

HOLY COMMUNION

Please take this opportunity to reflect in your heart how this Means of Grace—Christ actual presence feeds and restores your soul. As St. Paul would say: Listen with your heart wide open. Then, TASTE, SEE & DELIGHT that the Lord is Good!

LORD'S PRAYER: Please recite what version is comfortable for you.

(Please be seated)

Article 14 of the Lausanne Covenant--THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

(Please be seated)

ALL: We believe in the power of the Holy Spirit. The Father sent his Spirit to bear witness to his Son; without his witness ours is futile. Conviction of sin, faith in Christ, new birth and Christian growth are all his work. Further, the Holy Spirit is a missionary spirit; thus evangelism should arise spontaneously from a Spirit-filled church. A church that is not a missionary church is contradicting itself and quenching the Spirit. Worldwide evangelization will become a realistic possibility only when the Spirit renews the Church in truth and wisdom, faith, holiness, love and power. We therefore call upon all Christians to pray for such a visitation of the sovereign Spirit of God that all his fruit may appear in all his people and that all his gifts may enrich the body of Christ. Only then will the whole church become a fit instrument in his hands, that the whole earth may hear his voice.

Prayer for Spiritual Formation

Leader: Dear Jesus,

Open us more to know Your Holy Spirit

Change us by the flame of Your Living Word

May we be and become all things for Your Glory & Kingdom come

ALL: AMEN

(Please observe a moment of Silence)

BENEDICTION

Scattering Proclamation *(Inspired from Luther's prayer #126—For a More Charitable Feeling Toward Neighbors)*

Leader: O Dear God, change me by Your Grace... In the name of the

Father, † Son & Holy Spirit

ALL AMEN *(Please make the sign of the Cross)*

† Thank you for worshiping with us! †

Reverend Nicole A.M. Collins

Grace Hub founder & Pastor

House services at 8am every week with Holy Communion

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DAY OF PENTECOST † Sunday Morning Worship † May 24th 2015

PRELUDE MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

GATHERING WE CONFESS

*(Inspired by 'We Believe' Article 18's Collect, Psalm 139 & Martin Luther's Prayer #173—Commending the Soul to God& #175—Absolved and Freed from Sin & Setting 3 from the LCMS hymnal)
(Please stand if able)*

Leader: ¹O LORD, you have searched me and known me. ²Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? ³I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

ALL: Holy Spirit, purify our wills by helping us surrender to the greater will of God. Intervene in our lives, expel Satan, and fill us with the way of Christ, who taught us to pray, "Thy will be done." Amen

Leader: ^{16b}.... In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.—

ALL: AMEN, COME HOLY SPIRIT, COME!

Leader: "O heavenly Father, God and Father of my Lord Jesus Christ and God of all comfort, I thank you for revealing to me Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom I believe. Him I have known and heralded. Him I have loved and praised..."

Let us confess with Luther—

ALL: "Merciful God, be gracious to me. I am a sinful person and deserve nothing but Your disapproval. Yet, regardless of my past life, I know for sure that I am baptized and am made a Christian for the forgiveness of sins. I know without a doubt that my Lord Christ was born, suffered, died, and rose for me. He gave His body and blood for the nourishment of the soul and the strengthening of faith. Therefore I am absolved and free in the name and power of Christ."

Silence is kept for reflection.

Leader: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a servant of the Word, announce the Grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

ALL: AMEN *(Please make the sign of the Cross) †*

Scripture Lessons for the Morning *(please be seated)*

A Reading from The Prophet Ezekiel

(Don't read this aloud: Ezekiel 37:1-14)

¹The 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. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I 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." ⁷So 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. ⁸I 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. ⁹Then 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." ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. ¹¹Then 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.' ¹²Therefore prophecy, 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. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I 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.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

ALL: Thanks Be to God

A Reading from The Book of Acts

(Don't read this aloud: Acts 2:1-21)

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, they 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: ¹⁷In 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.'

Leader: The Word of the Lord ALL: Thanks Be to God

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John *Please Stand* **ALL: Glory to You, O Lord**

²⁶"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. ²⁷You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. ⁴But I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them. "I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' ⁶But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts.

⁷Nevertheless 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. ⁸And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; ¹¹about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. ¹²"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When 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. ¹⁴He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

Leader: The Word of the Lord ALL: Praise to You, O Christ

Sermon by Pastor Nicole Collins