Toledo Street  
P.O. Box 235  
Williston, Ohio 43468  
(419) 836-5514  
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-2pm  
Email: [office@stjohnwilliston.org](mailto:office@stjohnwilliston.org)

Pastor Shawn O'Brien  
(419) 378-1112  
[pastorobrien@stjohnwilliston.org](mailto:pastorobrien@stjohnwilliston.org)

***We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church.  
We are... "creating and nurturing life changing relationships  
based on the love of God in Jesus Christ,  
so that we may grow in faith, serve God,  
and serve our neighbor."***

Contemporary Worship: Saturday 5:00 pm  
Sunday School for all ages returns in September  
Traditional Worship: Sunday 9:45 am

[stjohnwilliston.org](http://stjohnwilliston.org)



Welcome to join

[St. John Lutheran Church - Williston](http://stjohnwilliston.org)