

# The Bells

## WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday: 10:15 AM

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Dear Friends in Christ,

On the Day of Pentecost, 50 days after the first Easter, the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the followers of Jesus. Jesus had conquered death by rising from the dead. He had ascended up to heaven and now the Holy Spirit came with power to send the first Christians out into the world to make new disciples.

Unlike Christmas we don't prepare by placing trees in our homes or decorating our homes with lights and shopping for gifts. Unlike Easter we don't prepare by dyeing eggs, holding egg hunts and filling baskets with chocolate bunnies. In fact we don't prepare at all with the exception of pastors. Even though we as a society do not prepare for Pentecost, it is still a busy season. It is the season of proms, graduations and weddings. It is a season of Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day. It is a season of shopping for bathing suits, shorts and sandals. It is a season of day trips and vacations.

On the day of Pentecost the disciples of Jesus were busy too. They had spent 40 days with the risen Jesus then witnessed his ascension. Here is what Jesus had told his followers:

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."  
(Acts 1:8 ESV)

Those apostles were gathered together in one place when the Holy Spirit descended upon them in the form of tongues of fire. This was a final moment, a turning point in their lives in which there could be no going back. From the Last Supper to the Day of Pentecost the disciples of Jesus had been on an emotional roller coaster bouncing between good news and despair. The giving of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost was a sign of the fulfillment of the kingdom that is to come in Jesus name.

From that first Pentecost until today the Church has proclaimed Jesus as Lord and Savior to the whole world. Every generation has proclaimed the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the next so that the Church might continue on.

On May 15th, Pentecost Sunday we again remember what happened on the first Pentecost. Four young gentlemen will remember their baptisms and the receiving of the Holy Spirit as they go through their rite of confirmation. We all will again receive the command of Jesus to go into the world and proclaim the Gospel. The color of Pentecost is RED to remind us of the fire of the Holy Spirit. It is customary for not only pastors, but the lay people to dress in red on this day to remember that we too have received the Holy Spirit. We are reminded of the great variety of peoples and languages there are in the world who need the Good News of Jesus. We are reminded that the disciples of Jesus went into the world setting for us an example to follow.

Jesus Christ has risen from the dead!! Alleluia!!

We are the people who continue to proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord of all..

Pastor Michael

**May Birthdays & Anniversaries**

**Birthdays**

Luke Mesing	2
Tanner Mesing	2
Margaret Rombold	4
Jason Blank	7
Paul Nord	8
Matt Sigler	8
Milan Fatschel	9
Cora Harris	10
Christopher Taylor	10
Beth Lehman	12
Allen Lee	14
Matthew Gunther	20
Michael Podeszwa	24
Ed Melberg	25
Ron Lehocky	27
Brad Lehocky	28
Bob Licht	28
Dana Hankinson	30
Trevor Mesing	31

**Baptismal Birthdays**

Rich Clayton	1
Dean Parker	5
Doug Eckstrom	11
Jeff Doerr	12
Pam Licht	13
Bethany Parker	15
Marcy Dietrich	16
Kathy Dietrich	18
Ben Davis	28
Christopher Taylor	31

**Anniversaries**

Dan & Carol Helkowski	1
Larry & Linda Weimer	2
Allen & Shirley Lee	4
Twila & Beau DeThomas	10
Darryl & Lynn Gunther	12
Amy & Bob Wilson	13
Joseph & Karen Meinert	18
John & Betty Hamara	26
Jeff & Joan Doerr	30

**Servants in Ministry**

**Greeter**

1 – Mary Nuerge/Tara Dulski
8 – Tom/Colleen Sigler
15 – Doug/Tammy Eckstrom
22 – Eric/Luke Bendekovic
29 – Ed/Sandi Morgan

**Reader**

1 – Mary Podeszwa
8 – Tammy Eckstrom
15 – George Mesing
22 – Jeff Doerr
29 – Milt Scott

**Acolyte**

1 - Cole Skuse
8 – Noah Weedon
15 – Hannah Bendekovic
22 – Tyler Borgman
29 – Nikolai Podeszwa

**Audio Visual**

1 – Darryl Gunther/Mike Gremer
8 –Stephan Fatschel/Doug Eckstrom
15 – Matthew Muto/Doug Eckstrom
22 – Lynn/Darryl Gunther
29 – Darryl Gunther/Mike Gremer

**Altar Guild**

Sandi Morgan & Joyce Hewlett

**Prayer Concerns**

*Please keep the following members & friends in your prayers:*

- ❖ For Rachel Humphrey for chronic back pain.
- ❖ Bill Mallary, broken leg in several places after a fall.
- ❖ Bill Hewlett for recovery.
- ❖ Gene Reddel.
- ❖ Continued prayers of healing for Twila DeThomas’s stepfather and Willis Volland’s sister; Betty Ann.
- ❖ Terry McCall recovering at home.
- ❖ Additional prayers for those battling cancer: Bob Greer (youth leader at Darryl Gunther’s former church), Mary Guthrie (wife of Darryl’s co-worker), Carol Helkowski, Pastor Michael, Margaret Rombold, Milt Scott and Joan Doerr.
- ❖ Joel, a young friend of the Mesing family, who was recently diagnosed with Hodgkin’s lymphoma.

## *Church and Ministry Bible Study*

We have just begun a **new adult Bible study on Sunday mornings** with the above title. It was prepared at the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, partly because of significant misconceptions about the relationship between the Office of the Public Ministry and the Priesthood of Believers. The survey taken last summer at Prince of Peace suggests that this should be a helpful topic for us all to learn what the Bible says. Let me share with you part of the Introduction and a couple of Bible verses.

“Among the great treasures contained in the Holy Scriptures are the doctrines of the Holy Ministry and the Priesthood of Believers. These precious truths, under-appreciated by many in modern times, remain a cherished possession of the church. Their full implications for the life and work of the church called to make known the saving grace of God in Jesus Christ, however, need to be continually explored and appreciated if we are to remain faithful to God’s Word in our time and place.”

“This four-part study of the Office of the Public Ministry and the Priesthood of Believers is designed to be a basic guide into the Word on these teachings. Leaders especially will want to note that the focus of these studies is on the *relationship* between the pastoral office and the Priesthood of Believers. The first two lessons treat the topics in a general, foundational way, while the final two lessons seek to help the participants apply what the Scriptures teach to contemporary questions and issues. The participants in your study group are encouraged to suggest additional Scripture passages pertinent to your study, Continue to encourage one another as you expand your search in the Word. Finally, please note that each lesson has four focus points: (A Thought for Reflection, A Question for Discussion, A Topic to Explore, A Responsibility to Own) to facilitate more in depth discussion. It may be that you will wish to spread this four-part study over eight weeks, devoting two sessions to each part.”

If anyone “sets his heart on” becoming a pastor, St. Paul wrote to Timothy, “he desires a noble task.” (1 Tim 3:1). In 1 Pet. 2:9 Peter writes, “But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God...” Reflecting on these words, Luther wrote: “We are all priests before God if we are Christians.”

Please join us for this study in the fellowship hall at 9:00 a.m. Come early for coffee.

In addition to leading this Bible study, I have transitioned into more of a consulting/ mentoring role as we seek to apply what we’ve learned about living Biblical Peacemaking, and implementing the recommendations made as a result of the survey taken last summer by the Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute. I will be leading those efforts in conjunction with the Elders and Council.

I am still available to schedule private interviews with anyone who would like to talk to me about any conflicts that may require some mediation assistance or about your vision for the future of Prince of Peace. We will also be planning some group “listening events” to get input from the congregation after Pastor Michael and I return from the training workshop in Charlotte, NC by Ted Kober and Ambassadors of Reconciliation May 3-7.

Stay tuned for dates and further details!

Paul wrote to the church at Corinth, “God has committed to us the message of reconciliation. **We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors**, as though God were making His appeal through us.” (2 Cor 5:18-21)

Isn’t that another way of expressing the Great Commission to make disciples of all people? Isn’t that who Jesus is calling us to be? Isn’t that our mission as a church? We are His ambassadors to whom He has given the message of reconciliation so that God can make His appeal to our lost and broken families and neighbors through us.

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia! Happy Resurrection / Easter season! See you in church! Bring a friend!—*Pastor Fred*

## **President's Word**

Spring is here and oh how beautiful it is. God is the assurance of this and our love and peace to Him.

Our times in prayer stir up peace within us that nourishes us with serenity, even in stressful times as our church has gone through. How beautiful is the assurance of God's love and peace in every moment of our life!

Each prayer is a reunion of our conscious awareness with the presence of God. Each time we reach a total awareness of God we feel a surge of peace and the beauty of it all is that God is always present in us and in our life.

Allowing the healing, soothing flow of peace to roll over us we relax and discover new energy and creativity. I am amazed that what seemed like such a challenge only moments before I prayed has been replaced by my understanding of a solution, all in a moment of peaceful prayer. Let the healing begin now; it is spring cleaning of the mind.

I am here for you.

## **The Lutheran Hour—May Sermon Schedule**

May 1

**"So, Ask Already!"**

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz

God loves you. He wants to hear from you. Ask Him anything and everything. Go ahead, ask!  
(John 16:22-33)

May 8

**"Jesus Prayed for You"**

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz

Prayer begins in the heart of Jesus Christ who intercedes for you, offering prayers on your behalf to God the Father. (John 17:20-26)

May 15

**"Jesus Gives Us the Help We Need"**

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz

Jesus doesn't want you to be in the dark about how much He loves you. (John 14:23-31)

May 22

**"Here's a New, Lasting Identity"**

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz

The Bread of Life, Living Water, Good Shepherd: Jesus' statements leave no doubt as to who He is, for you.  
(John 8:48-58)

May 29

**"Identity Theft"**

Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus

Nobody likes to have their identity stolen, and that includes the Lord who said, "You shall have no other gods before Me." (Galatians 1:5-8)



## **A Word from Altar Guild**

When a friend dies, we send flowers to the funeral home.

When we visit the grave of a loved one, we often leave flowers.

On Mother's Day, either we will give flowers, or possibly receive them, as a gesture of love to or from a loved one.

Why, then, can't we do the same for the altar of our Lord Jesus Christ?

This is the center of our church because it represents the divine presence of God among His people.

For the past few weeks we have asked that you go to the Altar Flower signup sheet and put your name in one of the many open dates to purchase flowers for one Sunday.

We have had few, if any, names appear on this sheet.

Please stop and think about this. We know \$15.00 is a big commitment for some of you...but those of you, who can do it, please consider doing this.

After all, it always feels good to give a friend a gift!

Thank You and God Bless You

## **A Preschooler's Prayer**

Dear God

I've been coming to Preschool since I was three

Well, you know, 'cause you've been watching me

I've learned my numbers and letters, too

And then, of course, I've learned about you

I know that you guide me every day

And you'll stay with me as I go on my way

My Mom says I'm going to the big school in September

But I have so many things to remember!

No yelling,

No running,

No getting in trouble

Please stay with me God

I'm gonna need your help double!!

Preschool was easy

I was still just a kid

The teacher said, "Color"

And that's what I did!

What happens in big school?

I haven't a clue

But I know I can make it

With some help from you

Thank You God

Amen

Love,

Jake

## **April Preschool News . . . Mrs. Shuttleworth & Ms. Kristina**

Time is sure flying! It is hard to believe that our year is coming to an end! What an amazing group of children we have! We are so proud of each and every one of them. They have grown in so many ways since they first walked to through our doors, way back in September! We have had such a wonderful time with them and are very sad to see them go. Look out Kindergarten, here they come! Although we are very happy because our three year olds will be returning for another year with us! We have started getting ready for graduation and our Mother's Day program. The children love the new songs they are learning and they just love to sing!

### **Three year olds**

The three year old lessons for the month included: The Easter Story, dinosaurs and farm animals. We made some dinosaur eggs, they loved this! We talked about the different farm animals and how some baby farm animals have different names than their mom's. We matched baby farm animals to their moms. We have also been working hard on cutting and pasting and they are doing a very great job!

### **Four year olds**

The four year old lessons for the month included: We learned some interesting facts about dinosaurs, made dinosaur eggs, put a T-Rex's skeleton together, and matched dinosaur's with their skeletons. We even compared an ostrich egg with a dinosaur egg. Alphabet books are almost finished and we have started reviewing all our letters and numbers!

The four year olds took their annual trip to Big Knob Elementary School to tour the kindergarten. They even got to ride on the big yellow school bus. This is one of my favorite field trips! It is so much fun watching them! The kids are excited about starting a new adventure next year, but we are really going to miss them!

**Mrs. Shuttleworth & Ms. Kristina**

**April Preschool News...Mrs. Smith & Miss Twila**

*He is Risen, Let us Rejoice and be Glad*

Spring has finally decided to stick around. How about those crazy few weeks of weather?! We welcome all the warmer weather and the gift of new life in our neighborhoods. We all keep watching as the grass grows and trees bud, what a season indeed.

The month of April was full of writing skills and activities. We are almost done with our alphabet books, just a couple more letters. In April we learned U, K, and R. The four year olds have been practicing their letter recognition with all the letters in the alphabet along with letter sounds. During these last few weeks we will be writing a little note to our parents, which will be given out at graduation. The three-year-old class has been following along with all the letters of the alphabet too. The three year olds are getting ready to move into the four-year-old preschool program in the fall.

Prince of Peace four-year-old classes had a special visit from the owner of Artsy Doodle Craft Studio in Beaver. Each student created a Mother's Day coffee mug for his or her mother. The pottery needed painted with each child's own special touch. We will be adding some goodies to the mugs when we give them to the mothers during the short mothers day program scheduled for the first week of May.

Both graduating four year old classes took a fieldtrip to Freedom Elementary School to check out what they will see everyday next year in kindergarten. A huge thank you goes out to the 5 kindergarten teachers for all the hospitality.

Rounding out the month of April we administered our spring evaluations. Each student was tested on materials we have completed throughout this school year. We even looked at and compared their progress with that of the same evaluation that was administered in the fall. WELL DONE! As a reward, both classes will be having an ice cream party to celebrate.

The end of the school year is so bitter sweet! We look forward to watching yet another class graduate from Prince of Peace ready to embark on their next thirteen years of schooling. We can only hope we have prepared them for kindergarten and many more years of becoming a lifelong learner.

Blessings to you and yours,  
Mrs. Smith & Miss Twila

**May 2016**

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
1 <b>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b> 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	2	3	4  11:00 Midweek Bible Study 6:30 Council	5  6:00 Kidz Klub 7:00 Choir	6	7
8 <b>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b> 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	9	10	11  11:00 Midweek Bible Study	12  6:00 Kidz Klub 7:00 Choir	13	14
15 <b>Day of Pentecost</b> 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	16	17	18  11:00 Midweek Bible Study	19  6:00 Kidz Klub 7:00 Choir	20	21
22 <b>The Holy Trinity</b> 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	23	24	25  11:00 Midweek Bible Study	26  9:00 Preschool Graduation (3 year old) 6:00 Kidz Klub 7:00 Choir	27  9:00 Preschool Graduation (4 year old)	28
29 <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b> 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	30	31				