**Emmanuel Lutheran Church**

**of Etna**

**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

**A picture containing sketch, clipart, drawing, line art

Description automatically generated**

**Sunday, May 21, 2023**

**Rev. Brian Bennett**

**Lutheran Campus Ministry in Greater Pittsburgh,**

**Preaching**

**Pastor J.J. Lynn, Presiding**

**Judith Erlen, Organist**

**Introduction to the Day**

In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today’s gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

**First Reading: Acts 1:6-14**

Today’s reading is part of the introduction to the narrative of the outpouring of the Spirit on Pentecost. These verses tell of the risen Lord’s conversation with his disciples on the eve of his ascension, in which he promises that they will receive the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Second Reading: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11**

Our faith in Christ does not make us immune from the scorn of others. Nevertheless, we are to resist the designs of evil when we experience disparagement from others because we trust God’s grace will strengthen and guide us.

**Gospel: John 17:1-11**

On the night before his crucifixion, Jesus prays to his heavenly Father, asking that those who continue his work in this world will live in unity.

**Welcome and temple talk**

**Gathering**

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

**Prelude**

Variations on "St. Magnus"–Clarke/Walters

**Thanksgiving for Baptism**

*The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

by whose hand we are given new birth,

by whose speaking we are given new life.

**Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,

we are welcomed, restored, and supported

as citizens of the new creation.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God,

holy and merciful,

holy and mighty,

you are the river of life,

you are the everlasting wellspring.

In mercy and might you have freed us from death

and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead.

In baptismal waters our old life is washed away,

and in them we are born anew.

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

Glory to you for oceans and lakes,

for rivers and streams.

Honor to you for waters that wash us clean,

quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.

Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism,

the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

**Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.**

**Empower our witness to your resurrection.**

**Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.**

Satisfy the world’s need through this living water.

Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.

Where despair prevails, grant hope.

Where chaos reigns, bring peace.

We ask this through Christ,

who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

**Amen.**

**Gathering Song*A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!* (ELW 393)**



**Greeting**

*During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.*

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.**

**Kyrie**

*A Kyrie may be sung in dialogue between an assisting minister and the assembly*

**Hymn of Praise*At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing* (ELW 362)**

*One of the following or another canticle of praise may be sung by all*



**Prayer of the Day**

*The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.*

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**Word**

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

**Children's Time**

**First Reading:  Acts 1:6-14**

A reading from Acts.

6When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” 7He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. 8But 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.” 9When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. 10While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. 11They 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.”  
 12Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. 13When 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. 14All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm:  Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35**

*The Psalm for the day is read in unison*

1**Let God arise, and let God’s enemies be scattered;  
  let those who hate God flee.** 2**As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away;**  
  **as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**  
 3**But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;  
  let them also be merry and joyful.** 4**Sing to God, sing praises to God’s name; exalt the one who rides the clouds;**  
  **I Am is that name, rejoice |before God!**   
 5I**n your holy habitation, O God,  
  you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;** 6**you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom;**  
  **but the rebels shall live in desert places.**  
 7**O God, when you went forth before your people,  
  when you marched through the wilderness,** 8**the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,**  
  **at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**  
 9**You sent a bountiful rain, O God;  
  you restored your inheritance when it languished.** 10**Your people found their home in it;**  
  **in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.**  
 32**Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;  
  sing praises to the Lord.** 33**You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens;**  
  **you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.**  
 34**Ascribe power to God,  
  whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.** 35**How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel,**  
  **giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!**

**Anthem**

*Blessing and Honor, and Glory—Bullock and Reidy (W&P #21)*

**Second Reading:  1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11**

A reading from 1 Peter.

12Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. 13But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ’s sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. 14If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.  
 5:6Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. 7Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. 8Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. 9Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. 10And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. 11To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

**Gospel:  John 17:1-11**

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

1After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples], he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, 2since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. 3And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. 4I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. 5So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.  
 6“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. 7Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; 8for 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. 9I 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. 10All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. 11And 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.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

*The assembly is seated.*

**Hymn of the Day*You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd* (ACS 954)**

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*



**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.**

\*Or, “who proceeds from the Father.” The phrase “and the Son” is a later addition to the creed.

**Prayers of Intercession**

*The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.*

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

God of harmony, as you drew your son to your side, you draw us to you and unite us with the planet and one another. Weave your church together in a web of mutual love for the sake of the world. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

As your Spirit hovered over the waters of creation, so your Spirit hovers over all that you have made. Bless the water that sustains the planet and grant wisdom to use it wisely. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You empower your people with the fire of your Spirit. Challenge activists and organizers, teachers and politicians, and all in leadership to speak a message of peace and justice. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You care for all your children. Show your steadfast love to those suffering isolation, especially exiles, refugees, or prisoners. Break the chains of all held fast by systemic oppression of any kind. Comfort all who are afraid or suffering from illness (especially). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks that humankind serves as your body in the world, stewarding your abundant gifts. Guide this congregation’s leaders as they seek your will. We pray for our staff and council (persons can be named). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

You raise your saints to new life in Christ. We give you thanks for (Helena and) all your saints who have given us glimpses of your redeeming love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ’s resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**Amen.**

**Peace (ELW p. 152)**

*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.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ’s peace, and may say, “Peace be with you,” or similar words.*

*The assembly is seated.*

**Meal**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

**Offering**

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

*During this time, the table is set. Assembly song or other music may accompany or follow the gathering of the offering (#181–188).*

*After the offering is gathered, the assembly stands. Bread, wine, money, and other gifts may be brought forward.*

**Offertory**

*Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise—Corbell/Williamson*

**Offering Prayer**

*After the table is set, the assisting minister may lead one of the following or a similar prayer.*

Let us pray.

Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Great Thanksgiving**

**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,

for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,

the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;

who in dying has destroyed death,

and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,

with earth and sea and all their creatures,

and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, Holy, Holy**

**Thanksgiving at the Table**

*The presiding minister continues, using one of the following or another appropriate form.*

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting

and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness

to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup

we remember our Lord’s passover from death to life

as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us

and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us.

Send us forth,

burning with justice, peace, and love.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

With [  name/s and  ] your holy ones of all times and places,

with the earth and all its creatures,

with sun and moon and stars,

we praise you, O God,

blessed and holy Trinity,

now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Lord’s Prayer**

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

**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.**

**Invitation to Communion**

*The presiding minister may address the assembly in these or similar words.*

*Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.*

*The assembly may be seated. The bread may be broken for the communion.*

**Communion**

All people who trust that Christ is present in the Eucharist are welcome to receive communion. Those who do not partake in communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing from the pastor. Gluten-free hosts are available; please tell the pastor if you require one. Grape Juice may be selected in place of wine from the center circle of glasses in the distribution trays. We will commune one side of the congregation at a time, starting with the pulpit side. Please come forward, receive the host, then proceed to the communion assistant to retrieve a pre-filled glass of wine. Trays for the empty glasses are on the other side of the pulpit and piano respectively, on your way back to your seat.

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*and each person may respond*

**Amen.**

*The ministers commune either after or before others commune.*

**Post Communion Blessing**

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

**Prayer after Communion**

*The assisting minister leads one of the following or a similar prayer after communion.*

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus’ name.

**Amen.**

**Sending**

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

**Emmanuel's Purpose Statement**

Together we pray our Purpose Statement

**As disciples of Christ at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, we come together to worship, study God's word to grow, pray to strengthen, invite all to share, minister in love, live for Christ!**

**Blessing**

*The presiding minister proclaims God’s blessing.*

The God of all,

who raised ☩ Jesus from the dead,

bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit

to live in the new creation.

**Amen.**

**Sending Song*Lord, You Give the Great Commission* (ELW 579)**

**Dismissal**

*The assisting minister may send the assembly into mission.*

Go in peace. Serve the Risen Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

*Our Christ Ascends—Kendall*

From sundaysandseasons.com.

Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB145099.

Onelicense #731001-A

CCLI # 207004521

New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

**Serving Today May 21, 2023**

Pastor: Pastor J.J. Lynn

Preaching: Rev. Brian Bennett

Communion Assistant Stan Grubisa

Live Stream: Cindy Umbaugh

Greeters: Amy Scariot

Shaler Heller

Reader Mary Richard

Altar Guild Irene Fugh

Counters: Dean Ingold

Jack Dellert

**Serving Next Week May 28, 2023**

Pastor: Pastor J. J. Lynn

Communion Assistant Jim Suhadolnik

Live Stream: Ben Scariot

Greeters: Edna Zimmerman

Cindy Umbaugh

Reader Peggy Love

Altar Guild Kathy Suhadolnik

Counters: Tom Hough

Sue Spelic

Roland Kania/Data Entry