

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
15733 Dover Road  
Upperco, Maryland 21155  
Day of Pentecost  
May 23, 2021



Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the God of manna,  
the God of miracles,  
the God of mercy.  
**Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,  
let us confess our sin.

God, our provider,  
**help us.**  
**It is hard to believe there is enough to share.**  
**We question your ways when they differ from the ways**  
**of the world in which we live.**  
**We turn to our own understanding**  
**rather than trusting in you.**  
**We take offense at your teachings and your ways.**  
**Turn us again to you.**  
**Where else can we turn?**  
**Share with us the words of eternal life**  
**and feed us for life in the world.**  
**Amen.**

Beloved people of God:  
in Jesus, the manna from heaven,  
you are fed and nourished.  
By Jesus, the worker of miracles,  
there is always more than enough.  
Through Jesus, † the bread of life,  
you are shown God's mercy:  
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.  
**Amen.**

Hymn # 807 "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" (Verses 1 & 3)

**Come, though Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;**  
**streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.**  
**While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love,**  
**teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy goodness prove.**

**Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;**  
**let that grace now like a fetter bind my wand'ring heart to thee.**  
**Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.**  
**Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.**

*Contributors: Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt. Public Domain.*

Greeting

The Grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, 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.**

Lesson: Acts 2:1-21  
A Reading from Acts

<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup>Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup>Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup>Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." <sup>12</sup>All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup>But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

<sup>14</sup>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. <sup>15</sup>Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup>No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup>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.

<sup>18</sup>Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;  
and they shall prophesy.

<sup>19</sup>And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

<sup>20</sup>The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

<sup>21</sup>Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

The Word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

*Alleluia.* Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love. *Alleluia.*

Holy Gospel: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

The Gospel from John

[Jesus said,] <sup>26</sup>"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. <sup>27</sup>You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

<sup>16:4b</sup>"I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. <sup>5</sup>But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' <sup>6</sup>But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. <sup>7</sup>Nevertheless 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. <sup>8</sup>And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: <sup>9</sup>about sin, because they do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup>about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; <sup>11</sup>about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

<sup>12</sup>"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. <sup>13</sup>When 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. <sup>14</sup>He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup>All 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,  
**Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon: "Come Holy Spirit...Grant Us Faith! "

Hymn of the Day # 786 "O Holy Spirit, Enter In" (Verses 1, 2, & 3)

**O Holy Spirit, enter in,  
and in our hearts your work begin,  
and make our hearts your dwelling.**

**Sun of the soul, O Light divine,  
around and in us brightly shine,  
your strength in us upwelling.**

**In your radiance  
life from heaven  
now is given  
overflowing,  
gift of gifts beyond all knowing.**

**Left to ourselves, we surely stray;  
oh, lead us on the narrow way,  
with wisest counsel guide us;  
and give us steadfastness, that we  
may follow you forever free,  
no matter who derides us.  
Gently heal those  
hearts now broken;  
give some token  
you are near us,  
whom we trust to light and cheer us.**

**O mighty Rock, O Source of life,  
let your good Word in doubt and strife  
be strongly in us burning,  
that we be faithful unto death  
and live in love and holy faith,  
from you true wisdom learning.  
Lord, your mercy  
on us shower;  
by your power  
Christ confessing,  
we will cherish all your blessing.**

Contributors: Text: Michael Schirmer, 1606-1673; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, adapt. All rights reserved Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #734861-A.

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 the Church

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

Gracious God, you give the Holy Spirit to your church, filling it with many and varied gifts. In the church throughout the world, strengthen us in our visioning and dreaming, that it may discover anew the Spirit's creative work. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of life, your mighty works are too numerous to count. The earth is full of your creatures, living things both great and small. Open your hand and give them the necessities of this life. Send your fresh Spirit over the face of the earth. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of the nations, at the sound of the rushing wind, people speaking different languages heard together your deeds of power. Especially where violence and pandemic are rampant fill the leaders of nations with your Holy Spirit, so that they exercise your gracious will in the lives of people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of faithfulness, you tend to the needs of your people, even the sighs of our hearts. Hear those who cry out to you in distress. Restore to wholeness all who are in any need this day especially those whose names we speak aloud (*pause for quiet prayer*), in our hearts (*again pause...*) and those whose names fill the list of ongoing prayer concerns of our community. Give them tangible signs of your steadfast love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of love, fill this congregation (*name*) with gratitude for the gifts we have received from you. Renew our ministries, heal our divisions, and open us to the needs of our neighbors. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

You are indeed holy, O God, the fountain of all holiness; you bring light from darkness, life from death, speech from silence.

You so loved the world that you gave your only begotten Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but have everlasting life. In all this we bless you for your only begotten Son, who on the tree of the cross gave salvation to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

O God of resurrection and new life pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us and send us forth burning with justice grace and love. **Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

## Communion Distribution

## Post-Communion Blessing and Prayer

## The Benediction

Sending Hymn # 800 "Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart" (Verses 1 & 4)

**Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;  
wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;  
stoop to my weakness, strength to me impart,  
and make me love you as I ought to love.**

**Teach me to love you as your angels love,  
one holy passion filling all my frame:  
the baptism of the heav'n-descended dove,  
my heart an altar, and your love the flame.**

*Contributors: Text: George Croly, 1780-1860. Music: Frederick C. Atkinson, 1841-1897. Public Domain.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Sending

### **We Welcome All Our Visitors and Friends to Our Worship Service Today**

We welcome all our visitors to our worship service - To all of you, we extend an invitation to return often, your presence is a blessing to us; we hope that soon we will be able to worship together again. Do come and be with us. If you are interested in becoming a member, please see or call Pastor Carl. All are welcomed to the Lord's Table for Holy Communion or to receive a blessing.

### **Please keep the following individuals in your prayers**

**Members:** Mark, Calvin, Jen, Maidie, Vivian, Colton, Bud, Carolyn & John, Carlina, Shriver, Andy, Hannah, Denise, Glenys, Matthew, Nadine, Peter, Moore family, Neuheisel family, Gene, Katie, Leon, Bri, and all homebound members.

**Family & Friends:** Jerry, Bernie & Chris, Nunan Family, Mike, Darlene, Frank, Erin, Kary, Jim & Barbara, Kevin, Jack & Elinor, Liz, Heidi, Peggy, Laura, Bruce & Jamie, Karen, Caroline, Sonia, Rita & Chris, Torie, Karrie, those facing job loss, and those in broken relationships.

### **Please continue to make your weekly offering if you are able**

Our **Second Offering for May is for VBS** this summer. [Donate online via Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly).

To send by mail: 15773 Dover Road, Upperco, MD 21155

### **Church News and Happenings**

#### **TODAY, SUNDAY, May 23<sup>rd</sup> - Day of Pentecost**

Indoor Worship at 9:00am

Virtual Worship via [SPC YouTube Channel](#) posted Sunday afternoon

Last day of Sunday School – under the Pavilion at 10:15am – 11:00am

Confirmation Class will be held by Zoom at 7:00pm

#### **WEDNESDAY, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 5:00pm – 7:00pm – Mario's Memorial Weekend Meal Pickup**

#### **THURSDAY, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 5:00pm – 7:00pm – Mario's Memorial Weekend Meal Pickup**

#### **SUNDAY, May 30<sup>th</sup> - The Holy Trinity**

Indoor Worship at 9:00am – Guest Preacher, Pr. Faye

Virtual Worship via [SPC YouTube Channel](#) posted Sunday afternoon

Attendance, May 16<sup>th</sup> YouTube Video – 22 views, In-person – 23