

**APOSTLES' CREED**

ELW , PAGE 105

*Benton & Willow Creek Lutheran Churches*

*May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024*

Interim Pastor: Kent Stillson

Organist: Paul Mesner, Willow Creek and David Olson, Benton

**SHARING THE PEACE** L) The peace of Christ be with you all. **C) And also with you.**

**OFFERING/OFFERING SONG** “All People That On Earth Do Dwell” **ELW #883**

- 1 All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell; come ye before him and rejoice.
- 2 Know that the Lord is God indeed; without our aid he did us make.  
We are his folk, he doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** L) Lord in your Mercy **C) Hear our Prayer**

**BENEDICTION**

**CLOSING SONG** “The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve” **ELW #551**

The Spirit sends us forth to serve; we go in Jesus' name  
to bring glad tidings to the poor, God's favor to proclaim.

We go to comfort those who mourn and set the burdened free;  
where hope is dim, to share a dream and help the blind to see.

We go to be the hands of Christ, to scatter joy like seed  
and, all our days, to cherish life, to do the loving deed.

Then let us go to serve in peace, the gospel to proclaim.  
God's Spirit has empowered us; we go in Jesus' name.

**THE SENDING** L) Go in peace. Serve the Lord! **C) Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**

**PRELUDE**  
**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,  
**We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN:** “Holy Spirit, Truth Divine” **ELW #398**

Holy Spirit, truth divine, dawn upon this soul of mine;  
breath of God and inward light, wake my spirit, clear my sight.

Holy Spirit, love divine, glow within this heart of mine;  
kindle ev'ry high desire; purge me with your holy fire.

Holy Spirit, pow'r divine, fortify this will of mine;  
by your will I strongly live, bravely bear, and nobly strive.

Holy Spirit, peace divine, still this restless heart of mine;  
speak to calm this tossing sea, stayed in your tranquility.

Holy Spirit, right divine, king within my conscience reign;  
be my guide, and I shall be firmly bound, forever free.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

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 judgement 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.**

## FIRST LESSON- Psalm 104, 24-35

L) How manifold are your works, O Lord!

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

L) Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number,

**C) living things both small and great.**

L) There go the ships, to and fro,

**C) and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.**

L) All of them look to you

**C) to give them their food in due season.**

L) You give it to them; they gather it;

**C) you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.**

L) When you hide your face, they are terrified;

**C) when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.**

L) You send forth your Spirit, and they are created;

**C) and so you renew the face of the earth.**

L) May the glory of the Lord endure forever;

**C) O Lord, rejoice in all your works.**

L) You look at the earth and it trembles;

**C) you touch the mountains and they smoke.**

L) I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;

**C) I will praise my God while I have my being.**

L) May these words of mine please God.

**C) I will rejoice in the Lord.**

L) Let sinners be consumed from the earth and the wicked be no more.

**C) Bless the Lord, O my soul. Hallelujah!**

L) Word of God, Word of Life. **All) Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND LESSON- Romans8: 22-27

<sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; <sup>23</sup>and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

<sup>26</sup>Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

L) Word of God, Word of Life. **All) Thanks be to God.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Song- "Jesus Loves the Little Children"

*(to be sung as the children come forward)*

Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world.  
Red and yellow, black and white, they are precious in his sight,  
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

## PENTECOST STORY- Acts 2:1-12

<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?"

L) Word of God, Word of Life **All) Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON – "The Power of the Spirit"

### HYMN OF THE DAY "Eternal Father, Strong to Save"

**ELW #756**

Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm has bound the restless wave,  
who bade the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep:  
oh, hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Savior, whose almighty word the winds and waves submissive heard,  
who walked upon the foaming deep, and calm amid the storm didst sleep:  
oh, hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Holy Spirit, who didst brood upon the chaos dark and rude,  
and bid its angry tumult cease, and give, for wild confusion, peace:  
oh, hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and pow'r, all trav'lers guard in danger's hour  
from rock and tempest, fire and foe, protect them wheresoe'er they go;  
thus evermore shall rise to thee glad hymns and praise from land and sea.