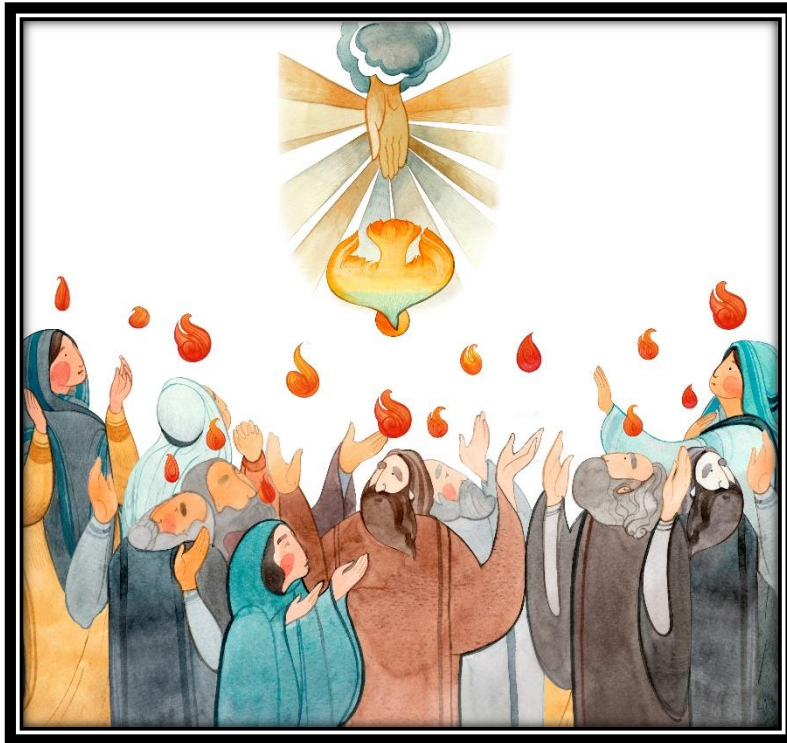


st. John's

Serving Christ & Community! Serving you!



Pentecost Sunday

May 18 & 19, 2024

As We Gather: The Gospel changes dead ends into new beginnings. That's Ezekiel 37. That's Acts 2. And that's God's promise also for you!

Chimes and Prelude

Please Stand

Opening Hymn

"Spirit of the Living God"

♩ = 80

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me. Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use _____ me. Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me." The chords are indicated above the notes: D, G6 B/F# Em, D/A, A7, D, G6 B/F# Em, D/A, G/A, A7, D, G, D, E7/D, A/C#, Bm7, A7, D, G6 B/F# Em, D/A, G/A, A7, D.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me. Spir - it of the

liv - ing God, fall fresh on me. Melt me, mold me,

fill me, use _____ me. Spir - it of the

liv - ing God, fall fresh on me.

CCLI Song # 23488 Daniel Iverson © Words: 1935. Renewed 1963 Birdwing Music; Music: 1935. Renewed 1963 Birdwing Music For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. CCLI License # 264955

Invocation and Call to Worship

P Come, Holy Spirit,

C Fill the hearts of the faithful.

All: And kindle in us the fire of your love!

P Christ is risen!

C **He is risen indeed!**

P Christ is ascended!

C **He is ascended indeed!**

P Today the fifty days are fulfilled.

C **And the Spirit is poured out upon the church.**

P Come, Holy Spirit,

C **Fill the hearts of the faithful.**

All: And kindle in us the fire of your love!

Confession and Absolution

P Loving Father, you take the initiative and reach out to us in our sin and selfishness.

C **You send the fire of your Spirit to awaken faith and empower our witness.**

P **Yet we quench your Holy Spirit.**

C **With our lame excuses.**

P **And our mixed-up priorities.**

C **With our eagerness to get.**

P **And our reluctance to give.**

C **You call us to high endeavor.**

P **Gospel ministry,**

C **And acts of mercy and compassion.**

P **But we retreat from the world and stick our heads in the sand.**

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P **Christ, have mercy.**

C **Lord, have mercy.**

*You are invited to meditate on the fact that though your sin is great,
Christ's love is greater.*

P Hear the good news. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ is ascended. And Christ sends the Holy Spirit, not only to convict us of sin, but all the more to point us to our Savior's forgiveness. As a call and ordained servant of the Word, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful.

ALL: And kindle in us the fire of your love!

Please Be Seated

Our readings are about a new beginning!

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 37:1–14

¹ "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; prophesy, 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 prophesy, 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."

¹ 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 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.'

Please Stand

Holy Gospel

Luke 24:44–49

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶ and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷ and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please Be Seated

Sermon Hymn**“Come Holy Spirit”****vs. 1 & 2****Verse 1**

Come as a wisdom to children
 Come as new sight to the blind
 Come Lord as strength to my weakness
 Take me soul body and mind

Chorus

Come Holy Spirit I need Thee
 Come sweet Spirit I pray
 Come in Thy strength and Thy power
 Come in Thy own gentle way

Verse 2

Come as a rest to the weary
 Come as a balm for the sore
 Come as a dew to my dryness
 Fill me with joy evermore

Chorus

Come Holy Spirit I need Thee
 Come sweet Spirit I pray
 Come in Thy strength and Thy power
 Come in Thy own gentle way

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Sermon**“A New Life” (Ezekiel 37:1-4)**

Rev. Jason Shaw

NOTES:

- 1) A Desperate Situation
 - a. Bones Have No Ambition
 - b. Bones Have No Awareness
 - c. Bones Have No Activity
- 2) A Divine Prophecy
- 3) A Dynamic Army
- 4) A New Life

Responsive Hymn**“Come Holy Spirit”****vs. 3****Verse 3**

Come like a spring in the desert
 Come to the withered of soul
 O let Thy sweet healing power
 Touch me and make me whole

Chorus

Come Holy Spirit I need Thee
 Come sweet Spirit I pray
 Come in Thy strength and Thy power
 Come in Thy own gentle way

Offering (Please place in the Box located in the Narthex)**Blessing Of Our 2024 Graduates**

8:00 am – CIERRA HATELAK, NATALIE MCNUTT, FAITH OFFERMANN,
 JACOB SCHUMACHER

10:30 am MOLLY AMENDT, O’MARIAN PAISLEY, ARRIAN PAISLY

Prayers of the Church

P Dear heavenly Father, I would do well to meditate on this portion of your Word in Ezekiel once a month—no, make that at least once a week. For it calls out my unbelief, it confronts my complacency, it deconstructs every excuse I offer for giving up on difficult situations and people.

C **So many of our churches, marriages, and hearts have become piles of dry, breathless bones. Vibrant green has become ashen grey. The music hasn't faded; it's gone.**

P Selflessness has been supplanted with spite; desire has been overgrown with weeds of disconnect, distrust, despair, and now, despising.

C **But it's not Ezekiel who asks about the possibility of renewal, redemption, and restoration; it's you, Father. It's you! "Can these bones live?" you ask. The question is rhetorical, for you are the God that changes dead ends into new beginnings.**

P Father, for your glory alone, I ask you to breathe on near and already bone dry marriages; and on churches spread throughout our communities. Where there's little love, joy and peace left, bring a fresh outpouring of affection from and for Jesus.

C **What but the love of Jesus can transform stubborn hearts into supple hearts, can replace meanness with mercy, can supplant self-protective willfulness with gospel willingness?**

P Who but Jesus can transform cold antipathy into kindhearted intimacy? Those are my rhetorical questions, Father, for I know of no other hope for cold marriages, dead churches, or hard hearts but Jesus and his great love lavished on us in the gospel.

C **Indeed, Lord Jesus, I'm not going to be preoccupied with looking at dry bones but with you, a living Savior.**

[Additional prayers]

P Jesus, bring life, your life, to the places of death. Restore to all of us the joy of your salvation, the hope of your resurrection, and a passion for your glory above everything else. Hear us also as we pray the prayer you taught us. "Our Father ..."

Lord's Prayer

LSB 179

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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
 forever and ever. Amen.



Service of the Sacrament



Words of Our Lord (Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25)

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My **T** body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My **T** blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Distribution Hymn:

"Spirit Song"

VERSE

♩ = 90

D A/E D/F# G A7 F#m7

1. Oh let the Son of God en - fold you with His Spir - it and His
 2. Oh come and sing this song with glad - ness as your hearts are filled with

Bm Em7 A G/A A D A/E D/F#

love; Let Him fill your heart and sat - is - fy your soul. Oh let Him
 joy; Lift your hands in sweet sur - ren - der to His name. Oh give Him

G A7 F#m7 Bm Em7

have those things that hold you, and His Spir - it like, a dove, will des - cend up - on your
 all your tears and sad - ness; Give Him all your years of pain, and you'll en - ter in - to

CHORUS

14 A G/A A7 D G A7/G F#m7 Bm7
 life and make you whole. Je - sus, oh Je - sus,
 life in Je - sus' name.

21 Em7 A D G A7/G F#m7
 come and fill Your lambs. Je - sus, oh Je -

28 Bm7 Em7 A A7 G/A D
 sus, come and fill Your lambs.

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Distribution Hymn:

“Sweet Sweet Spirit”

**(V. 1) THERE’S A SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT IN THIS PLACE,
 AND I KNOW THAT IT’S THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD.
 THERE ARE SWEET EXPRESSIONS ON EACH FACE,
 AND I KNOW THAT IT’S THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD.**

**CHORUS: SWEET HOLY SPIRIT, SWEET HEAV’NLY DOVE,
 YOU’RE RIGHT HERE WITH US FILLING US WITH YOUR LOVE.
 AND FOR THESE BLESSINGS WE LIFT OUR HEARTS IN PRAISE;
 WITHOUT A DOUBT WE’LL KNOW THAT WE HAVE BEEN REVIVED,
 WHEN WE SHALL LEAVE THIS PLACE.**

**(V 2.) THERE ARE BLESSINGS YOU CANNOT RECEIVE
 TILL YOU KNOW HIM IN HIS FULLNESS, AND BELIEVE.
 YOU’RE THE ONE TO PROFIT WHEN YOU SAY,
 “I AM GOING TO WALK WITH JESUS ALL THE WAY.”**

**CHORUS: SWEET HOLY SPIRIT, SWEET HEAV'NLY DOVE,
 YOU'RE RIGHT HERE WITH US FILLING US WITH YOUR LOVE.
 AND FOR THESE BLESSINGS WE LIFT OUR HEARTS IN PRAISE;
 WITHOUT A DOUBT WE'LL KNOW THAT WE HAVE BEEN REVIVED,
 WHEN WE SHALL LEAVE THIS PLACE.**

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Closing Hymn "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

TLH 644/ LSB 805

△ Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all
 crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly
 host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711

Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois

Text and tune: Public domain

Benediction

P Christ is risen!

C **He is risen, indeed!**

P May the Almighty God – Father, T Son, and Holy Spirit – gather us from among the nations.

ALL: THAT WE MAY GIVE THANKS TO HIS HOLY NAME AND GLORY IN HIS PRAISE!

Silent Prayer: Spirit of the Living God, change my dead ends into new beginnings! In Jesus' name. Amen.

Announcements

Postlude

All hymns unless otherwise noted are Public Domain. **Front Cover:** iStock illustration ID:1332298699 [Credit: Svetlana Vorotniak](#). Description Watercolor illustration Descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles.



CONTACT INFO

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Sid Kemmis, Lay Minister 309-236-5061
Michelle Rothschadl, Parish Assistant & Director
of Celebration Worship 815-275-0397
VACANT, Secretary -NA-
Lisa Lobdell, Organist 815-275-5165
Ruth Maedge, Choir Director 815-238-1595
Sharon Thompson, Accompanist 815-493-8347
Randy Duchow, Handbell Director 815-858-4957

STAY CONNECTED

www.stjohnslena.org

Facebook: stjohnslena

WORSHIP TIMES

Saturday at 5:30 pm – Traditional
Sunday at 8:00 am – Traditional
Sunday at 9:30 am – Education Hour
Sunday at 10:30 am – Blended *
*Traditional (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th Sundays)
***Contemporary** (4th Sunday)

BIBLE EDUCATION

Sunday at 9:30 pm
Pre-School/Kindergarten – Pre-School Room
1st-6th Grade - **Last BLAST** - Fellowship Hall
Jr. High & High School – Youth Room
Mom’s United – Parlor/Matthew
Adults w/ the Pastor – Luke
1st and 3rd Monday’s at 3:00 & 6:00 pm
Bible Journaling – Mark
Wednesday at 9:30 pm
Women’s Bible Study – Luke
Wednesday at 6:00 pm
Weekday School – On Break for Summer
Friday at 6:30 am
Men’s Breakfast Bible Study – Fellowship H.
**See Church Calander & Newsletter for
additional studies and gatherings!**

COMMUNITY

Church Van: If you live in Lena and would like a ride to the 10:30 am service, please call the church office.
My Friends Closet: Visit our thrift store for heavenly deals! 511 W Lena St, Lena, IL 61048. [\(815\) 369-4527](tel:8153694527)
Adult Day Care: Visit our “Friendship Center” to care for your loved ones. 311 N Lake Rd, Lena, IL 61048. [\(815\) 369-2690](tel:8153692690)