

From Pastor Illausky

WHAT'S PENTECOST ALL ABOUT?

"Pentecost" isn't a word you will hear about or use in general conversation outside the church. People don't buy, send or share "Pentecost" greeting cards, gifts or boxes of chocolate. Nor will you hear any news stories about some sort of "War on Pentecost". And most definitely, "Pentecost" has absolutely nothing to do with the COVID19 pandemic. OR DOES IT? Hmmm. Perhaps now would be a good time for me to share a brief bit of background information about "Pentecost".

In Hebrew Scripture, the Jewish people celebrated a holiday known as the "Festival of Weeks" (see Exodus 32 and Deuteronomy 16) which was when the Israelites celebrated God's generosity shown to them in the form of successful harvests of grain, fruits or other crops. In short, each farmer would bring their "first fruits" – the first ripe samples picked from their fields or trees – and give them as an offering of thanksgiving in the Temple. (Passing an offering plate seems to be a bit easier and less messy don't you think?) Be that as it may, Jews from all across the countryside would travel to Jerusalem (by foot) to present their offering at the Temple.

SO WHAT'S PENTECOST ALL ABOUT . . . AND WHY SHOULD WE CARE?

Hang on, hang on. I'm getting there. On Christmas, Christians celebrate the Incarnation - i.e., when God became human in the person of Jesus Christ. On Easter, Christians celebrate Christ's Resurrection – i.e., that Jesus rose from the dead and provides the promise of everlasting life - to all who believe in Him. And...get ready...here it comes....on Pentecost, we celebrate the presence of the Holy Spirit – i.e., the gift of the God's comfort, power, peace and strength through Christ in our individual and collective lives.

During the days between Passover and Pentecost (a total of fifty days for anyone interested) Jesus' disciples had been spending their time together trying to better understand and make sense of their experiences with Jesus after His resurrection and ascension into heaven. (For a more detailed account about what they were up to and thinking about, check out chapters 1 & 2 of Acts. (Go ahead... you have bibles and time on your hands...I know you can do it!) While the disciples were doing that the Holy Spirit came among and filled them with the ability and deep desire to share what they had experienced with and knew about Jesus with others regardless of what language they spoke! Ergo - "Pentecost" (which in Greek means "fiftieth day") is sometimes referred to as the "birthday of the church" - i.e., the day on which Jesus' disciples began to share the story about Him and invite others to share their faith in the Son of God.

AND SO . . . NOW THAT YOU KNOW - - NOW WHAT?

- 1 Pentecost is more than remembering a historical event.
- 2 The same Spirit which filled the disciples and transformed their lives (ready or not, here it comes! . . .) fills and effects our lives.
- 3 As did the disciples, so also should we be filled with the desire to share our faith in Christ with others and invite them to share what they learn, accept and believe in with others.
- 4 Important as it is to remember what God did two thousand-plus years ago, it's important and vital for us to look forward and invite the Spirit to pull us into the future.

In Galatians 5:22-23 Paul writes that the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control - which we as Christians should seek to incorporate in our lives and apply and transform the world as evidence of the Holy Spirit at work in our lives.

Just as the Holy Spirit turned the lives of Jesus' disciples and the world in which they lived upside down, so also is the Spirit able to turn our lives and the world in which we live upside down - - - when we least expect that to happen - - - even in the midst of sitting home during a pandemic -- wondering, worrying, and thinking about what we can, will, should and must do - - <u>to encourage, develop and create a life-saving epidemic of faith focused on and centered in God's love for us through Jesus Christ.</u>

On Pentecost:

Invite and welcome the disruptive, positive presence of the Holy Spirit into your lives.





- 1 Logon to FaceBook beginning at 9:15 am on Sunday morning.
- 2 In the Search bar, type the following:

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church Allen

There may be more than one search result. If so, look for the search result with our address, 821 South Greenville Avenue, and click on that entry.

This will connect you to our page.

- 3 On our page, look for the 'Live' button in the top white tool bar and click on it. You should see a live feed of the altar area.
- 4 If you have trouble, call the church at 972-727-3191 after 9:15 am and someone will be there to help you.
- 5 Invite your friends and click on the red 'Watch Party' button on the Christ the Servant Facebook Page!

Owing to the financial realities created by the Coronavirus, the need of the continued, generous financial support of CTSLC's members continues to grow and will be very much appreciated in the days ahead.

THANK YOU to those who have mailed their weekly contribution to the church office. (821 S. Greenville Ave., Allen, Tx. 75002)

To make an on-line contribution to CTSLC by using your checking or savings account or credit/debit card please visit **christtheservant.com**; click "Donate", and follow the prompts on that secure web site. (Please contact CTSLC Financial Secretary Patty Voga <u>fin.sec@christtheservant.com</u> or (214) 766-1635 for help with any questions of a confidential basis.)

All CTSLC meetings and activities are cancelled as are those of all other groups using our building (excluding Amazing Grace Day Care). Pastor Illausky and Ceci Gunderson are available for contact via email, text and telephone.



Our Service for Sunday, May 31th

The last ten pages of this CyberServant contain the materials you need to follow along with the broadcast of Sunday's service.

Please join us Sunday morning, May 31th after 9:20 am on Facebook. Service starts at 9:30 am.



Looking forward to the time when we can reopen, if you are interested in helping to clean and sanitize the church building prior to the resumption of in-house worship (which will take place based upon what the COVID-19 numbers will allow), please contact Pastor Illausky. The areas that would need to be addressed are the restrooms, the library, the kitchen, the Fellowship Hall, the narthex, the gathering area, the sanctuary and the sacristy. Contact Pastor by email at gordono6712@sbcglobal.net or by call or text at

682-597-6790.



OFFICE HOURS

Church office hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 am-3:00 pm.

Call 972-727-3191 if you have any questions. If there is not an answer, leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible.



During this time of "social distancing," if you are unable to get to the store or pharmacy to get items you need, especially if you are part of the "at risk" population, please contact the Member Care Committee, and we will do what we can to assist. Please contact Pam Grosze (918-978-4046, pgrosze@tx.rr.com), Member Care Committee Chairperson.



AMA Shopping List

Needs currently are:

Hamburger helper Canned peas, spinach, carrots Jars of apple sauce Roman noodles.

Please take food directly to the outside donation box at Pantry at back of St Jude's property. In addition, monetary donations can be made online at <u>allenfoodpantry.org</u> You are greatly appreciated!



Lawn Mowing Teams

May 31 – Team Reidmiller June 7 – Team Federle June 14 – Team Dick



Rehearsals:

Christ's Kids Choir, Temporarily suspended.

Spirit Bells (beginning), Temporarily suspended.

Chancel Choir, Temporarily suspended.

Lutherings (intermed/adv), Temporarily suspended.



Assisting Ministers

- June 7 June 14 June 21 June 28 July 5 July 12
- Larry Lutz Tim McCord Steve Secora Doug Egner Linda Federle Kathy Fritz



<u>May 31st</u>

What: CTSLC will hold an outdoor worship service Where: In, around and on the pavilion, lawn and parking lot

When: 9:30 a.m.

The service will include:

your favorite hymns, a special sermon, communion, recognition of CTSLC's 2020 high school graduates (YEA!) – and, oh yes –

your choice of a box lunch from Jason's deli.

The "Rules of Engagement" for this Service Will Be as Follows:

#1 - If you are not feeling well (and for as much as we'd like to see you) - please stay home.

#2 - Participants are welcome to wear masks (we'll still know who you are) and gloves.

#3 - Absolutely <u>NO</u> hugging or handshaking will be permitted - waving at someone will be fine.
#4 - Bring your own chairs to sit on and set them up 6 feet away from your neighbor.

- If you would like to set up a portable umbrella that will be fine.

- It will also be OK for you to remain in your car during the service should you chose to do so.

#5 - Communion will be served using individually sealed wafers and cups.

Additional easy-to-follow instructions will be provided during the service.

<u>NOTE:</u>

<u>A SPECIAL CYBERSERVANT MESSAGE WILL BE SENT</u> <u>ON SATURDAY, MAY 30TH</u> <u>IF THIS SERVICE NEEDS TO BE POSTPONED UNTIL</u> <u>JUNE 7TH</u> IN THE EVENT OF BAD WEATHER

After the service, please join us in a lunch box picnic!

Individual box lunches cost \$7.50 each and must be ordered no later than 3:00 p.m. on May 28th by contacting Ceci Gunderson at: <u>church.sec@christtheservant.com</u>or 972-727-3191

Available lunch choices

Sandwich choices:

Turkey,

- Ham,
- Chicken salad,
- Spinach vegetarian wrap

Bread choices:

- White
 - Wheat
- Organic grain
- Butter croissant

Beverage choices:

- Coke
- Diet Coke
- Dr. Pepper
- Diet Dr. Pepper

Water

The sandwich comes with leafy lettuce, tomato, pickle, and chocolate chip cookie.

Payment by cash or check made payable to CTSLC.





The Food Pantry is in desperate need of temporary daters and shelving the items. This is short term (unless you love it and want to continue) and can be done when the pantry is closed, so no contact with other people or clients. PLEASE contact Linda (Lindafederle@icloud.com) or Cheryl (drcheryl2@yahoo.com) and we will get you in.

This is an excellent way for kids to volunteer with a parent.



Council Corner:

Your Congregation Council is continuing to meet virtually, and, in addition to the letter that was sent to everyone with information on some financial items (if you did not receive this, please contact the church secretary), we would like you to know that we are continuing the work on our outreach through technology, including:

1) items needed to improve our broadcast capabilities, including cameras, microphones, sound board, and presentation software. Our technology team is continuing to investigate the best options to provide the best quality broadcast of our services, both now, and after we are again able to meet in person.

2) the church website, which is being revamped to provide more and better information, with designated administrators to ensure consistency and up to date information in what is presented on the website.



Will you be in grades 8-12 starting in the fall?

If so, the next page has important information that applies to you!



First Presbyterian Church of Allen and CTSLC will be collecting food items for the week of June 28 to carry on the work of feeding schoolkids during the summer. Food items can either be brought to our church or the donation box at the outside of the Food Pantry at the back of St. Jude's Catholic Church property at 1515 North Greenville Ave in Allen. A volunteer is needed to gather items from the church and deliver them to the donation box at the Food Pantry.

Here are the items needed: individual Mac and cheese juice boxes cereal, individual or cereal bars cheese crackers (peanut butter or cheese for protein) pudding cups individual fruit cups ravioli ramen **These all need to be individual sizes.** 150 of each per week are needed. For information, contact Cheryl Lindberg: Cell -- 972 489 0737 Email -- drcheryl2@yahoo.com

JUNE 29 - JULY 3, 2021 | MINNEAPOLIS, MN

CALLING ALL YOUTH (8th-12th Grade) Fall 2020

Every three years, 30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation known as the Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives.

Registration - \$350

Estimated cost per child (after registration) — \$850 (Cost includes housing, travel, food, misc. expenses)

GOD BEYOND MEASURE

A \$150 nonrefundable, per-person deposit is due by Sunday, August 16, 2020. Remaining \$200 is due by Sunday, September 20, 2020.

Financial assistance is available for the 2021 ELCA Youth Gathering through the NTNL Synod via the process outlined below:

- Applications open May 18, 2020 July 1, 2020, and close when all funds have been disbursed.
- Financial assistance is available to youth participants only in the form of registrationfee credits.
- Assistance is offered based on the financial need of youth participants and their families.
- Up to \$300 per youth participant may be provided to cover registration fees.
- Youth participants must be registered within 30 days of receiving financial assistance.
- Contact the church office 972-727-3191 if you want to submit application for financial assistance.

Youth & Family Ministry plans to subsidize expenses to reduce cost per child through budgeted funds and future fundraisers.

Please contact Lennie Gunderson at 214-505-2760 or lennie gunderson@gmail.com to find out more information immediately.

Parents of eligible youth should expect to receive an email and phone call from Lennie Gunderson over the next week to inquire about interest in attending the Gathering.

I want you to know all about Christ's lave, although it is too wonderful to be measured. Then your lives will be filled with all that God is. EPHESIANS 3:19 CEV

Prayer List



Steve Brevig	Jennifer O'Neill
The Claycomb Family	Marty Plies
Reid Edwards	Mary Reisig
Theodore Hopkins	Joyce Ryder
June Kio	June Saleika
Roland Kio	Lorraine Sandvig
Kim Lewis	Eleanor Soto & Family
Chad Lindberg	Wanda Sue Wilcox
Vicky Mansfield	

Please keep these individuals in your thoughts and prayers during this coming week.



On May 24th, Marty and Carl came in to celebrate the 50th anniversary of their wedding which took place on May 23, 1970.





See the instructions above just after the Pastor's message.

Alternately, if you wish to use Fire Stick:

- Install the Facebook Watch App. (Only once)

- Start it up. Logging in to your Facebook account does help the search for the church's website but it's not required.

- Search for 'Christ the Servant Lutheran Church'. Look for the icon below.



- Once there, the videos we have posted will show, as will the live broadcast after it's started.

If you have trouble, call the church at 972-727-3191 after 9:15 am and someone will be there to help you.



Don't have a Facebook Account?

- 1 Go to Christtheservant.com
- 2 -- Click on the Facebook icon in the lower right corner
- 3 -- Click on video

4 -- Click on the red LIVE button; you are in!



Effective Until Further Notice

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church will <u>suspend</u> <u>ALL ON-SITE WORSHIP SERVICES,</u> <u>ACTIVITIES and MEETINGS</u> All other groups which use our building (excluding Amazing Grace Day Care) are requested to suspend their activities as well.

Pastor Illausky and Ceci Gunderson will remain available for contact via email, text and telephone.

Please join us online Sundays at 9:30 am for a live service on Facebook at *Christ the Servant Lutheran Church Allen*

Let's Get Involved!

CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN CHURCH COMMITTEES

Committee

Contact

Children, Youth and Family Ministry Da' Guys **Empty Nesters** Evangelism and Outreach Family Promise Finance Committee Health Cabinet Mini Parish Member Care Music Ministry Mutual Ministry Committee Property Committee Senior Servants Social Ministry Committee Stephen Ministry Technology Committee WELCA Worship and Music

Kim Andrews Lennie Gunderson Bob Peeler Alan Reidmiller Bob Peeler Lou Federle Laura Kibby Christina Osmer Pam Grosze Marilyn Lutz Rob Andrews Lou Federle Bob Peeler Bill and Susan Henke Bob Peeler Richard Eyo Pam Grosze, Ginny Grundei Marilyn Lutz



Look for God in the smallest of things.

CTSLC Broadcast Worship Service May 31, 2020 Day of Pentecost

Broadcast begins: 9:20 a.m. Please call 972-727-3191 for help tuning in Pre-service announcements displayed Worship service begins: 9:30 a.m.

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.

Prelude "Lord, You Are Welcome"

arr. Alex Kirton

Welcome

Pastor: We begin in the name of the Father, Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Cong: Amen.

Pastor: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are raised with him to new life. 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 our salvation through His resurrection. Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love, O God. 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.

(Continued on next page.)

Shall We Gather at the River



Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899 Music: HANSON PLACE, Robert Lowry

Greeting

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**.

ELW #401



Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading

nor rootless liberty; turn disquiet to contentment, doubt into certainty.

unswayed by earth's allure. Ever grant us zealous fitness, which you alone assure.

Text: Wilson Niwagila; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922 Music: NJOO KWETU, ROHO MWEMA, Wilson Niwagila; arr. Egil Hovland, b. 1924 English and Swahili text and tune © Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Arr. © Egil Hovland. Used by permission.

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Hymn of Praise

Refrain:

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord; Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to His name.

- 1 Jesus is Lord of all the earth; He is the king of creation. *Refrain*
- 2 Spread the good news 'oer all the earth; Jesus has died and has risen. *Refrain*
- 3 We have been crucified with Christ; Now we shall live forever. *Refrain*
- 4 Come, let us praise the living God, Joyfully sing to our Savior. *Refrain*

Prayer of the Day

Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

.....

First Reading

Acts 2:1-21

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."

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

Paul is helping the Corinthians understand the relationship between our God-given unity and Spiritcreated 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.

<u>Gospel</u>

John 20:19-23

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

<u>Sermon</u>

Hymn of the Day

"O Day Full of Grace"

ELW #627

O Day Full of Grace



Text: Scandinavian folk hymn; tr. Gerald Thorson, 1921–2001, alt. Music: DEN SIGNEDE DAG, Christoph E. F. Weyse, 1774–1842 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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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.

Musical Of	fering	"Spirit of the Living God"	arr. Alex Kirton
Prayers of	<u>the Church</u>		
Pastor:	Uplifted	by the promised hope of healing and resur	rection, we join the people of God

in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need. We call on your spirit of unity, giving thanks for our different vocations. Activate and Assistant: utilize the diverse gifts present in your church, that they reveal your love for all. Lord, in your mercy, C: hear our prayer. We call on your spirit of life, present in the air and wind in our atmosphere which breathes energy into all things with your breath health those who struggle to breathe. Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer**. We call on your spirit of righteousness. Wherever we as a people are divided, unite us. Wherever we are prideful, humble us. Give each of us a heart for justice and empathy. Lord, in your mercy, C: hear our prayer. We call on your spirit of healing. Bless nurses, doctors, midwives, pastors, counselors, and hospice workers as they care for those in need and all who long for comfort. Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.** We call on your spirit of friendship. Give us a congregation the spirit of welcome to those we meet outside doors of our church building. Surprise us daily with unexpected grace enable us to rejoice in every blessing you send. Lord, in your mercy, C: hear our prayer. As you led your saints in all times and places, we call on you to stir in us the desire to follow their example leading us from death to new life in you. Lord, in your mercy, C: hear our praver. Pastor: With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care through Christ our Lord. C: Amen.

Celebration of Holy Communion

P: The Lord be with you C: And also with you

P: Lift up your hearts C: We lift them to the lord

P: Let us give thanks to the lord our God **C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Preface & Words of Institution

You are indeed holy almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation. 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.

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this sacrament with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world in the name of Him who taught us to pray:

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.



Communion hymns

Spirit of Gentleness



Text: James K. Manley, b. 1940 Music: SPIRIT, James K. Manley Text and music © 1978 James K. Manley, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Jesus Loves Me!



Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820–1915, alt. Music: JESUS LOVES ME, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

Post Communion Prayer

Life-giving God, you have fed us with your word, and our hearts burn within us. Through this meal you have opened us to your presence. Now send us forth to share the gifts of Easter with all in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Recognition of CTSLC's 2020 High School Graduates

Joseph Clever IV	Greta Hundtofte	Taly Meals	Olivia Whannell
Wylie High School	Allen High School	McKinney-Boyd	McKinney High

Announcements

Blessing

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.**

<u>Closing Hymn</u>

"Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

ELW #543

Go, My Children, with My Blessing



Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt. Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

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<u>Postlude</u>

"Pomp and Circumstance"