

# Day of Pentecost

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



**Ebenezer Lutheran Church  
222 W. Main St.  
Marion, VA. 24354**

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**Office Phone: 276-783-3241**

**Pastor Kayla's work cell number: (804) 396-3324**

**ALL are welcome to come forward for Communion.**

**We would like to welcome all visitors to Ebenezer! If you would like to have someone contact you about community life and ministry at Ebenezer please fill out the Visitor Information Card and place it in the offering plate.**

**Visit our new website at [ebenezerlutheranchurch.org](http://ebenezerlutheranchurch.org)**

**Or**

**you can scan the QR code with your phone's camera and it will take you directly to the website!**



### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **The next book study will be Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, at 10a and 7p.**
- **We are looking for helpers with the nursery. If you can help please let Pastor Kayla know.**
- **The Anniversary Committee will meet after service at 11:15am.**
- **The Joyful Noise Choir and the Marion Baptist Church Choir will have a Pentecost Musical tonight at 5pm at Marion Baptist Church.**
- **The Installation Ceremony of Elise Anderson Brock as the new Pastor for St. John's in Abingdon will be at 5pm at St. John's.**

**Prelude: God is Good** - by Austin French

Lately I've been wrestling with everything  
Cause everything seems hard  
Been caught up in the worry and anxiety  
Keeps tearing me apart  
But I've been down and out before  
And every time I cry out to the Lord  
He meets me in my need, I've seen and I believe

**Chorus:**

God is good all the time  
Faithful as the sun to rise  
Walked with me every day of my life  
I'll sing it again, I'll sing it again  
God is good, yes He is  
Through it all I'm sure of this  
I'm safe inside my Father's hands  
I'll sing it again  
God is good (all the time)  
All the time (God is good)

Got a peace that passes understanding in my heart  
And you can see it on my face  
Got a joy that sticks around when the days are hard  
Tells me I'll be okay  
Through the ups and downs, and highs and lows  
He's working it for good I know  
Always what I need, I've seen and I believe yeah

Chorus

I trust the plans He has for me  
No matter what my eyes can see  
On peaceful waters or raging seas  
I know God is good (God is good)  
I trust the plans He has for me  
No matter what my eyes can see  
On peaceful waters or raging seas  
I know God is good

Chorus

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** *Stand as you are able*

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

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires are known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most merciful God,

**We confess that we are in bondage 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.**

**HYMN: We Walk by Faith**

**No. 635**

**GREETING:** 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.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, 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: Ezekiel 37:1-14**

*The Hebrew word rendered as ruach means “spirit,” “wind,” or “breath.” This reading plays on the different meanings of the word. Just as the dry bones in Ezekiel’s vision are given new life, flesh, and breath (or spirit), so God will give the exiles God’s own spirit and will bring them home to the land of Israel.*

<sup>1</sup>The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord God, you know.” <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, “Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.”

<sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup>I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” <sup>10</sup>I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

<sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off

completely.’ <sup>12</sup>Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: 104:24-34, 35b**

<sup>24</sup>How manifold are your works, O Lord!

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

<sup>25</sup>**Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number,  
living things both small and great.**

<sup>26</sup>There go the ships to and fro,  
and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.

<sup>27</sup>**All of them look to you  
to give them their food in due season.**

<sup>28</sup>You give it to them; they gather it;  
you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

<sup>29</sup>**When you hide your face, they are terrified;  
when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.**

<sup>30</sup>You send forth your Spirit, and they are created;  
and so you renew the face of the earth.

<sup>31</sup>**May the glory of the Lord endure forever;  
O Lord, rejoice in all your works.**

<sup>32</sup>You look at the earth and it trembles;  
you touch the mountains and they smoke.

<sup>33</sup>**I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;  
I will praise my God while I have my being.**

<sup>34</sup>May these words of mine please God.  
I will rejoice in the Lord.

<sup>35b</sup>**Bless the Lord, O my soul.  
Hal- lelujah!**

## **Second Reading: Acts 2:1-21**

*Originally Pentecost was a Jewish thanksgiving-type festival celebrated seven weeks after Passover. On this particular Pentecost, however, the Holy Spirit is poured out upon the entire community of believers just as Jesus had promised and the scriptures had prophesied. Empowered by the Spirit, the entire community bears witness to God's activity in multiple languages.*

<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?" <sup>13</sup>But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

<sup>14</sup>But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup>Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup>No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup>In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup>Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;  
and they shall prophesy.

<sup>19</sup>And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

<sup>20</sup>The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

<sup>21</sup>Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' ”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *Stand as you are able*

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**Gospel: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15**

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*While speaking to his disciples before his death, Jesus refers to the Holy Spirit as “the Helper” and describes the difference the Spirit will make in their lives and in the world.*

[Jesus said,] <sup>26</sup>“When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. <sup>27</sup>You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

<sup>16:4b</sup>“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. <sup>5</sup>But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ <sup>6</sup>But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled



your hearts. <sup>7</sup>Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup>And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: <sup>9</sup>about sin, because they do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup>about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; <sup>11</sup>about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

<sup>12</sup>“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. <sup>13</sup>When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. <sup>14</sup>He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup>All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Children’s Sermon**

### **SERMON**

**HYMN: Spirit of Gentleness**

*Stand as you are able*

**No. 396**

## APOSTLE'S 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.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

We pray for the church universal, for its ministries, and for the spread of the gospel. Shower your Spirit upon Sunday school students, confirmands, and the newly baptized (*especially*). God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

For the earth, our precious home. We give thanks for the diversity of plant and animal life on our planet. Empower us by your Spirit to be wise and faithful stewards of all you have made. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

For the nations and those who govern. Give those in authority understanding hearts, that they work together to bring justice and peace on earth. Grant all who vote in elections wisdom and discernment. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

For those in need around the world: for victims of crimes, for victims of sexual abuse and exploitation, for those who are incarcerated. For all who suffer in any way (*especially*). God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

For this congregation and its ministries: for those who plan and lead worship, for acolytes and communion servers, for readers and tech ministers, for all who prepare and clean our worship space. May our worship be pleasing in your sight. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

We remember the faithful departed. Give us thankful hearts for those who have gone before us in the faith. At the last day, breathe new life into our dry bones, that we might feast forever with all the saints in light. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **Sharing of the Peace**

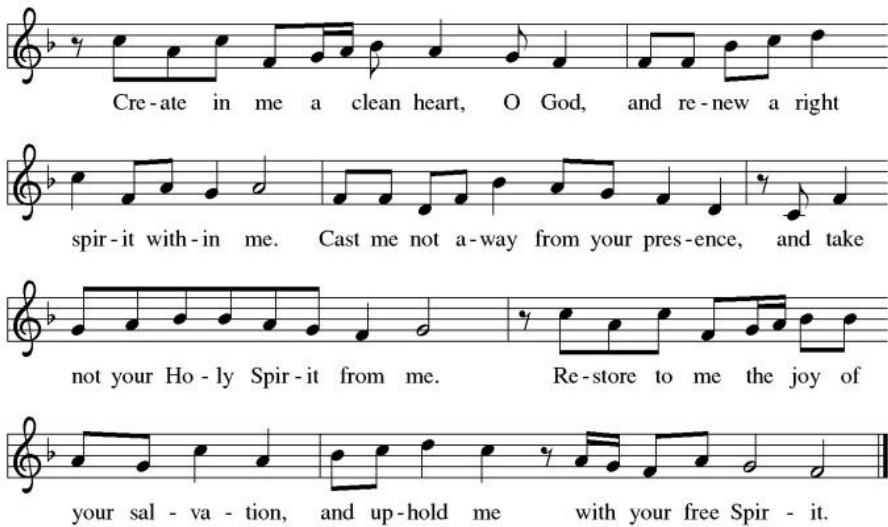
(Please note that you can share the Peace however you are comfortable, including moving out of your pew or staying and sharing the peace sign) *be seated for the offering*

### **OFFERING**

**ANTHEM: Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord**

**No. 395**

## **OFFERING SONG** *Stand as you are able*



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right  
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take  
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of  
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Liberating God,  
you break the bonds of injustice  
and let the oppressed go free.  
Receive these offerings in thanksgiving  
for all your works of merciful power,  
and shape us as people of your justice and freedom.  
You are who we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,  
**Amen.**

## **DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, who rose from the dead, and in whom our hope of resurrection dawns. The sting of death has been removed by the glorious promise of his risen life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son, Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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."

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup, we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most-High, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

### LORD'S PRAYER

Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach 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**

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

**Kelly Doley**

**COMMUNION**

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

**Amen.**

**POST-COMMUNION BLESSING** *Stand as you are able*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in eternal life.

**Amen**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Holy One,

we thank you for the healing

that springs forth abundantly from this table.

Renew our strength to do justice,

love kindness, and journey humbly with you.

**Amen.**

**Blessing** – by Rev. Sarah Speed *stand as you are able*

As you leave this place, may you be awestruck by the beauty of this world.

May you laugh, and it be contagious. May you overflow with love for those around you. May you be expressive with hope and quick to point out joy.

And in all of your living, and breathing, and being, may you find yourself full to the brim with God's Holy Spirit, and may it change your life.

In the name of the Lover, the Beloved, and Love itself—go in peace, full to the brim. **Amen.**

**HYMN: Lord, You Give the Great Commission**

**No. 579**

**DISMISSAL:**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **EBENEZER LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF**

Kayla Keilholtz	Pastor
Larry Hutton	Chancel Choir Director
Kim Slemph	Musician
Michael Karnes	Musician
Bill Huber	Musician
Heather Repass	Bell Choir Director
Jennifer McBroom	Administrative Assistant
Annette Greer	Treasurer

## **ASSISTING IN THE SERVICE**

Acolyte/Crucifer	Ron Parsons
Lector/Lay assistant	Susie Jennings
Altar	Jo Ann Clark
Ushers	Vince & Joanne Groseclose
Tellers	Mike White & Billy Buchanan

## **EBENEZER EVENTS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup> – Coffee Shop Hours @ Starbucks 9a-11a**

**Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> – Book Study at 10a and 7p**

**Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> – 10a Worship**