

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY— Throughout Scripture, we can draw out how the Spirit of God moves and works on behalf of life and salvation. The Hebrew word for this Spirit is *ruach*, where you make a nice “scratchy” sound in the back of your throat. The fun thing about that word is that it can mean “spirit” or “wind” or “breath,” depending on the context. **And sometimes, maybe the word means all of those, all at the same time?** For example...

Genesis 1:2—In the Creation Account, we’re told (depending on which translation one is reading) “...*the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters*” (New International Version). You might also see “a wind from God.” **But the point is, the very next thing that God does is SPEAK, itself an “act of breath,” “Let there be light, and there was light” (1:3).**



In **Genesis 8:1**, “*God remembered Noah et al...and God sent a wind over the earth...*” — same word as Genesis 1:2, *ruach*—and from that moment on, the floodwaters begin to recede. Noah and all the occupants of the ark are saved!

Exodus 14 finds Israel in a hopeless situation, trapped between the Sea on one side and the pursuing Egyptian army on the other. “*All that night the Lord drove the sea back with a strong wind...*” (v. 21). **Guess what the word is there?** If you guessed “*ruach*,” you are correct! **The spirit/wind/breath of God was present, and what was an apparently hopeless situation fraught with death and destruction, becomes life and salvation for the people of God.**

In **Ezekiel 37**, the prophet is given a vision or a dream of his people as a valley scattered with dead, dry bones. “*They say, ‘Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off’*” (v. 11). But Ezekiel is commanded to preach a word of hope and promise to the bones, and not only does bone join to bone and become covered with flesh and sinew, but they also only begin to live when—YOU GUESSED IT—the *ruach* of God, the spirit/wind/breath of God fills those lifeless bodies. “***I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them,***” God says (v. 12).

This is a Pentecost like few others that we’ve ever seen. Global pandemic. Political discord. Racial warfare. Riots in our streets. **Yet we will dwell in peace, lifted by the promised spirit/wind/breath of God that brings life to situations in which we can only see and experience death.**

- 1. Have you ever experienced a shortness of breath? An illness that compromised your breathing, perhaps? Ever had “the wind” knocked out of you? What are the words that come to mind to describe that experience?**
- 2 In the reading this morning, in verses 9-11, there is a list of “peoples”—countries, regions, tribes—and their languages. Some of these peoples would have understood themselves as sworn enemies of each other. But by the work of the Holy Spirit (that wind/breath/spirit**

from God), all of this diversity and variety seems to be gathered around a new, common, unified identity. They are no longer *only* Medes or Egyptians or Arabs. Instead, they are **ALL** now “disciples of Christ.” (Or will be, anyway.) Who are “those” people in our setting and context? Who are those that we have come to call “not my people?” And what does that mean in light of this reading?

3. Acts 2:42-47 describes what this earliest Christian congregation looked like—what they did; how they related to the community; their faith practices; etc. We have lifted up what our FaithWalkers had been learning and practicing prior to the start of the pandemic about “marks of discipleship.” Or, what does it look like to be a follower of Jesus? The memory device they were learning was/is PIGS SEW—that is, followers of Jesus Pray, Invite, Give, Study Scripture, Serve, Encourage, and Worship. Can you identify each of these in that section from Acts 2? In which one(s) would you say you are particularly stronger in? In which one(s) would you say, maybe, you’d need to grow? What might that look like?

INVITE

PRELUDE –

Barb Larsen

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

*** THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM—FOR THOSE OF YOU WORSHIPING AT HOME, WE INVITE YOU TO SET ASIDE SMALL BOWL OF WATER TO SERVE AS YOUR BAPTISMAL FOUNT DURING THIS TIME. CHOOSE A BOWL THAT WILL “REMAIN” YOUR BOWL. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.**

L In the name of the Father, + and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

L Throughout the Scriptures, we hear and see the spirit, the wind, the breath of God that blows order into chaos and life into sure and certain death.

C We know that this Spirit of God, the Holy Spirit, has been promised to each of us in waters of baptism.

L This is what Titus means when he writes, “*God saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom God poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior...*”

C “...And having been made right be God through by God’s grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is most certainly true.” (Titus 3:5-8).

L Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, clothed with God’s mercy and forgiveness, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit-wind-breath moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. (Gen. 1)

C Out of your great love and mercy, you remembered Noah and his family and all the creatures on the ark. Your same Spirit-wind-breath blew across the flood waters, and you delivered Noah and his family. (Gen. 8)

L At the Red Sea, in the face of sure and certain hopelessness and destruction, your people cried out, and you caused a strong wind to blow, separating the water from the water. Through the Red Sea you led Moses and your people Israel from slavery in Egypt into freedom in the Promised Land. (Exodus - Joshua)

C The prophet Ezekiel proclaimed your Word of life to dry bones, and your Spirit-wind-breath filled them with promise, with hope, and with new life. (Ezekiel 37)

L Your resurrected Son breathed on his disciples, hiding and fear-filled, and called them to new life and to a mission to proclaim Good News.

C In baptism, by water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, breathing you Spirit-wind-breath into us and granting us promise and hope, even in the face of death.

L We praise you for that gift of your Spirit-wind-breath that grants and sustains life, and above all we praise you for the promised gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

C Continue to surround us with your Spirit.

L Breathe into us and our land your forgiveness, grace, and love.

C To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen!

L Almighty God gives us a new birth by water and the inspiration and respiration of the Holy Spirit. God forgives us all our sins (*water is sprinkled*); God strengthens us in all goodness (*water is sprinkled a second time*), and by the power of the Holy Spirit, God keeps us in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord (*water is sprinkled a third time*).

C Amen.

* **OPENING HYMN | #400 "GOD OF TEMPEST, GOD OF WHIRLWIND" (Vs. 1)** Full hymn on p. 7

* **GREETING**

L The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L Let us pray. (*Silence is kept to gather all for prayer.*)

C Lord, in a rush of violent wind you poured out your spirit upon all humankind so that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. When we are unsure what to do and sin cuts deep into our hearts, come to us and remind us that the promise is also for us, for our children and for all who are far away, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

EQUIP

THE WORD— Acts 2:1-21, 37-47 The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost

R The reading comes from the New Testament book of Acts, Chapter 2, verses 1 through

21 and 37-47.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

When the day of Pentecost came, the Twelve were all together in one place in Jerusalem. ² Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

⁵ Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. ⁶ When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. ⁷ Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸ Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome ¹¹ (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" ¹² Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

¹³ Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."

¹⁴ Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. ¹⁵ These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ "'In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams.

¹⁸ Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

¹⁹ I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke.

²⁰ The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

²¹ And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'" (Joel 2:28-32)

[Peter went to proclaim to those who could hear him and who would listen that Jesus of Nazareth was indeed the awaited Messiah, pointed to throughout the Scriptures— vs. 22-36]

³⁷ When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

³⁸ Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy

Spirit. ³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

⁴⁰ With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹ Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

This the Good News of Jesus.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

KIDS’ TIME—PASTOR MIKE

SERMON—PASTOR MIKE

* HYMN OF THE DAY | #400 “GOD OF TEMPEST, GOD OF WHIRLWIND” (Vs. 2 & 3) See p. 7

* APOSTLES’ 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 into hell. 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 THE CHURCH—PLEASE ADD YOUR PRAYERS TO OUR LIVEFEED COMMENTS.

AFTER EACH PETITION, ALL ARE INVITED TO SING THE REFRAIN INCLUDED HERE:

Refrain
All

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be - yond my fears, from

death in - to life. life.

L Let us pray for the Church, for the world, and each whom we know and love, according to their needs. *The prayers of the Church are offered.*

Our prayers conclude with the Lord's Prayer.

Our Father, who art in heaven...

OFFERING & SPECIAL MUSIC | "Holy Spirit Come to Us"

The Pandemic Ensemble

***OFFERING PRAYER**

P Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves; our time; and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SEND

*** SENDING BLESSING**

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

*** CLOSING HYMN | #400 "GOD OF TEMPEST, GOD OF WHIRLWIND" (Vs. 4)** Full hymn on p. 7

*** DISMISSAL**

P Stay home in peace! Serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God!

VIDEO POSTLUDE – "O Day Full of Grace"

This is a hymn--#627 in our ELW—that was put together by the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians using over 1,300 singers and musicians from all over the world!

God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind

1 God of tem - pest, God of whirl-wind, as on Pen - te -
 2 God of blaz - ing, God of burn - ing, all that blocks your
 3 God of earth - quake, God of thun - der, shake us loose from
 4 God of pas - sion, God un - sleep - ing, stir in us love's

cost de - scend! Drive us out from shel - tered com - fort;
 pur - pose, purge! Through your church, Christ's liv - ing Bod - y,
 leth - ar - gy! Break the chains of sin a - sun - der,
 rest - less - ness! Where the peo - ple cry in an - guish,

past these walls your peo - ple send! Sweep us in - to cost - ly ser - vice,
 let your flam - ing Spir - it surge! Where de - ceit con - ceals in - jus - tice,
 for earth's heal - ing set us free! Crum - ble walls that still di - vide us;
 may we share your heart's dis - tress. Rouse us from con - tent with e - vil;

there with Christ to bear the cross, there with Christ to bear the cross!
 kin - dle us to speak your truth, kin - dle us to speak your truth!
 make us one in Christ our Lord, make us one in Christ our Lord!
 claim us for your king - dom's work, claim us for your king - dom's work!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923
 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873-1932



OFFERING REPORT:

Income through April 2020	\$141,511.58
Payroll Protection loan	\$ 46,800.00
Expenses thru April	\$148,368.87

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!

God's grace through you is a sweet, sweet thing!!

Our faithfulness to God's calling, even in this time, is to be responsible for our financial commitments, not least of which include our ministry partners (like the Synod and Camp Onomia); our buildings (including, of course, our mortgage on Trinity Crossing); and of course, our staff! We cannot be faithful to that calling without your trust and faithfulness in your generosity.

There are still any number of ways to give:

- **By Mail**—we have a reliable process for making sure that all offerings are out of the building every single day and deposited right way. It is safe, even with our mostly shuttered building.
- **By Drop Off**—Just to the right of the front doors of the church is a secure mail slot that is only accessible by lock and key on the inside of the church building. *If you must be out and about, you can drop your gifts off in the church mail slot.*
- **On-line**—You can [CLICK HERE](#) to give RIGHT NOW, if you want, and that gift can also be set-up to come in a recurring way. (This is the link you would follow from our website by clicking on the offering plate image there.) This is THE most efficient way of signing up for Simply Giving, which is administered by Vanco, one of the most secure e-commerce companies in the industry.
- **Automatic Withdrawal**—Contact your bank.
- **By App**—Both the Apple and Google Play app stores have a free app called “GivePlus.” Once downloaded to your device, simply search for “Trinity Lutheran Church, Princeton, MN”; follow the directions for registering; and set-up your giving in whatever way works for your faithful generosity, one time, recurring, or whatever.

Thank you again for supporting God's mission for us, even in these times of separation and uncertainty.

Prayer List

Members

Karen Anderson

Amy Beltrand & family as
they mourn the loss of
Amy's mother
Dorothy Bergstrom
Ed Botzek
Jim Dery

Susan Deyle
Katey Donais
Marlene Foss
Adolph Hamann
Marlys Hanson
Phil Knapp

Bruce Lacher
Tad Larsen
Del Liestmann
Jamie Lundberg
Chellis Matz
Anikka Miller
Jean Miller
Emily Nelson
Ed Peterson
Bev Reed
Warren Reed
Dina Scandinato
Cindy Schmatz
Loren Schroeder
Carol Skare
Matt Skarohlid
Brenda Smith
Anne Stevenson
Eric Strandberg
Joyce Tessmer
Prudence Tessmer & family
Ardy Tourville
Carol Warner
Chuck Warner
Barb Wicktor
Russ Wicktor
Dean Winslow
Ginny Winslow

Family Members & Friends

Peter Berry (Mary Berry's son)
Diane Boser (Friend of Dan & Jean Anderson)
Jean Carlson (Chuck Warner's sister)
Virg Carlson (Chuck & Carol Warner's brother in-law)

Caitlin Christenson (Kenny & Joy Christenson's daughter in-law)
Floyd Deuel (Ladonna Olson's brother/Ken & Carol Carling's brother-in-law)
Kendal Dyson (June Kunkel's nephew)
Rachel Fadden (friend of Ron & Judy Peterson/Jim & Jan Dery)
Jan Gale's daughter Jamie
Joan Gessar (Courtney Hoppe's mother in-law)
Marian Grow (LaDonna Olson's sister)
Shirley Heyns (Chellis Matz sister)
Dale Kannegiesser (Elaine Storck's friend)
Carol Kint (Ron Peterson/Jan Dery's sister)
Janet Kruetter (Joy Christenson's sister)
Randall Lundgren (Debi's Pederson's nephew)
Bryce Murphy (friend of Marlowe Miller)
Esther Neussendorfer (Danette Scepurek's grandmother)
Janice Omtvedt (Ingrid Bavier's mother)
Elliott Pancoast (Pastor Mike's dad)

Tracy Pidde (Princeton 3rd grade teacher)
Justin Pooker (Jim & Jan Dery grandson)
Amanda Ridout (friend of the Pancoast Family)
Rob Savage (Friend of the Keller family)
Robin Schmidt (Jan Gerth's daughter)
Andy Struthers (Maria Barlage's brother)
Patty Thul's Sister Sheri
Stacy Turner (Marlowe & Jean Miller's daughter)
Scott Wallin (Char Kramersmeier's son)
Eric Webster (friend of the Morisset family)
Ronda Wetzel (daughter of Andrea & Ron Sandusky)

Serving in the Military

Andrew Anderson
Andrew Barthel
Claire Barthel
Jacob Benver
Brady Beauchamp
Eden Betzler
Ronald Duresky
Riley Forland
Derek Hanson
Anthony Mandt
Zachary Morisset
Ben Noard
Parker Pedersen
Jaden Thimmesch