

May 19, 2024

The Festival of Pentecost
Rev. Jonathan D. Meyer, Pastor
Pastor Meyer-(979) 540-7973
Our website – www.trinity-stjames.org

Color-RED [Holy Spirit, zeal, and shed blood]
Our email address – lexington.fedor.lcms@gmail.com
Church-(979) 773-2634

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH - FEDOR

The Elder-in-Charge – Jerry Falke
The Head Usher – Allan Urban
The Altar Guild – Gloria Pillack, Jane Schimank

The Organist – Kevin Patschke

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH - LEXINGTON

The Elder-in-Charge – Paul Rudd
The Acolyte – Pistol Lay
The Head Usher – Wesley Boriack

The Organist – Kevin Patschke

The Finance Board – Rodney Exner, Ferman Iselt, Patrick Jatzlau, Zachary Lay

The Altar Guild – Suzanne Rudd, Jennifer Speer, Ella Yurk, Margie Yurk

The Flowers – To the glory of God in honor of the Confirmation of Korban Brown and Miriam Meyer by their family.

TO OUR VISITORS - In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, we bid you welcome. May the Holy Spirit bless you, together with us, as we give our attention to the Word of God this morning. *** Please sign the GUEST REGISTER [please also include your address] in the NARTHEX as you leave the church.

HOLY COMMUNION STATEMENT AND POLICY: It is our expressed belief, confidence and joy that the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, present under the bread and wine, are distributed in the Lord’s Supper. All who commune at His altar are to be in complete confessional agreement with the other communicants. This practice of Closed Communion is an evangelical expression of our love for the communicant and for Christ’s Holy Supper. In accordance with the Word of God in 1 Corinthians 1:10; 11:27-29, we only permit members of this congregation, as well as members of fellow Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod congregations, to commune today. If your membership is with a different faith group, so that you have a belief which differs from our belief and confession on Holy Communion, then we kindly ask you in love to refrain from communing today and first speak with Pastor or an Elder. Members of our congregation who wish to commune are asked to sign the communion registration sheet in the Narthex.

OUR WORSHIP THIS MORNING

THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION - PAGE 15 IN THE FRONT OF THE HYMNAL.

(Our visitors are asked to please read and honor our communion statement above.)

SILENT PRAYER upon entering the nave: Loving heavenly Father! I have come to hear Your Holy Word that makes the soul righteous. So then, put Your Holy Spirit in my heart that I may accept Your Gospel with awe and truly believe it. Amen.

+++**THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION** (at St. James) will take place this morning. Our Confirmands are Korban Jennings Brown and Miriam Elisabeth Meyer.

**SUMMARY OF TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS –
THE FESTIVAL OF PENTECOST**

The Risen Lord Jesus Pours Out the Holy Spirit The Lord took “*some of the Spirit*” that was on Moses “*and put it on the seventy elders*” of Israel (*Numbers 11:25*), and they “*prophesied in the camp.*” (*Numbers 11:26*) In the same way, our risen Lord Jesus poured out His Holy Spirit at the Feast of Pentecost – the 50th day and the “Eighth Sunday” of Easter. When “*a sound like a mighty rushing wind*” and “*tongues as of fire appeared*” and rested on each of the twelve apostles, “*they were all filled with the Holy Spirit*” and proclaimed “*the mighty works of God.*” (*Acts 2:2-4, 11*) “*At this sound the multitude came together,*” (*Acts 2:6*) for the preaching of Christ is the primary work of the Holy Spirit, whereby He gathers people from all nations into one Church. The Holy Spirit teaches and brings to our remembrance the words of Jesus, which are the words of the Father Who sent Him. These words bestow forgiveness and peace to those who keep and hold on to them in love for Jesus. “*Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.*” (*lcms.org/lectionary-summaries*)

A READING FROM THE LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS

Summary: According to Jesus, the purpose and work of the Holy Spirit is to “teach” and “bring to remembrance” everything He taught His disciples regarding His suffering, death, resurrection and ascension. To be sure, this work will be accompanied by miracles as God sees fit. However, it is the proclamation of the Word of Christ by which men are saved and the Holy Spirit is known.

God the Holy Spirit, however, does not bring about conversion without means. For this purpose He uses the preaching and hearing of God's Word, as it is written in Romans 1:16, the Gospel “*is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.*” Also Romans 10:17 says, “*Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the Word of Christ.*” It is God's will that His Word should be heard and that a person's ears should not be closed. (*Ref. Psalm 95:8*) With this Word the Holy Spirit is present, and opens hearts, so that people (*like Lydia in Acts 16:14*) pay attention to it, and are converted only through the Holy Spirit's grace and power, Who alone does the work of converting a person. For without His grace, and if He do not grant the increase, our willing and running, our planting, sowing, and watering (*ref. 1 Corinthians 3:5-7*) are nothing. As Christ says in John 15:5, “*Apart from Me you can do nothing.*” With these brief words, the Spirit denies free will its powers and ascribes everything to God's grace, in order that no one may boast before God. (*Ref. 2 Corinthians 10:17; Jeremiah 9:23*) (*The Formula of Concord: Epitome, Article 3, Free Will*)

† IN THE NAME OF JESUS †

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: ♪ 233

**PREPATORY SERVICE OF CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION AND SERVICE OF THE WORD
[PAGE 15 TO 23, FRONT OF HYMNAL]**

INTROIT (ENTRANCE INTO THE SERVICE OF THE WORD)

PASTOR: Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful, and kindle in us the fire of Your love. Alleluia. O Lord, how many are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all; the earth is full of Your creatures. These all look to you, to give them their food in due season. When you give it to them, they gather it up; when You open Your hand, they are filled with good things. When You send forth Your Spirit, they are created, and You renew the face of the ground. (*Liturgical Text; Psalm 104:24, 27-28, 30*)

CONGREGATION: ♪ **Glory be to the Father....**

COLLECT (PRAYER) OF THE DAY

P: O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy consolation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: 🎵 Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: FIRST LESSON – NUMBERS 11:24-30

P: ^{11:24} So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord. And he gathered seventy men of the elders of the people and placed them around the tent. ²⁵ Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the Spirit that was on [Moses] and put it on the seventy elders. And as soon as the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied. But they did not continue doing it.

²⁶ Now two 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. ²⁷ And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” ²⁸ And Joshua the son of Nun, the assistant of Moses from his youth, said, “My lord Moses, stop them.” ²⁹ But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? I wish that all the Lord’s people were prophets, that the Lord would put His Spirit on them!” ³⁰ And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 143: 1-3; 5-11

P: Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my pleas for mercy! In Your faithfulness answer me, in Your righteousness!

C: **Do not enter into judgment with your servant, for no one living is righteous before you.**

P: For the enemy has pursued my soul; he has crushed my life to the ground; he has made me sit in darkness like those long dead.

C: **I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that You have done; I ponder the work of Your hands.**

P: I stretch out my hands to You; my soul thirsts for You like a parched land.

C: **Answer me quickly, O Lord! My spirit fails! Do not hide Your face from me, lest I be like those who go down to the pit.**

P: Let me hear in the morning of Your steadfast love, for in You I trust. Make me know the way I should go, for to You I lift up my soul.

C: **Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord! I have fled to You for refuge.**

P: Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God. Let Your good Spirit lead me on level ground!

C: **For Your Name’s sake, O Lord, preserve my life! In Your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble!**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

HYMN: 🎵 231

SECOND LESSON – ACTS 2:1-21

P: ^{2:1} When the day of Pentecost arrived, [Jesus’ apostles and followers] were all together in one place. ² And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

⁵ Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. ⁶ And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. ⁷ And they were amazed and astonished, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?”

⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? ⁹ Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, ¹¹ both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians – we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.” ¹² And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” ¹³ But others mocking said, “They are filled with new wine.”

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. ¹⁵ For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. ¹⁶ But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷ “And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; ¹⁸ even on my male servants

and female servants in those days I will pour out My Spirit, and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹ And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; ²⁰ the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day. ²¹ And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

TRIPLE HALLELUJAH AND READING OF THE GOSPEL LESSON – JOHN 14:23-31

C: ♪ **Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14th chapter.

C: ♪ **Glory be to Thee, O Lord!**

^{14:23} Jesus [said], “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. ²⁴ Whoever does not love Me does not keep My words. And the word that you hear is not Mine but the Father’s Who sent Me.

²⁵ “These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My Name, He will teach you all things and bring to Your remembrance all that I have said to You. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard Me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I will come to you.’ If you loved Me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe. ³⁰ I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on Me, ³¹ but I do as the Father has commanded Me, so that the world may know that I love the Father.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: ♪ **Praise be to Thee, O Christ!**

NICENE CREED (CONFESSION OF FAITH) [PAGE 22]

HYMN OF THE DAY: ♪ 226

SERMON: *God’s Eternal Peace is Yours Through Jesus and His Spirit – Acts 2:1-21; John 14:27*

Jesus says to you: “Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you.” (Jn. 14:27) Amen.

Dear baptized in the Name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen. Long before it occurred, the outpouring of God the Holy Spirit was prophesied by God the Father in Joel 2:28: “I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh.” It was also promised by God the Son: “The Helper, the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My Name, He will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.” (Jn. 14:26) Jesus adds, to His disciples: “See, I am sending the promise of My Father [the Holy Spirit] upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.” (Lk. 24:49)

Let’s journey together through the first Pentecost to see how the Holy Spirit is poured out by God on the apostles, early followers of Jesus, and on us. Let’s see further how the events of that pivotal day in history wondrously mirror how our God lovingly deals with us today through His Son and Spirit.... How we’ve had – and continue to have – our own Pentecost blessings as God’s beloved Christians. And let’s see how Jesus gives us the peace and comfort of God through the Spirit of holiness.

When the Day of Pentecost arrives, Jesus’ apostles and devoted followers – around 120 in number (*see Acts 1:15*) – are gathered together in Jerusalem. They’re not surprised by the sudden outpouring of the Spirit upon them since Jesus has prepared them for His coming multiple times in the previous weeks. They’re eagerly awaiting being “clothed with power from on high.” (Lk. 24:49) Pentecost occurs ten days following Jesus’ glorious ascension into heaven and fifty days after His mighty resurrection from the dead for us all. The sudden sound of a mighty rushing wind isn’t accompanied by actual wind blowing in their hair and faces, so Jesus’ followers are aware that this is an act of God, not of nature or of man. This is the Holy Spirit’s glorious arrival and outpouring!

The same went for you when the Holy Spirit was first poured out on you. It wasn’t a natural phenomenon or an act of man when the Spirit first came upon you, entered into you through the washing of water joined with God’s Word – being baptized, as you were, in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Neither do divided tufts of fire normally appear on peoples’ heads, causing them to speak God’s Word in many different languages that they themselves don’t speak. This is further evidence that the Holy Spirit – and He alone – is at

work! While you didn't receive the "gift of tongues" at your Baptism, what you did receive is far better: The washing away of your sins, Spirit-given, saving faith in Jesus Christ, entrance into the holy Church of God and eternal life in Jesus Christ your Lord.

The beauty of Pentecost is that the Holy Spirit works through His Word and that Word joined with water to deliver and save lost sinners, and to do so in Christ Jesus. Baptizing and proclaiming the Word of God is the order of the day from then on for the Church of God.

Following the still wind from heaven and cool flames upon foreheads, Jesus' apostles speak God's Word in the numerous languages of all the devout Jews who've come to Jerusalem from all over the Mediterranean world to celebrate the feast of Pentecost. The crowd of people is stunned to hear the apostles speaking to them in their own native languages. For you see, in the Bible, speaking in tongues is nothing other than the Holy Spirit-given ability to speak God's Word in foreign languages. It'd be as if you or I could out-of-nowhere fluently speak God's Word in Russian, Japanese or Swahili without any prior ability to speak those languages. Pretty amazing, right? No one receives this ability any longer from God, but in the early Church, He gave it to His apostles and preachers for a time for the spreading of His Word and faith.

So those drawn by the Spirit to the apostles' preaching are hearing the mighty works of God – the Old Testament Scriptures – in their own languages from Galileans! They're no doubt being called to repentance and faith in God's Son Whom He promised in ancient times; Whom He sent to earth to die, rise again and ascend into heaven for their salvation and the salvation of all. St. Peter will shortly expand upon the apostles' wondrous words in his Pentecost sermon.

How blessed we are to hear, read, mark, learn and inwardly digest (*see Collect of the Word*) all Holy Scripture in our own language! The same Holy Spirit Who spread His Word far-and-wide in the early Church through the preaching and witness of it has lovingly seen to it that we have God's prophetic and apostolic Word as our Word of life and salvation too!

Take great care not to take God's Word for granted – to treat it as no big deal. Many of the hearers of Peter and the apostles are brought from death to life, from Satan to God that day through Christ and His Spirit. They become the true people of God – saints of the Lord Jesus – and they love Him. Cherish your Savior Jesus and His mighty Word too, and your most holy faith in Him through His Word and Spirit more than everyone and everything else in your life! Confess with the Psalmist: *"Whom have I in heaven but You [O Lord?] And I desire no one on earth besides You."* (Ps. 73:25)

Not everyone cares to hear the apostles' speaking God's Word in the languages of all gathered. A bitter bunch who refuse the Spirit's gift and work ridicule Jesus' servants, claiming that their "speaking in tongues" means they're smash-drunk. So they bad-mouth Peter and the rest in a cold-hearted attempt to discredit them and their message. As in, "Pay no attention to these crazed-speakers; they're intoxicated." This is a diabolical effort to crash Pentecost just as it's getting off the ground, and we don't need to guess at which demonic being is behind it. The crowd is trying to grasp what's going on. They're hearing the Torah or Divine Word in their own languages, and they're wondering how...and why. *"What does this mean?"* (Acts 2:12) they ask. If no good explanation is given; if the onlookers can be convinced that the apostles are inebriated or crazy, then the day is a total loss for everyone.

This threat to the Day of Pentecost is real, and this threat is also real for us. We're inclined to resist the Holy Spirit by refusing or setting aside His sacred Scripture, which He gives to us. We let so much interfere with, blot out, even replace faithful hearing and receiving of the living voice of our God. According to our sinful nature, we too often disregard God's Word and so *"do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of man."* (Mt. 16:23) We, too, hear that worldly voice which says to us, "What you hear from the Bible isn't really of much value to you, or at least it's not as important as other things you hear – things which you'd rather listen to, which focus on you. So don't bother with God's Word anymore." Surely we'd all fall for this, go away from Jesus and follow Him no more. Yet the Holy Spirit has the final word – a word of warning for us, and one of comfort. He – through the very Scripture we mistreat; He grabs us away from the path of certain destruction. As it's written in Hebrews 3: *"Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, 'Today, if you hear [God's] voice, 'do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness, where [Israel] put Me to the test....' 'As I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest.'"* (7, 8, 11)

St. Peter swats down the absurd notion that he and his fellow apostles have had too much to drink. It's only nine o'clock in the morning when no one drinks strong drink. God also shoots down and dispels every reason we have for thinking little of or shunning His Word – really Him! – in favor of what we think or feel satisfies us in life.

So repent in earnest over treating the Word of God as too small a thing, for then God is too small to you as well. Run time-and-again to God and His Word, saying, *“Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!”* (Ps. 51:1-2) God will always forgive the iniquity of your sin (see Ps. 32:5), restore unto you the joy of His salvation (see Ps. 51:12) and keep you – in His Spirit – steadfast in His Word! So never refuse to repent over being careless toward God’s Word lest you lose the Word and God forever. Instead, hear and heed the Lord your God: *“In returning [to Me] and [resting in Me] you shall be saved; quietness and trust [in Me] shall be your strength.”* (Is. 30:15)

St. Peter – in the Spirit – declares to everyone that the apostles’ “speaking in tongues” is the fulfilment of the Prophet Joel’s prophecy about the Holy Spirit’s outpouring on the world. God now desires to give the Holy Spirit to all who’ll believe and confess His Holy Name; Who abide in His Word by faith alone in Jesus, and Who speak it and live it out in their Christian lives. And boy, does God ever send forth His Spirit on that day and on every one that follows it – so that three-thousand souls repent, are baptized and believe in Jesus that day; so that millions and billions are added to His Church in the days, weeks, months, years and centuries to come. When will the Holy Spirit’s saving work through Word and water conclude? Not until our Lord Jesus Christ returns for us and God ends the world. From day one of Pentecost ‘til now ‘til the end, *“Everyone who calls upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved!”* (Acts 2:21)

Saints of God, your Pentecost day was the day of your Baptism into Christ, into the Christian faith, into the Church of God. Ever since, the Holy Spirit has *“sanctified [you] and [has] kept [you]...with Jesus Christ in the one true faith”* (Small Catechism: Luther; Explanation of the 3rd Article of the Creed) in His beloved Church. He’s done so by His saving Word joined with water, His Holy Gospel proclamation, His forgiving Word of Absolution, and His living Word joined with bread and wine, feeding you Jesus’ body and blood unto everlasting life!

The first Easter evening, when their risen, glorified Lord suddenly, almightily appeared to His disciples behind locked doors, He said to them: *“Peace be with you.” And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.’”* (Jn. 20:21-22) How good of our Lord Jesus to give the peace of God and His Spirit to His disciples! We believe that our risen, ascended Lord gives us the same Holy Spirit and peace – without measure or limit! Since He was crucified, shed His precious blood, was slain in His holy body for you.... Since He was raised to life again and ascended into heaven for you in His body, Jesus imparts eternal peace to your hearts, saying to you, *“Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you. [So] do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.”* (Jn. 14:27)

[St. James: Dear Korban and Miriam;] O people of God: *“Without the Holy Spirit we have nothing; through Him we have all things. If we lose the Holy Spirit, we lose all things; if we keep the Holy Spirit, we keep all things. The Holy Spirit is willing [and desires above all] to abide with us forever. Here on earth He will abide with us through His Word. O Christians, [live] by His Word, that you may keep the Holy Spirit and all things that are given [to] you through Jesus and in Jesus. In heaven the Holy Spirit will fully change you into the image of God.”* (Crumbs: C.M. Zorn, Easter 6, Tuesday) Amen. *The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.*

OFFERTORY (ANTHEM PRECEEDING THE OFFERING OF TITHES) [PAGES 22-23]

OFFERING

CONFIRMATION HYMN: ♪ 337

THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION FOR KORBAN J. BROWN AND MIRIAM E. MEYER

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH – LITANY TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

P: O Lord, have mercy. **C:** O Christ, have mercy. **P:** O Lord, have mercy.

P: O God the Father of Heaven, O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, O God the Holy Spirit, true Comforter,
C: have mercy on us.

P: Lord God, the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord; the Spirit of love, the Spirit of joy, the Spirit of peace, the Spirit of patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and discipline, and the Spirit of piety, humility and chastity.
C: Have mercy upon us.

P: Lord God, the Holy Spirit, You are He Who tests the hearts of mankind, and You are the Giver of heavenly grace.

You are the Joy of the angels, the Comfort of the sorrowing, the Light of the prophets, the Wisdom of the apostles, the Victory of the holy martyrs, and You are the Anointing of the saints. **C:** Have mercy upon us.

P: Be gracious to us. **C:** Spare us, good Lord.

P: Be gracious to us. **C:** Help us, good Lord.

P: From all evil; from all error; from all sin. From the crafts and assaults of the devil; from all false teaching that dishonors and blasphemes our Lord Jesus Christ, from envy and ill-will toward our fellow brethren in Christ, from impurity of body and soul, from a lack of care in the service of God, and from all evil spirits, **C: deliver us, good Lord.**

P: Lord God, the Holy Spirit: You Who proceed from the Father and the Son, You Who did overshadow the blessed virgin Mary, causing her to conceive in her womb the eternal Son of God, Jesus the Christ, You Who did descend upon the Son of God in the form of a dove at His Baptism, You Who were poured out upon the holy apostles, descending upon them in tongues of flame, enabling them to speak the Gospel in other languages, You Who have regenerated and saved us in Holy Baptism, And You Who dwell in us through Your Word and Sacraments, **C: help us, good Lord.**

P: O Holy Spirit, You intercede for us in groanings that cannot be uttered, **C: hear us, good Lord.**

P: Lord God, the Holy Spirit, we poor sinners implore You **C: to hear us, O Lord.**

P: And to cleanse and sanctify all the members of Your holy Church, to adorn the Bride of Christ, the Church, with Your many gifts, to bless and protect the Missouri Synod, together with all its ministers and institutions, to grant us all the spirit of prayer and reverent worship, to govern and sanctify our thoughts, words, and deeds, to adorn our lives with patience and humility, to kindle in us love and mercy, to clothe us with chastity, to work in us the peace of God, to keep us in Your grace, to watch over and help us in our infirmities, particularly all those for whom we implore God's mercy: _____, that You would bless and heal them. And to comfort Lynette Brown and her family at the passing of her sister-in-law, Debra Poston, and to console Della Biehle and her family at the passing of her son-in-law, William Kimmey, with the joy of the resurrection of the dead in Christ and the life everlasting, **C: We implore You to hear us, Good Lord!**

P: O Lord, have mercy. **C: O Christ, have mercy. P:** O Lord, have mercy. **C: Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR [PAGES 24-31]

PROPER PREFACE (LORD'S SUPPER OPENING PRAYER) FOR PENTECOST

P: It is truly good, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who ascended above the heavens and, sitting at Your right hand, poured out on this day the promised Holy Spirit on His chosen disciples. For all this the whole earth rejoices with exceeding joy. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

COMMUNION HYMNS: ♪ 235, 227 & 229

CLOSING HYMN: ♪ 334

† TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY †

OUR ATTENDANCE FROM LAST SUNDAY

	Worship	Comm.	S.S. & B.C.	Offerings
Trinity	45		12	\$2,191.00
St. James	56		7 10	\$1,402.00

Sunday Offerings—Trinity, Fedor

	Operating	Building	Missions	Cemetery	Week
Goal	28,291.00				
Actual	32,573.87		3,075.00		19
Last Week	2,191.00				

Sunday Offerings—St. James, Lexington

	Operating	Mission	Future Development	Total	Week
--	-----------	---------	--------------------	-------	------

Goal	50,565.00			50,565.00	
Actual	40,465.25	20.00	90.00	40,575.25	19
Last Week	1,402.00			1,402.00	

+++++

THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY +last day of the 2023-24 school year at Lexington ISD!!!

FRIDAY *Pastor’s Day Off

NEXT SUNDAY +The Festival of Holy Trinity will be celebrated at both Holy Trinity and St. James

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

+++We remember in our prayers:...at Holy Trinity...*Eldor Brade, Dorothy Schimank, Monroe Brade, Carolyn Nitsche*;...at St. James...*Dolores Sullivan, Della Biehle, Bernice Lay, Lois Turner, Darvin Drosche, Lillie Mae Boettcher, Tom Kleinschmidt, Ronnie Iselt, Egor Raines, Genell Boettcher, David Roensch, Ernest Biehle, Charles Kaiser, Ginger Clifford, Walter Dube Jr., Lorine Lerche, Ruth Siegmund* [friend of St. James members], *JoAnne Meyer* [mother of Pastor Meyer], *Carole Heller* [mother of Juanita Clifford (St. James)], *Amber Brockenbush* [friend and relative of St. James members], and *all of our sick and shut-ins*.

***We express our sympathy to **The Lynette Brown Family** (St. James) on the death of her sister-in-law, Debra Poston, whom our Lord Jesus in His grace and mercy called out of this vale of tears unto Himself on Friday (5-10-24). Her memorial service will be held at a later date. We pray that our Lord Jesus would be with and comfort the surviving family.

+++We express our sympathy to **The Della Biehle Family** (St. James) on the death of her son-in-law, William “Bill” Kimmey, whom our Lord Jesus in His grace and mercy called out of this vale of tears unto Himself on Tuesday (5-14-24). His funeral service will be Tuesday (5-21-24) at Hillier Funeral Home in College Station at 12 noon with visitation from 10am-12noon. We pray that our Lord Jesus would be with and comfort the surviving family.

*****Ingathering Collection:** As part of the Ingathering for the TX District LWML Convention in Corpus Christi this summer, St. James LWML will be collecting toiletries for Rainbow Rooms, an emergency resource center that helps CPS case workers meet the critical needs of abused and neglected children. We are collecting full-size body wash, shampoo, and toothpaste for this purpose. Please place your items in the box in the narthex beginning in May. Thank you for helping these children!

+++St. James LWML have 5 1-pound bags of homemade noodles available for sale. Please contact the church office if you are interested in purchasing any!!! Thank you for your support!

*****Baby Bottle Drive:** It’s time for the annual baby bottle campaign to raise money for Place of Hope Pregnancy Center in Rockdale! This fundraiser runs from Mother’s Day to Father’s Day. Pick up your baby bottle in the church narthex and use it at home to collect loose change. Thanks in advance for supporting life!

+++**JOINT VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**...We’re looking for YOU!!! We will have our VBS the week of July 8-12. Our theme this year is “Making Tracks”!!! Volunteers are NEEDED, so please contact the church office to volunteer!

*****Graduation Party:** Pastor and Ruth would like to invite you to Timothy’s graduation party next Sunday, May 26, from noon until 3:00 at St. James Parish Hall. Thanks to everyone who has

supported and encouraged him in his education thus far. Come celebrate with us as he graduates high school and begins a new chapter in his life!

+++**St. James**...we have a variety of cards...check out our display of **Confirmation and Graduation cards** on the table in the hallway by the offices...available individually or by the box...see either Ruth Meyer or Sandra Lay!

*****SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS**...St. Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians is the subject of our Sunday morning Bible Class (Holy Trinity: 8-8:24AM; St. James:10-10:24AM). All are welcome to attend.

+++**American Legion Memorial Day Salute!!!**...everyone is welcome to attend the Memorial Day Salute which will be held next Sunday, May 26, at 3:00PM on the south end of the square. Join us for a 21 Gun Salute, placing of a wreath at the monument, ("Saluting those that gave their lives for our freedom"), and hear our Guest Speaker, all sponsored by the American Legion Post 6 of Lexington.

***Devotional book available: Copies are available in the office of Ruth Meyer's new book, "**Truth Notes.**" This devotional is based on her past blog post and point to God's timeless truths in a changing world. Books are \$15 each. See either Sandra Lay or Ruth Meyer to purchase yours!

+++**QUILTING UPDATE**...St. James LWML will be quilting every 3rd Wednesday of the month from 9-12!!!

*****BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK**...Holy Trinity-Dewanna Bownds, 21;...St. James-Mary Boettcher, 22; James Roensch, 23; David Boettcher, 25; Candy Brown, 25.

+++**ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK**...Holy Trinity-Jeff & Pam Stump, 23;...St. James-Michael & Rachael Glover, 20; Jacob & Kaitlynn Phillips, 22.