



Redeemer Lutheran
TORONTO, ONTARIO

*Finding **Life** in Community*

Nothing Can Separate Us

Day of Pentecost
May 28, 2023 – 10:00 AM

(Congregational Parts are in **Bold**)

INTRODUCTION

For Pentecost Sunday we have two texts that are different in focus but equally appropriate for declaring the good news of the person and work of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2.1-4 the outpouring of the Spirit on the diverse peoples gathered for Pentecost. The central emphasis of the text is that, despite the diversity of languages, all heard “the mighty works of God”

Second, in the longer reading from Romans we hear that this same Spirit is given to us. The text answers a question that many of us might ask: how do we understand our hope — we’ve been given God’s Spirit and so claimed as God’s children — when life seems more defined by suffering than the promised glory of the future?

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

When the day of Pentecost had come,
they were all together in one place.

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.

Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them,
and a tongue rested on each of them.

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

GATHERING HYMN: *O Holy Spirit, Root of Life* #399



1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, root of life, cre -
2 E - ter - nal vig - or, Sav - ing One, you
3 O ho - ly Wis - dom, soar - ing pow'r, en -



a - tor, cleans - er of all things: a - noint our wounds, a -
free us by your liv - ing Word, be - com - ing flesh to
com - pass us with wings un - furled, and car - ry us, en -



wak - en us with lus - trous move - ment of your wings.
wear our pain, and all cre - a - tion is re - stored.
cir - cling all a - bove, be - low, and through the world.

Text: Jean Janzen, b. 1933; based on Hildegard of Bingen, 1098–1179

Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune; adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

Text © 1991 Jean Janzen, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Great Spirit, you have lit upon each of us a flame to serve you in all that we do. Ignite your flame, and help us to burn brightly for you. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Open My Eyes

Kristopher E. Lindquist
San Francisco, 1994

The musical score is written in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems, each with a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "O - pen my eyes that I may see, O - pen my ears that I may hear, O - pen my mind that I may know, O - pen my heart that I may live." Chord markings are placed above the vocal line: *emin*, *C*, *D*, *emin*, *CMaj7*, *amin7* in the first system; *D*, *G*, *emin*, *CMaj7*, *amin7*, *D* in the second system; and *emin*, *bmin*, *C*, *D*, *emin* in the third system. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords in the right hand.

READING: ROMANS 8: 18-38

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Dream God's Dream*

Chorus

Dream God's dream
Holy Spirit, help us dream
Of a world where there is justice
And where everyone is free
To build and grow and love
And to simply have enough
The world will change
When we dream God's dream

I'm dreaming of a world, where the color of one's skin
Will mean less than what's within the person's heart
A world where water's clean, and where air is safe to breathe
And every child born has enough to eat

Chorus

I'm dreaming of the call God is offering to me
How to use my energy and my best gifts
To do the work of Christ—to say God, please use my life
To spread your healing love and to live your truth

Chorus

I'm dreaming of the way that I want my life to go
I've got hopes and I've got goals I'd like to meet
I'm reaching for the stars, but I won't forget the scars
Of Christ who died to show that the Dream's for all

Chorus

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*The prayer petitions will be offered in different languages.
The English translation is below:*

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

God of the Spirit, fill us with your light and your fire. Remind us that there is no force in this world or any other that can separate us from your love Resurrected God. **Grant us new life.**

As creation groans in labor pains for the coming of the day when it will be set free from its bondage to decay, we too, wait for the coming of ultimate redemption. Help us restore your creation to wholeness as we wait. Resurrected God. **Grant us new life.**

With humility and gratitude, we remember that within your creation we have set up many nations. Remember all of them in your kingdom, as we ask for peace and justice. Restore healing and hope to all. Resurrected God. **Grant us new life.**

Bring to health and wholeness all that are in need of your healing touch, especially those we name before you now *(long pause)*. Resurrected God. **Grant us new life.**

Remind us that there are people all over the world who have lost loved ones. Minimize grief and restore hope to all who suffer. Resurrected God. **Grant us new life.**

We lift up all the saints who have gone before us, who have taught us that nothing can take us from you. Resurrected God. **Grant us new life.**

Rejoicing in the victory of life over death, we lift our prayers and praise to you; through Jesus Christ, our risen hope. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING *Go to our website for instructions on how you might contribute to the ministry of Redeemer. www.redeemerlutheran.ca*

OFFERING HYMN:

A Feast for All the People

Inspired by Hebrew scripture,
Isaiah 25:6-9

Kristopher E. Lindquist
Tucson, 2001

Refrain

Musical notation for the Refrain, consisting of three staves of music in 4/4 time. The key signature has one flat (Bb). The lyrics are: "A feast, a feast, a feast for all the people, a feast of food and wine, The Holy One, the Holy One pre-pares it, the feast of end-less joy!"

Chords: C7sus, F, amin, gmin/Bb, F, Bb, gmin7, C, C7/Bb, F/A, dmin7, Bb, C, F/A, gmin7, C7, F.

Verse

Musical notation for the Verse, consisting of three staves of music in 4/4 time. The key signature has one flat (Bb). The lyrics are: "The shroud of death is swallowed up, the tears of pain are wiped a-way. The day we longed and wait-ed for, the day when all are whole."

Chords: dmin, Bb, C, amin, Bb, gmin7, C, amin7, dmin, Bb, C, amin, Bb, gmin7, C.

Repeat Refrain

OFFERING PRAYER

GREAT THANKSGIVING

God is with you. **And also with you.**

Open your hearts. **We open them to God.**

Let us give thanks to God. **We offer our thanks and praise.**

HOLY HOLY HOLY

Holy 1: Holy, Holy, Holy One

Inspired by traditional Christian
Sanctus & Hebrew scripture, Isaiah 6:3

Kristopher E. Lindquist
San Francisco, 1995

Refrain

The musical notation is for a refrain in 4/4 time, written in a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody consists of quarter notes and half notes. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly One, One Be - ing — in us all." The first line of music has a fermata over the final note. The second line of music also has a fermata over the final note. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: fmin, D♭, A♭, B♭min, fmin for the first line, and fmin, D♭, A♭, E♭, F for the second line.

JESUS' PRAYER

We encourage you to pray in whatever language or version of the prayer you wish. We hope to create a cacophony of voices much like that would have been heard on that first day of Pentecost.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN: *Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading* #401

Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading



Njo - o kwe - tu, Ro - ho mwe - ma, M - fa - ri - ji we - tu.
 1 Gra - cious Spir - it, heed our plead - ing, fash - ion us all a - new.
 2 Come to teach us, come to nour - ish those who be - lieve in Christ.
 3 Guide our think - ing and our speak - ing done in your ho - ly name.



Tu - fu - ndi - she ya mbi - ngu - ni, tu - we wa - tu wa - pya.
 It's your lead - ing that we're need - ing, help us to fol - low you.
 Bless the faith - ful, may they flour - ish, strength - ened by grace un - priced.
 Mo - ti - vate all in their seek - ing, free - ing from guilt and shame.

Refrain



Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.
 Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.



Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.
 Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.

- 4 Not mere knowledge, but discernment,
 nor rootless liberty;
 turn disquiet to contentment,
 doubt into certainty. *Refrain*
- 5 Keep us fervent in our witness,
 unswayed by earth's allure.
 Ever grant us zealous fitness,
 which you alone assure. *Refrain*

Text: Wilson Niwagila; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922

Music: NJOOKWEJU, ROHO MWEMA, Wilson Niwagila

English and Swahili text and music © Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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COMMUNION

Those joining us online are encouraged to participate with bread and wine, or crackers and juice or whatever you have on hand.

Those who are more comfortable remaining in the pew may commune using the pre-filled, juice and wafer fellowship cups, with those online.

Then those who prefer may come forward for bread and wine. Gluten free wafers are available for those who ask.

TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN: *Spirit of Gentleness* #396

(found on the next page)

DISMISSAL

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the Good News!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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*Introduction to the text: Orrey McFarland, Pastor | Adjunct Professor
Peace Lutheran Church | North American Lutheran Seminary, Edmund, Oklahoma*

*Eucharistic prayer, prayer after communion by Kurt Struckmeyer.
www.progressivechristianity.org/resources/the-words-of-the-eucharist/*

Spirit of Gentleness

Refrain



Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness



call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,



stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.



- 1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
- 2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
- 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
- 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;
From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;



and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing:
and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,
and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,
our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.



Refrain

“A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings.”
then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.
when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.
With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.

Please Contribute to our Ministry

If you've enjoyed your time at Redeemer Lutheran – at a service, event, or in our outdoor greenspaces – and would like to express your thanks or appreciation or support our ongoing efforts, consider a one-time or recurring gift.

In-Person Giving: on Sunday mornings donation envelopes are located in the pews and offering plates are located at the entrances to the sanctuary.

By Mail: Cheques can be mailed to
Redeemer Lutheran
1691 Bloor St. W.
Toronto, ON M6P 1B1

Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR): Regular monthly giving is the most effective way for you to provide sustaining support to help Redeemer Lutheran budget and plan for ministries. To set up PAR giving, [download](#) the PAR form from our website or [contact](#) the Treasurer at treasurer@redeemerlutheran.ca. The form can be returned in the offering plate, by email or mailed to the church.

Online Giving: You can make a one-time donation or provide ongoing support by clicking [**DONATE NOW**](#) at www.redeemerlutheran.ca which will connect you Bto our Canada Helps Page.