

First St. John Lutheran Church

2471 Seaman Street
Toledo, Ohio 43605
419-691-7222

office@firststjohn.com

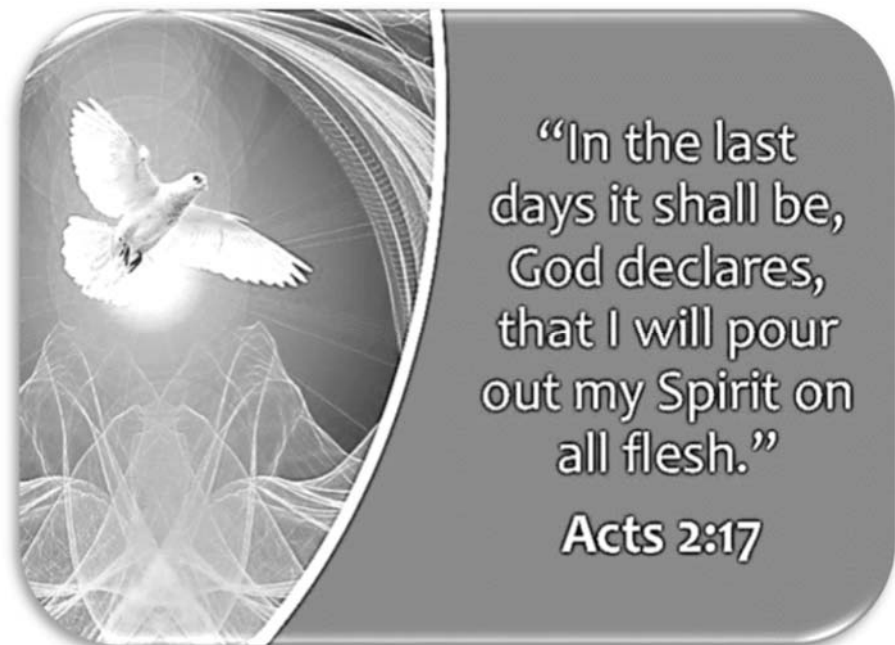
www.firststjohn.com

Rev. Jerald K. Rayl

Annette Slater - Music Director

Dr. Anthony Pattin - Organist

Toni Wilbarger - Secretary



“In the last
days it shall be,
God declares,
that I will pour
out my Spirit on
all flesh.”

Acts 2:17

May 31, 2020

Day of Pentecost

Welcome to First St. John Lutheran Church! If you are visiting, please sign the guest book near the main door in the Narthex. We offer both a traditional and celebration service, a joint effort between members of both the traditional and contemporary services with special music and a message, which we alternate during the summer months.

Sunday School & Catechism are dismissed for the summer.

Nursery: Our nursery is in the church basement. The nursery is currently unstaffed; you are welcome to sit with your child. A diaper changing table & a semi-private nursing area also are available in the ladies restroom in the basement of the church.

Restrooms are in the church basement. Go to the Narthex (lobby) and take either set of steps to the basement. In the hallway, the ladies room is at one end, and the men's room is at the other.

Flowers: If you would like to sign up for flowers for a Sunday, there is a sign up book in the Narthex (lobby) by the telephone. Or, you may call the church office during the week to check on availability.

Memorials: If you wish to give a memorial in honor or memory of a loved one, you may mail it in or pick up a memorial card in the church office or in the Narthex (lobby) and place it in the offering plate.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

ELDERS

Darold Henninger, Kevin Ruedy

SOLOIST

Annette Slater

SOUND BOARD

Mark Ackerman

Called through faith; Gathered in worship; Serving the community

May 31, 2020

ORDER OF WORSHIP – CELEBRATION SERVICE

Praise Prelude
Prelude

Ringing of the Bell

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, as a reminder of the sign marked at baptism as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, (+) one God, full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)

P: Eternal God, our creator,

C: in you we live and move and have our being. Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands. Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us. In the mercy of almighty God, Christ died for us while we still were sinners; and for the sake of Jesus Christ, God (+) forgives you all your sins.

C: Amen.

Praise Song

Invocation

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.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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.

C: Amen.

(Please be seated)

Announcements

FIRST READING: Numbers 11:24-30

The Spirit of God rests upon 70 chosen leaders in Israel who gather with Moses at the tent of meeting. Not to be contained, the Spirit also rests on two others who were not at the tent, and they too prophesy.

Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." ²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" ²⁹But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!" ³⁰And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

Reader: Word of God. Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Alleluia, or Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. (Ps. 104:31)

O LORD, how manifold are your works!

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

²⁵**Yonder is the great and wide sea
with its living things too many to number,
creatures both small and great.**

²⁶There move the ships, and there is that Leviathan, which you have made for the sport of it.

²⁷**All 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.

²⁹**You hide your face, and they are terrified;
you take away their breath, and 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 endure forever;
may the LORD rejoice in all his works.**

³²He looks at the earth and it trembles;
he touches 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 him;
I will rejoice in the LORD.

³⁵**Bless the LORD, O my soul.
Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING: Acts 2:1-21

Pentecost was a Jewish harvest festival that marked the 50th day after Passover. Luke portrays the Holy Spirit being poured out upon the disciples before the gathered and astonished people in Jerusalem for the festival. Being filled with the Spirit, the disciples were able to witness to the power of Christ's resurrection.

When the day of Pentecost had come, they 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:

¹⁷In 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.' "

Reader: Word of God. Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Alleluia Verse



Gospel Acclamation (spoken)

P: The Gospel according to St. John Chapter 7.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 7:37-39

Jesus nourishes believers with living water and leads them to the Spirit of God.

On the last day of the festival of Booths, the great day, while Jesus was standing in the temple, he cried out, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, ³⁸and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, 'Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.' " ³⁹Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Gospel Response (Spoken)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

Message Song

Pastor Rayl

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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.

(Please be seated)

The Offering

“Sanctuary” (please stand)

*Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary,
Pure and holy, tried and true;
With thanksgiving I'll be a living
Sanctuary for You.*

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray. Merciful God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Pastoral Prayer *(Each petition concludes with this response)*

P: Lord, in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer *(prayed by all)*

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.

The Blessing

P: May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty God, Father, (+) Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

C: Thanks be to God.

Closing Song

Postlude

PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY

Please purchase full size items.

dish soap	shampoo, child	toothbrush, child
paper towels	laundry soap	tampons
toilet paper	fabric softener sheets	sanitary pads
tissues	body lotion	band aids
deodorant	body soap	toothpaste, adult
shampoo, adult	toothbrush, adult	toothpaste, child
disposable razors		

This is a list of the items that will provide a month's worth of hygiene supplies to families or individuals in our neighborhood to help them stay clean and healthy. We always welcome any donations from our congregation members. **If you would like to donate items, please donate only full size products as sample sizes will not last a month.** If you would prefer a Pantry volunteer to do the shopping for you, we welcome monetary donations. Please make out checks to First St. John Lutheran Church and write Personal Needs Pantry on the memo line.



GRADUATE RECOGNITION



With the uncertainty of our church service schedule at this time, we may have to postpone our graduate recognition until a later date. But we will begin to collect our graduate's information now.

If you have a high school or college graduate in your family, please complete this form and either mail or email (office@firststjohn.com) it to the church. If you email the information, you don't need the form, unless you have scanning capability at home. Thanks!

NAME OF GRADUATE

GRADUATED FROM

DEGREE EARNED

NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

FUTURE PLANS (SCHOOL, WORK, ETC.):

May 31, 2020

DAY OF PENTECOST

Breathe!

The disciples are scared. Might those who plotted their Lord's death come next for his followers? Surely a sweep of the city for known associates of Jesus would be the best way to crush all opposition. Days after the crucifixion, those who had been closest to Jesus are out of sight, huddled behind locked doors, frightened.

Of course, staying inside with the doors shut can get stuffy. Staying locked away anywhere can be almost suffocating after a while, especially when you are shut in because of fear. Imagining the disciples shut up in that room, you might want to ask them, "Can you breathe in there?" There, in that stuffy little room is the beginning of the Christian church, collectively holding its breath in fear. They are locked in, holed up, frightened that, at any moment, there will be a knock at the door.

Maybe that is the reason Jesus doesn't knock. He doesn't announce himself at the door and ask to be let in. He just shows up in the room where the disciples are. "Peace be with you," he says. And then he breathes on them and adds, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

Jesus breathes life into his frightened little church, a church that has hardly been behaving like a church at all, bolting the doors and preoccupied with its own survival. Jesus breathes life--his new, restored life--into the disciples. With his Holy Spirit, the disciples receive the commission of Christ himself: "As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

The Holy Spirit gives disciples of every age both the comfort we need and the strength we need to *open the doors*. Out we go, sent into the very world loved by God so much that God sent Jesus, the Beloved, into it, that all who believe in him might have no reason any longer to lock themselves away, or to fear for their own survival.