

**Church of the Divine Love**

**THE DAY OF PENTECOST**

**WHITSUNDAY**

**MAY 19, 2024 10:15 AM**

**HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II**

THE WORD OF GOD

Processional Hymn #225 – **Hail thee, festival day!**

Opening Acclamation for Easter page 355

Collect for Purity page 355

Gloria (sung)

Collect of the Day - lectionary sheet insert

First Lesson: **Acts 2:1-21**

Psalm 104:25-35, 37

Second Lesson: **Romans 8:22-27**

Gradual Hymn #511 – **Holy Spirit, ever living**

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

Sermon – The Rev. Jean Lenord Quatorze (printed on insert)

The Nicene Creed page 358

Prayers of the People, Form VI page 392

The Peace

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn #686 – **Come, thou fount of every blessing**

Doxology (sung)

The Great Thanksgiving:

Eucharistic Prayer B page 367

Sanctus (S-130 in hymnal) page 367

Hymn during Consecration (printed on insert)

The Lord's Prayer page 364

The Breaking of the Bread, Anthem & Prayer page 337

The Communion of the People

Communion Hymn #229 – **Spirit of mercy, truth, and love**

Post Communion Prayer page 365

Prayer for Peace – on insert

Prayer of St. Francis page 833

Dismissal Hymn – **Pentecost** (on insert)

### **Sermon Sunday May 19, 2024**

Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:25-35,37; Romans 8:22-27; John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15.

#### **Sisters and brothers in Christ,**

Think about a moment when you held another person so close that you could hear his or her breathing, the sound of life. Maybe it was your husband or wife, a parent, your child, or a grandchild. You could feel his or her breath brush across your cheek and he or she felt yours. The two of you shared and breathed the same air. Breathing in. Breathing out. There was only one breath, one life, one love. It was a moment of holy conspiracy.

The word “conspire” literally means “breathing with” or “to breathe together.” For most of us, I suspect, conspiracy brings up ideas of wrongdoing, secrets, and planning to do something illegal or harmful to another. That is a reality in our world today. Too often the air we breathe is polluted with sorrow and death, attachments and addictions, fear, anger and revenge, sins and brokenness. We live as people in need of fresh air, people who are always short of breath. Pentecost says it does not have to be like that. There is another conspiracy going on, God’s conspiracy. Where human conspiracy takes life, God’s

conspiracy gives life. Where human conspiracy destroys, God's creates. Where human conspiracy hurts, God's heals. God's conspiracy brings about the winds of change, fresh air, and the fullness of life.

At some point, it seems, we all stand in the valley of dry bones. We end up there through various circumstances – the loss of a relationship, divorce, the death of a loved one, the loss of our health, the loss of a job and financial security. Sometimes we wake up one day and wonder who we are and where we are going, exiles in our own home. Regardless of what takes into that valley we stand there, surrounded by bones, looking at the structures that once seemed to support life and want to know, "Can these bones live?" "The pieces of our life may be lost to us but they are never lost to God. God's answer to our question is always yes. Yes. Not only can these bones live, they will live. God says, "Prophecy to the bones – speak my language to the bones – and I will cause breath to enter you, you shall live and know that I am the Lord. God breathes and we live.

Today is all about God's conspiracy. The Feast of Pentecost is the celebration of God's conspiracy to give humanity his life, his breath, his Holy Spirit. The outpouring of God's spirit, God's own life and breath, was prophesied by Joel. Later, John the Baptist would remind us that while he baptized with water Jesus would baptize with the Holy Spirit. Finally, Jesus himself reassures us that we will be clothed with power from on high, that the Spirit of Truth will abide with us and in us as the Comforter, the Encourager, the Advocate who will guide us into all the truth. Pentecost is the fulfillment of God's conspiracy with and for humanity. Pentecost does not, however, end the conspiracy. God's conspiracy is eternal. Pentecost ushers in a new beginning, a new day, a new creation, a new life. This conspiracy has been taking place from the beginning.

In the beginning God took dust from the ground and breathed humanity into being. The breath of God parted the Red Sea and blew God's people through the wilderness to a new life in the promised land. In the valley of dry bones Ezekiel watched the breath of God return life to old, dry, brittle bones. God's breath came upon the Blessed Virgin Mary so that the child to be born would be holy and called the Son of God. The breath of God gave voice to Jesus' teaching and preaching of the good news. God's life-giving breath was present at and the source of Jesus' miracles. The breath of God swept through Jesus' tomb, defeating death, and proclaiming, "He is not here." The breath of God is not simply a thing or an event. It is the abiding and transforming presence of God's life with us and in us. Wherever life is being created, renewed, put back together, or inspired the Spirit is present. God is breathing and the conspiracy has been accomplished. Pentecost does not celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit as if it had previously been absent. Rather, Pentecost celebrates another coming of the Holy Spirit. It is no longer limited to particular people or events. Today the conspiracy is revealed and made public, available to all, men and women, young and old, you and me. No one is left out. The wind of heaven, the breath of God, the Holy Spirit, now fills our house, our being and existence. God breathes and we live. God breathes and our lives are put back together. God breathes and we are re-created. The deeds of God's power are not just words we hear, they are the lives we are to live. They are lives of love and self-giving, forgiveness and reconciliation, generosity and compassion, healing and wholeness, prayer and holiness.

On the day of Pentecost “all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, ‘What does this mean?’” What does it mean that God has been conspiring with creation from the beginning? It means that there is only one breath, one life, one love. It means that God never gives up on you, me, or any other person. It means that God breathes God’s life through humanity: through the patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs; through the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints; and, most profoundly, through the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. It means that God is here among us, as close as our next breath. It means that we are to be co-conspirators, co-breathers, with God, sharing one breath, one life, one love.

The fire of Pentecost illumines our hearts and pushes back the darkness. The wind of Pentecost unlocks and opens the doors to new life. The tongues of Pentecost proclaim the great deeds of God and call us to live in a state of forgiveness; to remember and reclaim our original beauty, to turn our gaze back to God, to reshape and form ourselves in his likeness. Christ’s Pentecostal breath resuscitates our lives. Again and again, he inspires and fills us with the Holy Spirit. Pentecost recalls the day of creation when God gathered dust from the ground and breathed God’s own life into us (Gen. 2:7). Pentecost is an act of re-creation, freeing us to leave the darkness, to step out of our house into a new world and a new life. Nothing is retained against us so let us not retain against ourselves or another. We have been Pentecostal, God and humanity sharing one breath, one life and one love.

The Spirit of Truth testifies to the incarnate truth and empowers Jesus’ followers to become witnesses too. The Spirit speaks through the community of disciples, teaching them to bear witness not only with their lips, but with their lives. As Jesus himself said, “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another” (John 13:35). The most compelling witness that any disciple can bear is to love others as Jesus did, in deed and in truth. It is Pentecost and God is present, ready, and willing to conspire with us. Pentecost is the promise that today someone is standing with you whispering in your ear, knocking at the door of your heart, and taking you by the hand, to bring you back to the land of yourself. May the light of God shine in your heart, may the Spirit transform your life and keep you in the presence of Jesus forever. Come, O Holy Spirit. Come as Holy Fire and burn in us, come as Holy Wind and cleanse us within, come as Holy Light and lead us in the darkness, come as Holy Truth and dispel our ignorance, come as Holy Power and enable our weakness, come as Holy Life and dwell in us. Convict us, convert us, consecrate us, until we are set free from the service of ourselves, to be your servants to the world. **Amen.**

#### THE DAY OF PENTECOST:WHITSUNDAY

10:15 AM

HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

(also on zoom)

COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWS

|           |          |                 |
|-----------|----------|-----------------|
| MONDAY    | 8:30 PM  | AA MEETING      |
| WEDNESDAY | 7:00 PM  | AL-ANON MEETING |
| THURSDAY  | 10AM-2PM | THRIFT SHOP     |
|           | 8:30 PM  | AA MEETING      |
| SATURDAY  | 10AM-2PM | THRIFT SHOP     |

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: TRINITY SUNDAY

|          |                         |                |
|----------|-------------------------|----------------|
| 10:15 AM | HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II | (also on zoom) |
|          | COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWS     |                |

|                      | Today     | Next Week        |
|----------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Eucharistic Minister | Dana Kenn | Anthony Giordano |
| Coffee               | Giordanos | Nolans           |

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> – Clean-up Day

Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> – Closing of Nursery School with Bishop Hyde

Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup> – 9AM services begin

SUPPORT THE FOOD PANTRY – DROP-OFF IN THE KITCHEN

## PARISH PRAYER LIST

Loving God, comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind or spirit. Give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation. Especially we remember before you:

|                   |                    |          |
|-------------------|--------------------|----------|
| Manetta Family    | Betty Curley       | Jess     |
| Bob Curley        | Steve Curley       | Art      |
| Chris Dickson     | Kate Jones         | Deb P.   |
| John Mulligan     | John Rocco         | Judy     |
| Warren            | Donna A.           | Kristen  |
| Christopher       | Bernie Walther     | Celeste  |
| Jerry & Family    | Phil Ryder         | Henry    |
| Anthony Paribello | Barbara Curran     | Del      |
| Robert Hosey      | Beverly Noel       | Aidan    |
| Sally & Roger     | Sophia             | Carol K. |
| Mary & Family     | Ann Turco          | Jan      |
| Grace Schinella   | Gladys Hadija      | Vincent  |
| Michael & Family  | Matthew Treasure   | Mo       |
| Michelle & Baby   | Marjorie Guerrier. | Joseph   |
| Nathan Treadwell  | Alexandra Goldman  | Ciara    |

All people and countries suffering from violence, hatred and natural disaster.

Help us speak words of encouragement and offer deeds of kindness to them.  
Bring us with them, into the unending joy of your kingdom. Amen.

To add or make changes to prayer list during the week, email  
Janet Croft at [jmc220@optonline.net](mailto:jmc220@optonline.net).

#### Prayer before Worship

Almighty God, who pours out on all who desire it, the  
spirit of grace. Deliver us, when we draw near to you,  
from coldness of heart, and wanderings of mind, that  
with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may  
worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ  
our Lord. Amen.

Hymn to be sung during the consecration:

Father I adore you,  
Lay my life before you,  
How I love you.

Repeat twice with second verse starting with Jesus  
and third verse starting with Spirit.

## Prayer for Peace

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn  
but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So  
mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that  
all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince  
of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominions  
and glory, now and for ever. Amen











