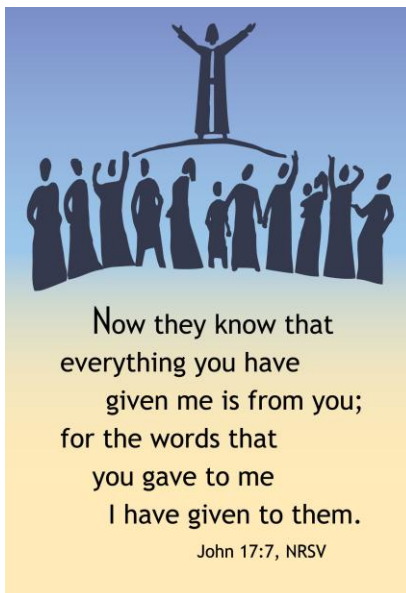


The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA, Reconciling in Christ, and Rejoicing Spirits congregation

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Seventh Sunday after Easter

May 17, 2026

8:30 am

The Holy Spirit Empowers Us for Ministry in Daily Life

Gathered by God's grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we invite and welcome all people to join us on our journey
to become more faithful ministers of Jesus Christ
in our homes, our communities, and the world.

We welcome all who worship with us today.

Visitors are invited to sign the guest register located in the lobby.
If you are interested in joining our family of faith,
please talk with one of our Pastors or call the church office.

Children are welcome and celebrated!

The “Children’s Ministry” table and basket in the lobby
contains a variety of items for children’s use during worship.
Stop by to borrow a book or pick up some coloring sheets and crayons.

Please silence all communication devices.

Our services are live streamed and recorded. In-person attendance implies consent
to be included in the live streamed and recorded worship service.

HOLY COMMUNION

All who believe in the presence of Jesus Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to receive the Sacrament. To facilitate flow, the ushers invite people to come forward starting with the back rows and working forward. You should come forward using the center aisle to receive the elements in a continuous style from pastor and worship assistant. Afterward you may choose to kneel or stand at the altar rail for a brief moment of prayer or return to your seat up the side aisle, depositing your empty cup in the receptacle on your way. Gluten free wafers are available. Our wine is grape juice so that all may freely receive.

Children who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. Communion kits are available at the usher stands for those who prefer to remain in their seats, and they will be communed along with our Zoom worshippers at the beginning of distribution.

GATHERING

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

Gathering Music

The Ascension
Diane Evans, solo; Glenn Hinderliter, percussion

Wickham

Easter Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Welcome and Announcements

We rise in body or spirit.

Invitation to Worship

The hour has come. Lift your eyes to heaven,
for eternal life is found in knowing the only true God.
We have received his word and believed;
we belong to the Father and the Son.
Make us one, even as you are one. Let us worship in unity.

Gathering Dialog

We gather in this place, some empty, some filled, some whole, some broken:
yearning for the Holy Spirit to fill us.

We come, with these ordinary people, who have shown us the way;
trusting that God will continue to illumine our hearts.

We surround the table of grace, so we might be fed by the Bread of Life:
That graced, we may serve others; that healed we may bring hope to the world.



1 God, we gath - er as your peo - ple to raise our song a -
 2 Oh, we sing for all the chil - dren, that one day they be
 3 Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear and
 4 God, we're work - ing for the fu - ture when chil - dren far and



bove, and we dare to claim the prom - ise of your love.
 free; and we sing for gen - er - a - tions yet to be,
 shame, so a - fraid of who they are and whom they love.
 wide can . . . live their lives with dig - ni - ty and pride.



Though the day may not yet be here, we
 that they nev - er have a rea - son to
 May the mes - sage now be ban - ished that your
 As they grow in strength and stat - ure, may they



trust it soon will be, when your chil - dren will be free.
 doubt that they are blest. May they, in your love, find rest.
 love is for the few; may their faith in you re - new.
 join us hand in hand, as a - gainst all hate we stand.

Refrain

Oh, may our hearts and minds be o - pened, fling the church doors o - pen



wide. May there be room e - nough for ev - 'ry - one in - side.



For in God there is a wel - come, in God we all be -



long. May that wel - come be our song.

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

We pray. Heavenly Father,

**Thank you for the gift of eternal life and for letting us know you
through your Son, Jesus. As we go through our days,**

**please keep us safe by your power. Help us to live in peace and be united
with one another, just as you and Jesus are one.**

May your joy fill our hearts and your light shine through everything we do.

Amen

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

Reading Acts 1:6-14

Translation: NRSVue

A reading from Acts.

So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.

While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

We rise in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

Gospel John 17:1-11

Translation: NRSVue

The Good News from John, the 17th chapter.

Open our hearts, Lord.

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

This is the Good News!

Thanks be to God!

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

Pastor Shari Duminy

We rise in body or spirit.

Word in Song

Bind Us Together Verses 1 & 3

W&P 18

$J=108$

F Faug Dm7/F F7 Gm7 C7 B \flat /D C/E F Gm/F

Bind us to-gether, Lord; Bind us to-gether with cords that can-not be bro -

8 F B \flat /C F Faug Dm7/F F7 Gm7 C7 B \flat /D C/E

-ken. Bind us to-gether, Lord, bind us to-gether, Lord; Bind us to-gether with

VERSE

15 F Gm/F F *Fine* F2 F Gm7 C7 F Dm7 Gm9 C7 B \flat /D C/E

love. 1. There is on - ly one God, there is on - ly one

2. Made for the glo - ry of God, pur-chased by His pre - cious

3. You are the fam-'ly of God, you are the pro-mise di -

23 F B \flat /C F2 F Gm7 C7 F Dm7 Gm9 C7 B \flat /D C/E

King. There is on - ly one bod-y; That is why we can

Son. Born with the right to be clean, for Je - sus the vic-t'ry has

-vine. You are God's cho - sen de - sire. You are the glo-rious new

31 F B \flat /C *D.C. al Fine*

sing:
won.
wine.

Welcoming New Members to the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

Those being welcomed, representative of the congregation and ministers gather at the altar.

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Barry, Dorothy, Daniel, Paige, Hadley, Kyle, and Alan, one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome as new members into the life and ministry of the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit.

Apostles' Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith, the faith in which we baptize.

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 assembly is seated.

Address and Questions

In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

Siblings in Christ, do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God,
do you promise to support and pray for our new members in their life in Christ?
We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

A representative of the congregation presents a Bible to the persons being welcomed.

Receive this Bible.
Hear God's word with us.
Learn and tell its stories.
Discover its mysteries.
Honor its commandments.
Rejoice in its good news.
May God's life-giving word inspire you to ministry in daily life.

Welcome

Those being welcomed face the assembly.

Let us welcome these siblings in Christ to Holy Spirit's community of faith.
We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.
Together we give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world.

We rise in body or spirit.

Prayers of the People

Invitation to prayer:

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

After each petition:

O risen One,
receive our prayer.

Pastor's closing prayer:

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
Amen

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace by saying,
"Peace be with you."*

The assembly is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

During the Offering Song, the gifts will be brought forward. You may remain seated. If you wish you may leave your offering in the additional offering plates located on the tables in the back of the sanctuary as you leave.

Verse 1



1 Com-mon-wealth is God's com-mand-ment; com-mon goods are meant to share.
 2 Shar-ing lav-ish gifts and bless-ings, love that not one mite with-holds,
 3 Gen-ders, rac-es, tribes, and na-tions, hear the Ho-ly One who calls,



Ta-bles set and doors wide o-pen wel-come an-gels un-a-ware.
 stretch out arms to friends and strang-ers: God has sheep of man-y folds.
 bid-ding all to work to-geth-er, bridg-ing lives and breach-ing walls.



Plead for the peace of all cre-a-tion. Pray for a place where grace is found.



Shan-ti, pax, sha-lom, mas-la-ha: com-mon good is ho-ly ground.

Offering Prayer

We pray. Dear Lord, enable these gifts, by the power of your Spirit, to convey your love and ours: healing the sick, feeding the hungry, comforting the sorrowing, and proclaiming the good news that Jesus lives.

Amen

We rise in body or spirit.

Great Thanksgiving

Prepare to receive the Spirit.

When will it come?

God alone appoints the time.

We are ready.

Prepare to be clothed with power from on high.
We are ready.

Look and wait for Christ with expectant hearts.
We are ready.

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ give us a spirit of wisdom and revelation as we come to know our heavenly creator.

With the eyes of our hearts enlightened, may we know the hope to which we are called and the riches of God's inheritance.

May the immeasurable greatness of God's power bless us each day.
Amen and amen!

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

Invitation to the Table

Come to the table of new life.
Receive the risen Lord.

The assembly is seated.

Distribution of Communion

Communion Song

I Come with Joy

ELW 482



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Refrain

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;

We rise in body or spirit.

Prayer after Communion

We pray.
Heavenly Father,
The hour has come, and we thank you for this life-giving bread and cup.
Thank you for the gift of eternal life - to know you, the only true God,
and Jesus Christ, whom you sent.

As we leave this table, protect us by the power of your name.
Keep us one with our siblings in Christ, just as you and the Son are one,
that your glory may be revealed through us.

Amen

SENDING

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

Blessing

May the Father glorify you with his presence, just as he glorified the Son.
Go forth in the joy of eternal life, which is to know the only true God.
May you be kept secure in his name and made one in spirit, even as he is one.

Amen

Sending Song *Please see next page.*

Dismissal

Go forth into the world protected by the Father's name,
carrying the light of Christ's finished work so that his joy
may be made complete in you.

Thanks be to God.



¡Dios de la es - pe - ran - za, da - nos go - zo y paz!
May the God of hope go with us ev - 'ry day,



Al mun - do en cri - sis, ha - bla tu ver - dad.
to a world in need with news of joy and peace.



Dios de la jus - ti - cia, mán - da - nos tu luz,
May the God of jus - tice speed us on our way,



luz y es - pe - ran - za en la os - cu - ri - dad.
bring - ing light and hope to ev - 'ry land and race.



O - re - mos por la paz, can - te - mos
Pray - ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our



de tu a - mor. Lu - che - mos por la paz,
joy with all; work - ing for a world that's new,



fie - les a tí, Se - ñor.
faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.

Please join in supporting our church's ministries using your preferred method of giving:



venmo

- Enroll in our on-line giving program, Simply Giving (recommended);
- Mail your offering check to the church;
- Text your offering to 610-981-1312;
- Download our mobile app for recurring or one-time gifts;
- Establish automatic contributions to the church using your bank's bill pay service.

Additional information is located in the Stewardship section of the church's website at: lchsemmaus.org.

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Pastor Shari Duminy, Senior Pastor
Pastor Tami K. Reichley, Associate Pastor
Deacon Melanie Werley, Director of Liturgy
Deacon Reylene Starego, Director of Music
Karin Kahler, Director Faith Formation for Children

WORSHIP HELPERS

Assisting Minister

Jimmy Lee Werley

Reader

John Metka

Song Leader

Diane Evans

Communion Assistants

Sue Mathieu, Angie Niland

Greeter

Nancy Yablonski

Usher

Michael Yablonski

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Kristen Newill, Carol Osenbach, John Osenbach, Chris Pirrotta, Ev Reggie,
Bob Stevens, and Jimmy Lee Werley

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Bob Rice, Carolyn Rice, Julie Timmcke, Brenda Brookover, Donna Bhagat,
Robbie Flynn, Barb Roba, Lynn Snyder, Cindy Clark, Deb Stevens, Nancy Shoemaker,
Jennifer Wetzel, Terri Hinderliter

