Incarnation Lutheran Church

Day of Pentecost

May 31, 2020

During this time of quarantine due to the COVID-19 virus, this bulletin is designed for your participation in the worship service from your individual homes. We hope you will join with your church family at 10am each Sunday as we worship separately together as the people of God. It’s exciting to see people sign in, greet one another, send little messages, etc. The service is also posted on Facebook should the 10am time not work for you on any particular Sunday. Thank you for being here. Thank you for worshipping together separately this day!

**GATHERING**

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,

we are raised with him to new life.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.*

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 the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water,

for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere.

Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.

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.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**WORD**

**FIRST READING**

**A Reading from Acts**

1When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. 2And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. 4All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.  
  5Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. 6And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. 7Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? 9Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” 12All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” 13But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”  
  14But 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. 15Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. 16No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:  
 17‘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.  
 18Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit;  
   and they shall prophesy.  
 19And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below,  
   blood, and fire, and smoky mist.  
 20The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood,  
   before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.  
 21Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’ ”

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

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

24How manifold are your | works, O Lord!  
  In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full | of your creatures.  
 25**Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too man- | y to number,**  
  **living things both | small and great.**  
 26There go the ships | to and fro,  
  and Leviathan, which you made for the | sport of it.  
 27**All of them | look to you**  
  **to give them their food | in due season.**  
 28You give it to them; they | gather it;  
  you open your hand, and they are filled | with good things.  
 29**When you hide your face, | they are terrified;**  
  **when you take away their breath, they die and return | to their dust.**  
 30You send forth your Spirit, and they | are created;  
  and so you renew the face | of the earth.  
 31**May the glory of the Lord en- | dure forever;**  
  **O Lord, rejoice in | all your works.**  
 32You look at the earth | and it trembles;  
  you touch the mountains | and they smoke.  
 33**I will sing to the Lord as long | as I live;**  
  **I will praise my God while I | have my being.**  
 34May these words of | mine please God.  
  I will rejoice | in the Lord.  
 35b**Bless the Lord, | O my soul.**  
  **Hal- | lelujah!**

**SECOND READING**

**A Reading from First Corinthians**

3bNo one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit.  
  4Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; 5and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; 6and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. 7To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 8To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, 9to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.  
  
  12For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

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

**GOSPEL READING**

**The Holy Gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.**

9When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” 20After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” 22When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

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

**SERMON Pastor Jane**

**SHARING THE PEACE**

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

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

**NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God,**

**the Father, the Almighty,**

**maker of heaven and earth,**

**of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**

**the only Son of God,**

**eternally begotten of the Father,** **God from God, Light from Light,**

**true God from true God,** **begotten, not made,**

**of one Being with the Father;**

**through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven,**

**was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary**

**and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**

**he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again**

**in accordance with the scriptures;** **he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,**

**and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,**

**who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,**

**who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,**

**and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

We call on your spirit of unity, giving thanks for our different vocations. Activate and utilize the diverse gifts present in your church, that they reveal your love for all. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We call on your spirit of life, present in air, wind, humidity, storms, and oxygen in our atmosphere, breathing energy into all things. Heal with your breath the whole creation, especially those who struggle to breathe due to air pollution. Lord, in your mercy, **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 one of us a heart for justice and empathy. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We call on your spirit of healing. Bless nurses, doctors, midwives, chaplains, counselors, and hospice workers as they care for those in need. We pray for all who long for comfort especially, Walter Lindler, Sivi Middelstaedt and Family, Jenny Gantt, and all those that are home bound. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give joy to those who celebrate birthdays this week, especially, John Huth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Inspire, Renew, and Empower those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries this week especially, Anjay Williamson, Cal Johnson, and John Sawicki. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Open the ways of love, O God, in the pursuit of peace throughout the world, and bless the efforts of missionaries, healthcare professionals, activists for women and children, and relief workers, especially, Jason Harris, Dr. Jordan Shealy, Katelyn Shealy, Melissa Corbett, Maureen Kelly, Sue Hoffmann, Ashley English, Dr. Duncan Norton, Ashton Rabern, Kathy Kehl, and all those who find themselves in harm’s way*.* Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We call on your spirit of friendship. As Elizabeth welcomed Mary to her home, give us a spirit of welcome to those whom we meet in this congregation and outside these doors. Surprise us daily with unexpected grace, that we rejoice in every blessing you send. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We call on your spirit of hope. As you have led your saints in all times and places, stir in us the desire to follow their example, leading us from death to new life in you. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**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.**

**OFFERING**

*So that the various ministries of the congregation may continue, please take a moment to place your weekly offering in a basket and then mail to the church or give your weekly offering online at this time.*

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Merciful God,

our ordinary gifts seem small for such a celebration, but you make of them an abundance, just as you do with our lives. Feed us again at this table for service in your name, in the strength of the risen Christ. **Amen.**

**SENDING**

**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.**

**DISMISSAL**

Christ is risen, just as he said. Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**Announcements!**

**Weekly Worship Schedule!**  
**Morning Watch** Weekday Mornings at 9:30 am via Facebook Live!  
  
**Sunday Morning Worship** at 10:00 am via Facebook Live!  
Materials for Worship are emailed out each Friday  
and posted to Facebook each Saturday!

**People of Incarnation,**

Incarnation Lutheran Church has been through a lot over the last three years, led by the exceptional leadership of Pastor Jane. She began her ministry with us on Ash Wednesday of 2017 and has done a fabulous job in bringing our church to a place where we are ready to begin the next chapter. She has helped us re-establish a church governing structure, celebrated with us through good times and held us near through bad. Perhaps the most visible gift from Pastor Jane has been the establishment of the Building Committee to renovate our beloved sanctuary, which is almost complete.

Earlier this spring, we all thought that by now we would have celebrated Easter in our new sanctuary, called a new pastor and rejoiced in the ministries during Pastor Jane's interim time here. In normal times, we would have held a grand reception in the Fellowship Hall with delicious food and lots of hugging, celebrating her call here and the reopening of the sanctuary. As we all know, these are not normal times, and an in-person celebration won't be possible for quite some time. Please rest assured that Council fully intends to throw a great party celebrating the ministry of Pastor Jane when we feel it is safe to do so.

Until then, and in celebration of her absolutely wonderful ministry with us, Council is collecting a love offering for Pastor Jane. Please mail or drop a check at the church or use [the link online](http://www.incarnationlutheran.com/giving.html). We will present this gift to her before her last Sunday, June 14th.

2020 Church Council

**ILC COVID-19 Task Force**

Members: Pastor Jane Mitcham, Patrick Hawkins, Sarah Harris, Kim Yerrick, Aubrey Sowell, Sarah Sawicki, Bill Williamson

The Task force has met twice to consider when and how we may return to worship in the church. Consideration guidelines are:

* 14 day decline in new cases in Richland County has been reached
* Construction is complete ie. restroom facilities, sound system
* Follow Synod reopening guidelines & coordinate with other local churches
* When Council votes to reopen

The Task force will meet again on June 4th to make an opening timeline.

May 2020 Council Report

The ILC Council met on May 11th and May 18th, 2020

* The building committee reported construction should be done in a few weeks.

They are to supply a more detailed punch list and a line item expense report to Council.

* Organ & stained glass projects have been delayed due to the COVID-19.

A motion was passed, due to their condition, to not put the cushions back on the pews. Randy Huth will supply council with handicap guidelines for the pews for approval.

* We are in the process of calling Pastor Emily Wilhide to Incarnation Lutheran Church.
* ILC COVID - 19 task force reopening report It was discussed that Pastor Jane would continue to have remote services until June 14. They are meeting again on June 4 to finalize a defined reopening plan.
* Porter thanked Jeff Shealy for the 2 offering boxes to be placed in Narthex and in the gathering hall.
* Sarah S. reported she is 99% sure that due to COVID-19, Oktoberfest 2020 will be canceled.
* Susan Cramer and Elizabeth Johnson were approved to serve on the audit team. They will choose a third member to work with and bring the name to council for approval.
* Porter Kinard & Leslie Skinner will serve as the ILC delegates for the SC Synod Assembly July 25, 2020.
* Pastor Jane’s last day will be June 14th. Pastor Emily will start the week of June 29, 2020

Next meeting dates are Executive Committee - June 7, Council - June 15

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**Online Giving!**

We look forward to the day when we can worship together as a family again, but until then, please continue to support the mission of the church. You can use this image by scanning

the QR Code with your smart phone’s camera which will lead you to our Website for Online Giving!

**Prayer List**

**Current:** Congregational sympathy is expressed to Mary Rivers at the death of her sister; Mildred,Walter Lindler, Sivi Middelstaedt and Family, Jenny Gantt, and all those that are home bound.

**Birthdays:** John Huth 06/02

**Baptismal Anniversaries:** Anjay Williamson 06/06, Cal Johnson 06/01, John Sawicki 06/01