

















SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>1</b> 9:00 a.m. Preschool Class 1:00 p.m. Preschool Class 1:30 p.m. Contemplative Prayer 7:00 p.m. Membership Class	<b>2</b> 9:00 a.m. Preschool Class 	<b>3</b> <div>Synod Youth Gathering May 3-5 - Kuriakos</div>	<b>4</b> <u>Church Cleaning:</u> Alternate Cleaner paid for by Annie Woitt
<b>5</b> 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion/ Rogation Sunday 11:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship  Red Dress Day <b>Faith, Hope and Love</b>	<b>6</b> 9:00 a.m. Preschool Class 1:00 p.m. Preschool Class 	<b>7</b> 9:00 a.m. Preschool Class 10:00 a.m. Ladies Morning Out 11:00 a.m. Hospital Chapel 11:45 a.m. Staff Meeting	<b>8</b> 9:00 a.m. Preschool Class – Farm Field Day 1:00 p.m. Preschool Class – Farm Field Day 1:30 p.m. Contemplative Prayer 7:00 p.m. Membership Class	<b>9</b> 9:00 a.m. Preschool Class – Farm Field Day 4:30 p.m. Finance Meeting  <b>Ascension Day</b>	<b>10</b> 	<b>11</b> <u>Church Cleaning:</u> Alternate Cleaner paid for by Annie Woitt
<b>12 MOTHER'S DAY</b> 10:30 a.m. Service of the Word/ Sunday School/ Flowers Gifted to all Women 11:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship  Jerusalem & Holy Land <b>Death Swallowed In Life</b>	<b>13</b> 9:00 a.m. Preschool Class 1:00 p.m. Preschool Class 7:00 p.m. Policy Meeting 	<b>14</b> 9:00 a.m. Preschool Class 10:00 a.m. Ladies Morning Out 10:00 a.m. Leduc Cluster Meeting 11:30 a.m. Staff Meeting 5:00 p.m. Education Meeting 7:00 p.m. Zoom Pre-Convention Gathering	<b>15</b> <b>NO SCHOOL</b> 1:30 p.m. Peace Hills Worship 2:30 p.m. Contemplative Prayer 7:00 p.m. Membership Class	<b>16</b> 9:00 a.m. <b>PRESCHOOL - SAFETY FAIR</b> 10:00 a.m. Good Shepherd Worship 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting	<b>17</b> 	<b>18</b> <u>Church Cleaning:</u> Alternate Cleaner paid for by Ray & Carol Chartier
<b>19</b> 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion 11:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship  Pentecost <b>Gifts of the Spirit</b>	<b>20 VICTORIA DAY</b>  <b>NO PRESCHOOL</b> 	<b>21</b> 9:00 a.m. Preschool Class 10:00 a.m. Ladies Morning Out 11:30 a.m. Staff Meeting 1:00 p.m. Sagebrush Worship	<b>22</b> 9:00a.m. Preschool Class 1:00 p.m. Preschool Class 1:30 p.m. Contemplative Prayer 7:00 p.m. Membership Class	<b>23</b> 9:00 a.m. Preschool Class  	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <u>Church Cleaning</u> Alternate Cleaner paid for by Ray & Carol Chartier 
<b>26</b> 10:30 a.m. Service of the Word 11:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship   <b>Trinity Sunday</b>	<b>27</b> 9:00 a.m. Preschool Class 1:00 p.m. Preschool Class 7:00 p.m. GIG Steering Committee Meeting  	<b>28</b> 9:00 a.m. Preschool Class 10:00 a.m. Ladies Morning Out 10:00 a.m. Zoom Cluster Meeting 11:30 a.m. Staff Meeting 2:00 p.m. Seasons Worship 3:30 p.m. Band Practice 5:30 Northpoint Gardens Annual Meeting 7:00 p.m. Zoom Pre-Convention Gathering	<b>29</b> <b>NO SCHOOL</b> <b>11:30 – 8:30 p.m. Canadian Blood Services</b> 1:30 p.m. Contemplative Prayer 7:00 p.m. Membership Class	<b>30</b> 9:00 a.m. <b>LAST DAY</b> – Preschool Class 3:30 p.m. Band Practice  	<b>31</b> 9:00a.m. <b>LAST DAY</b> – Preschool Class 1:00 p.m. <b>LAST DAY</b> – Preschool Class	



May 2023 Message for Congregations and Lay and Rostered Leaders

Dear Beloved of God

May grace and peace be yours in abundance (I Peter 1:2a).

Come with me on a journey – a journey back about two thousand years. Imagine you are in Jerusalem. The city is buzzing all around you. You breathe in an air of festivity as you walk the crowded streets. Your senses are bombarded with sound and sight and smell. Jerusalem has exploded with an incredibly diverse gathering of peoples with names even harder to pronounce than “Kochendorfer”: Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia – the list goes on, and reads like a “Who’s Who” of the ancient Near East.

You are gathered for the festival of Pentecost to give thanks to God for the earth’s bounty, and to remember that a band of slaves in Egypt had been called into the incredible relationship of being the covenant people of God.

During the festival all daily work was to be set aside. The people were to gather and worship God. Everyone was invited - no one was to be excluded. God’s guest list was clearly detailed in the Scriptures: You, your sons and daughters, your man servants and maid servants, the Levites in your towns, the immigrants, the foreigners, and those living on the margins: the orphaned, the widowed, and the homeless.

And now imagine that you travel to a certain part of the city where a small group is huddled together waiting for the fulfillment of the promise which Jesus had shared days earlier: This is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.

Suddenly the room is filled with wind; tongues of fire burst into the room and rest on each, and all are filled with the Holy Spirit and begin to speak in other languages.

And then the neighbors begin to complain. They say it sounds like a drunken party next door – the noise, the disturbance, all that racket. Soon they are knocking at the door: “Can’t you keep it down in there!”

But listen! It’s amazing! All those who gathered for the festival of Pentecost: the Parthians and the Medes, the foreigners and the orphaned, are able to hear in their own language God’s deeds of power - and everyone is bewildered and confused.

Imagine you are there. You were there! Let me explain.

Those who gathered for the festival of Pentecost were not only a diverse ethnic group - Medes, Persians, Elamites, Cappadocians - they were also a historically impossible gathering. I am no historian, but some time ago I read, for example, that the Medes would have had a difficult time getting to Jerusalem from Mesopotamia, not only because they had to travel many hundreds of kilometers, but also because they had to travel a couple of hundred years as well. You see, they had been extinct as a nation for at least two centuries. And those Elamites are mentioned way back in Ezra 2:7, but never again in the Scriptures. The Elamites were also lost in the past.

What we have here, on this day of the giving of the Spirit, is not only a gathering of the widowed, the homeless, the immigrants and the foreigners; of people from the north and the south, the east and the west; but also, of the living and the dead. This is Act’s strange and playful way of saying that when God’s Spirit was poured out at Pentecost, we were all there – gathered by the Spirit of God into one community with the Elamites and the residents of Mesopotamia, the widowed and the homeless, the Afghani and the Colombian, the Palestinian and the Israeli; with those past and present.

This is the picture for us from Acts 2, the Pentecost Sunday reading. Everyone is gathered. Everyone is there. This is the Spirit’s work. The Spirit actively drawing us together across the boundaries that separate us; actively drawing us together with the rich variety of gifts and ministries that the Spirit has given; inspiring us and empowering us to be the body of Christ in our service – as we join together in God’s mission.

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:13). In Christ Jesus – Shalom, Larry