

Day of Pentecost



Evangelical Lutheran Worship Book
Service of the Word
Sunday, May 31, 2020

Introduction to the day

Pentecost derives its name from the Jewish festival celebrating the harvest and the giving of the law on Mount Sinai fifty days after Passover. Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the Holy Spirit as God's presence within and among us. In Acts the Spirit arrives in rushing wind and flame, bringing God's presence to all people. Paul reminds us that though we each have different

capacities, we are unified in the Spirit that equips us with these gifts. Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit on his disciples, empowering them to forgive sin. We celebrate that we too are given the breath of the Holy Spirit and sent out to proclaim God's redeeming love to all the world.

WELCOME TO PENTECOST WORSHIP IN THE SOUTHERN INTERIOR REGION

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Christ, Kelowna

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are raised with him to new life.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning you created us in your image
and planted us in a well-watered garden.
In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched,
and you gave us water from the rock.
When we did not know the way,
you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.
At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side,
and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.
We praise you for your salvation through water,
for the water in this font,
and for all water everywhere.

Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.
Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.
To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

Christ is risen, Alleluia!
Christ is Risen Indeed. Alleluia! Alleluia!

GREETING (ELW p. 213)

Hills of Peace, Kamloops

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.

GATHERING SONG

Spirit of Gentleness

Vss 1, 4

ELW 396

Peace, Vernon

Refrain

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness calling and free;
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea

1 You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;
and over the eons you called to each thing:
"Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings."

Refrain

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness calling and free;
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

4 You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes.
From the bondage of sorrow all the captives dream dreams;
our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.
With bold new decisions your people arise.

Refrain

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness calling and free;
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 215)

Ascension, Nelson

Let us pray.

O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Hills of Peace, Kamloops

CHILDREN'S SONG (REFRAIN) ELW 401

Peace, Vernon

Come, come, come, Holy Spirit, come.

Come, come, come, Holy Spirit, come.

FIRST READING: 1 Corinthians 12: 3b-13

Faith, Kelowna

Paul is helping the Corinthians understand the relationship between our God-given unity and Spirit-created diversity. The Spirit creates the unity of faith and gives all Christians diverse gifts for the common benefit of all. We need one another's diverse spiritual gifts because the same Spirit has given them to each person for the common good.

^{3b}No one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to 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. ¹¹All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

¹²For 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. ¹³For 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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 104: 24-34, 35b

Our Redeemer, Penticton

Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

²⁴How manifold are your | works, O LORD!

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

²⁵**Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too man- | y 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.

²⁷**All of them | look to you
to give them their food | in due season.**

Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

²⁸You give it to them; they | gather it;
you open your hand, and they are filled | with good things.

²⁹**When 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.

³¹**May the glory of the LORD en- | dure forever;**
O LORD, rejoice in | all your works.

Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

³²You look at the earth | and it trembles;
you touch the mountains | and they smoke.

³³**I 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.**
Hal- | lelujah!

Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

SECOND READING: Acts 2: 1-21

**Trinity Shared Ministry, Clearwater &
the Church of St Paul, Barriere**

Pentecost was a Jewish harvest festival that marked the fiftieth day after Passover. Luke portrays the Holy Spirit being poured out upon the disciples before the gathered and astonished people assembled in Jerusalem for the festival. Filled with the Spirit, the disciples were able to witness to the power of Christ's resurrection.

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.' ”

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Celtic Alleluia*

ELW 174

Alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: John 20: 19-23

Pastor John Boyd

The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹When 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.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Patricia: May the peace of Christ be made known to you in these words.

Pastor Jane: So here we are at the end of May 2020 in the midst of a global pandemic.

Pastor Curtis: We are having to imagine different ways of being Church.

But we're not the first ones who are having to be creative about this.

For 3 years, the followers of Jesus were together in certain ways, then they were in a lock-down period; then after that, something else had to come of this and it was radically different.

Pastor Brian: Typically, this is the weekend where the sending really makes these followers of Christ the start of the Church for the world or the birth of the Church. ...and now some 2000-ish years later, **we're** in a lock-down of sorts.

So, what is happening to us in this lock-down? As we're behind closed doors – what is coming to birth now?

Pastor Nolan: This reminds me of Rev. Michael Ingham's book, *Mansions of the Spirit*,

quote read from book

{“talked all about my faith... then they asked if I wanted to know about anything about their faith?” ... “...introduced to a variety of strange religious experiences”}

We are in a time of strange religious experiences – some of it is wonderful; but some of it is odd!

Pastor Patricia: And this might have to continue on for a while, even though it is tough to change what has been familiar for years.

For example, our mode of greeting in North America is hand shaking – but in other cultures there is, for example, bowing, or “namaste: (demo each). There is a graciousness and a beauty in that, and ironically, it is much safer....While we do not pick up new habits easily, we do have precedence for grace.

Pastor David: There’s the ultimate gracious gift offered this morning.

We hear that Jesus goes from “receive the Holy Spirit” – to: “forgive sins”

Now that you have the Spirit, here’s what the spirit can do. Forgive, live life with the qualities of graciousness and generosity. When you build community through forgiveness, grace, and generosity, you build trust.

Pastor Jane: Mhmmm... and I would imagine that the trust helps with making some changes. ...like when we get to know someone who has different traditions or practices from us and we stumble on that a little bit trying to figure out how to appropriately use a pronoun or not being sure whether to shake hands- or maybe even being unsure of whether there is a need to simplify or change vocabulary.

That is an important image for us always, but perhaps especially right now- living into community with a lens of forgiveness. How would it look for us to live with a lens of forgiveness... instead of our judgemental, competitive, ego-first mentalities?

Pastor Brian: It would look like letting the little insignificant things slide.

And then, more than that- it looks like telling each other the truth- about ourselves and about each other. Graciously, of course. And feeding our hunger to get know each other and who we really are.

Like asking about another person’s faith and being truly interested in listening to them.

Pastor Patricia: You talk about feeding our hunger as we’re in this conversation about graciousness and I am reminded of an ancient story about heaven and hell, and there are paintings of it as well...Everyone is at a huge banquet celebration....

In the “hell” version, everyone is sitting there grumpy and missing out because all that they have to eat with are giant spoons with really, really long handles, which they can’t get to their mouths, so nobody is eating.

In the “heaven” version, everyone is celebrating and eating using similar giant spoons with really, really long handles – **by feeding each other!**

Pastor Brian: They find peace in feeding one another. So what’s coming to birth are some surprisingly gracious experiences of hospitality? Or what are you saying?

Pastor Curtis: I think that I’m hearing more about getting to the root interests of our inner selves in these times: one of the sayings of the Desert Fathers is, “your cell will teach you everything”

– in other words, to be isolated, to be trapped with yourself, and to there see God; that will teach you everything that you need to know about yourself.

And so: Is there a way to look at this “having to stay at home” as a gift... ?

“Here’s an opportunity” - take the opportunity- even by complaining about it; because even then you are learning something about yourself...

Pastor David:

And as we learn more about ourselves, we discover some of our gifts. Remember how today’s reading from Corinthians put it. “To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.” Our individual gifts are given by the Holy Spirit for the benefit of the whole community.

In whatever circumstances we find ourselves, we remain connected and seek ways to support each other by using our God-given gifts.

Getting in touch with ourselves also leads us into deeper connections with others. The Spirit led the early church to a point where they had all things in common. Well, that might sound a little too close for comfort today.

Pastor Curtis:

The communal piece later on in Acts; which is an out-growth of the out-pouring of the Holy Spirit, is to explain that, in families, people share everything in common – well, except toothbrushes.

You're all in one household, it's all mixed up; your stuff is my stuff; but my stuff is your stuff too! We hear this as utopian societies stuff and really it is all about making one big clan.

Then John is different. He's mad at the "other" that he's setting up.

So we have two perspectives at play in the readings.

Paul is still, "let's get us all together"

But it doesn't work easily, because of our biological survival instinct, we are all tempted- like John – to continue with othering our neighbours.

Pastor Jane: There's an article about that in the Walrus magazine reflecting back on the Spanish Influenza Pandemic of 1918 and how afterwards people were afraid of each other. We're going to have to be cautious not to move into exclusivity through this time and beyond.

Pastor Patricia:

That's where we need the Gospel: my faith does not make me evangelize the church for Jesus; but my faith affirms who I am and tells me that I am forgiven and loved by God.

And faith tells me that you're okay too, because God has enough love for everyone.

When we encounter a diversity of faiths – regardless of which path we're following; it enriches our lives and opens us up to the paths of others ...which also helps us to see how our gifts might be offered to serve the world in ways we had not considered...and how much we can learn from others.

Pastor Brian:

One of the things that this whole situation has taught me is, "what is essential" – not just essential workers, ...but then turn to church: what is essential.... And this takes us back to the text: we think of the church as the gathered people; but we are apostolic – we are the "SENT" people... to their homes, and to the world...

One thing I am learning is – what is the church; are we getting back to the idea of being sent again..

Pastor Nolan:

As you know, we've been in the process of building a new building for Ascension Lutheran Church in Nelson.

For a while there, it seemed that we had reached an impasse where things died down. The one person who had done lots on it moved away.

The one who has now stepped into that gap is from another denomination- the other Lutheran Church in town, who has joined with our own.

This relatively new person has put himself to work on our building... and is so happy to be Lutheran and working on a Lutheran church... he and his wife have a certain freedom from being "Lutheran"

In a way, they live out their faith as people who have been sent to journey with a new community- Ascension; and they have become leaders in service among us.

Pastor Jane:

Being sent shows up literally physically- and we're all seeing what it means for us through this time as well... when we cannot gather physically.

We offer Sunday morning worship on zoom that is both "live" and then recorded and shared. Several people have been involved each week with reading, even in music and prayers.

In a lot of ways, this time has been a real "drawing together" for the congregation because people who are out of town or in other cities can join in and connect with people in the congregation even while away.

It has been also a form of outreach for us to connect with people because they have been receiving the emails and following services.

People who have not been to the building in ages, have joined in online... in some ways, it is easier to show up online than showing up at a building! We've definitely had visitors join in on Sunday and it is wonderful to "be together" even while isolated.

Pastor David:

Even when we are keeping our distance, there has been life breathed into the community of faith.

Learning that the community continues, even when we cannot gather- that there is an ongoing network of people who work to connect with each other;

and how much gratitude there is for the online services and zoom coffee hour;

People are stuck at home but can say, "WOW! We still had church!!"

People are really grateful!

And it is amazing how people have stepped up to share their particular gifts.

One church council member has managed a spreadsheet to make sure everyone in the congregation has contact from at least one other member. Two others are really diving into government programs and ensuring that congregation stays financially healthy and can come out the other side; another person who likes doing tech is looking after all the online aspects for Facebook Live.

It is fun to see the diversity of people's gifts and strengths coming together to keep the congregation moving forward and living out the Gospel.

Pastor Nolan:

We have set up over a period of time and in our congregations, norms, ways of doing things – systems that have worked and have achieved some level of competence, but the reality is that much of it is out the window....

We are at a point of developing new norms. This is all cutting edge; we have an opportunity to make decisions in our communities and influence the new norms.

Will the new norm be self-justifying and self-focussed?

If we look at new ways of making peace and sharing the presence of Christ with compassion with actions that we learn and emulate by looking to our neighbours in faith; that will do as much as anything to shape the way that we get through this period of time that is likely to go on for much longer than we anticipate.

Consider every plant nursery in each of our cities: we have been shocked by the number of people at the nursery. So many people!!

EVERYbody is looking at growing potatoes or flowers or something...

...people are looking to the more distant past to see the things that have been a part of them at a time when all is up in the air.

Pastor Curtis:

So maybe this is also the disciples who have to learn a different way of being in order - in a sense - to become the church. Maybe this is another “Peter and the kosher dream” thing where God says, “throw it all out!”

We’ve heard debates about participation, online communion, virtual gathering, and now there’s the process opening up for returning to being together...

It is tempting to jump on the idea of getting “back to how things were”

Yet, it seems that the Holy Spirit breathes on you and you never know what’s going to happen.

Pastor Patricia:

As we have figured out how to worship in our diverse contexts – even just in our region – you can see how it has really truly become the “liturgy” or the “work of the people” in these days.

...but not “work” like we typically think of it; instead it is like the French word “oeuvre” – a work of art, of the very best of ourselves.

Pastor Jane:

What an image to work with!

Guided by the working of the Holy Spirit, we are called to share our gifts, while we are isolated and apart- we are invited to join in leading and participating in worship- and to become part of God’s artistry for the world.

Diversely gifted and sharing out of our wide diversity.

May it be so in each of our communities as Christ breathes peace upon us. AMEN

HYMN OF THE DAY *O Living Breath of God* vs. 1, 3

ELW 407

Peace, Vernon

- 1 O living Breath of God, wind at the beginning upon the waters;
O living Breath of God, bearing the creation to wondrous birth;
Come now, and fill our spirits; pour out your gifts abundant.
O living Breath of God, Holy Spirit, breathe in us as we pray.

- 3 O living Breath of God, bearing us to life through baptismal waters;
O living Breath of God, sighing with creation for freedom’s birth;
Come now, and fill our spirits; pour out your gifts abundant.
O living Breath of God, Holy Spirit, breathe in us as we pray.

NICENE CREED

Faith, Kelowna

p. 217

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,**

begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Ascension, Nelson

L- Today's Prayers of the People are offered in a variety of languages, as might have been experienced at the first Pentecost. The English translation will be provided as sub-titles as each prayer petition is offered in a different language.
(pause)

Gathered, enlightened and empowered to serve by the Spirit who brings us new life, let us pray for the church, the world and all who are in need. Using the words, "God of new life" we respond with, "**Hear our prayer**"

1- Tressa (French) O God, send your Spirit upon your holy church. Gather in unity people of every race, tongue, gender, culture and creed, that your church may be one voice in proclaiming your healing love to all of the world. "God of new life"
"Hear our prayer"

2- Jouko (Finnish) O God, send your Spirit upon the World Health Organization and all who work for the health and good of humanity. Erase our blaming of others, heal our divisions, end our competitive nature: that all may join together in working to overcome the Covid-19 pandemic.
"God of new life" **"Hear our prayer"**

3- Clementine (Evee) O God, we give thanks for all who have gone before us as witnesses to your eternal love. Send your Spirit upon each of us! We are your disciples! Every day, may our lives be witnesses to your great love for all people in the world.
"God of new life" **"Hear our prayer"**

4- Barbara (German) O God, we give you thanks for the bountiful earth, which produces what is needed for life. As spring turns to summer and crops are planted, send your Spirit upon those who work in the fields; grant favourable weather; and help us to ensure that all people share in the fruits of the earth. "God of new life" **"Hear our prayer"**

5 - Elizabeth (Mandarin) O God, send your Spirit upon your people. Keep watch with those who care for others. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, be with those who are lonely. Give comfort and peace to all those suffering in mind, body or spirit, especially those we name now in our hearts ... (*allow 3 or 4 seconds of silence*). Lead us all out of fear and into your love. "God of new life" **"Hear our prayer"**

L- Almighty God, your Holy Spirit equips the church with a rich variety of gifts. Grant us the diligence to seek you, the wisdom to perceive you and the patience to wait for you. Through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

PEACE (ELW p. 217)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING BLESSING AND MUSICAL MEDITATION

Christ, Kelowna

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD p. 220

Our Redeemer, Penticton

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being.

For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you.

For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love.

For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (Sung) p. 221

Faith, Kelowna

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.

BLESSING

On this Fiftieth Day of Easter,
May the one who brought forth Jesus from the dead
Raise you to new life, fill you with hope
and turn your mourning into dancing.
Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Hills of Peace, Kamloops

SENDING SONG *God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind Vs. 1, 2*

**ELW 400
*Peace, Vernon***

- 1 God of tempest, God of whirlwind,
as on Pentecost descend!
Drive us out from sheltered comfort;
past these walls your people send!
Sweep us into costly service,
there with Christ to bear the cross,
there with Christ to bear the cross!
- 2 God of blazing, God of burning,
all that blocks your purpose, purge!
Through your church, Christ's living Body,
let your flaming Spirit surge!
Where deceit conceals injustice,
kindle us to speak your truth,
kindle us to speak your truth!

DISMISSAL (ELW p. 222)

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

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