

**You Are Always Welcome Here
Just As You Are!**



MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
3215 DOUGLAS ROAD TOLEDO, OHIO 43606
419 - 472-2161
www.memorial-lutheran.org

Rev. A. N. Mary Adelsberger, Pastor
Cindy Cabanski, Administrative Assistant
Kelly Zaborski, Christian Life Coordinator
Carol Topolski, Director of Music
Mia Schlegel - Nursery Attendant

pastor@memorial-lutheran.org
office@memorial-lutheran.org
Bookkeeper, Pam Schlegel
Custodian, Ron Jensen

PRAYER CONCERNS: Peggy Scholl, Bob Rank, Kathy Schoembs, Sam Schlegel, Claudia Sauer, Marilynn Granucci, Keira Hall Sheila MacKay Davidson, Terry Bean, Marcene Jackson, Phyllis Ballas, Kathryn Robert, Jacob Gulch, Don Gurwell, David Poulson, Joanne Hummel, Diane Swartz, Owen Anthony, Lisa Eicher, Tom & Betsy Naveaux, Dave Gilbert, Shirley York, The family of Chuck Rhegness and the family of Richard Fisher, Char Bachmayer
Members of our military to keep in your prayers: Ryan Woods, Henry Kozak, Dustin Pawloski Reid Leslie (currently deployed)

May 17, 2020

Drive In Worship –On Sunday, May 31st (Pentecost) we will have “Drive-In” worship service at 9:00 am and 11:00 am in the church parking lot. This will be similar to our Easter Drive-In Worship Services and be broadcast on the radio for those parked for worship. For everyone’s safety, social distancing will be practiced and we ask that no one gets out of their car or come into the church building, **please do not bring anyone in your car that is not a member of your household.** We hope if you are able we can join to worship together. All are welcome; it will be good to see you all.

Giving Option – **Thank you so much for your continued tithing through Simply giving and via mail.** As a member of Memorial, you now have another option for giving. You can use the Vanco GivePlus Online program to setup one-time or recurring payments. This option is ideal for those who are not currently enrolled in the Simply Giving program or that want to donate any additional payments. Let us know if you have any questions about the program. **If you don’t want to take advantage of these options, please continue to send in checks to Memorial to the extent you are able.**

As we are still moving forward with building work, thank you for staying committed to your giving to the Capital Campaign.

Contributions Needed Per Week:	\$6,307.25
Contributions Received Last Week:	\$6,651.00
Contributions Pledged thru 4-30-2020:	\$91,541.56
Contributions Received thru 4-3-2020:	\$86,556.35

Memorial Lutheran Church
May 17, 2020

Gather

Confession and Forgiveness

P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, †one God, the eternal voice from heaven, the anointed and beloved one, the Spirit moving over the waters. Amen.

As we approach the mystery of God, let us come in confession, trusting the love of Christ crucified and risen.

C. God who searches us and knows us, you have shown us what is good, but we have looked to other lights to find our way. We have not been just in our dealings with others. We have chosen revenge over mercy. We have promoted ourselves instead of walking humbly with you. With what shall we come before you? Forgive us our sin, and show us your salvation in the face of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

P. Beloved of God, you have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, poured out for you in the faithfulness of Jesus Christ. Receive the promise of baptism: You are God's child; †your sins are forgiven. Rejoice and be glad, for yours is the reign of heaven. Amen.

Opening Song

Thine Is the Glory ELW 376 VS 1-2

**1 Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.**

Refrain:

**Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!**

**2 Lo, Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb!
Lovingly he greets thee, scatters fear and gloom;
let his church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting! [Refrain]**

Greeting

P. 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.**

Kyrie (ELW Setting 8 p 130)

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way. Kyrie eleison, every day.
(sung after every verse)**

1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

2 That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

3 For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

4 For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Hymn of Praise: "Holy Spirit"

**There is nothing worth more That will ever come close
Nothing can compare You're our living hope
Your presence Lord I've tasted and seen
Of the sweetest of love When my heart becomes free
And my shame is undone Your presence Lord**

**Chorus: Holy spirit, You are welcome here
Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere
Your glory, God, is what our hearts long for
To be overcome by Your presence, Lord.**

Opening Prayer of the Day

A. Living God, you sent the Holy Spirit to breathe life into your church. Let us no longer be captives to fear, but messengers of your saving love, so that all may be reconciled in you; through Jesus Christ, our peace. Amen.

Word

Readings

Acts 17:22-31 New International Version (NIV)

²² Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. ²³ For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

²⁴ "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. ²⁵ And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. ²⁶ From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. ²⁷ God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. ²⁸ 'For in him we live and move and have our being.'^[a] As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'^[b]

²⁹ “Therefore since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. ³⁰ In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. ³¹ For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”

1 Peter 3:13-22 New International Version (NIV)

¹³ Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? ¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear their threats^[a]; do not be frightened.”^[b]

¹⁵ But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

¹⁷ For it is better, if it is God’s will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. ¹⁹ After being made alive,^[c] he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits— ²⁰ to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, ²¹ and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God.^[d] It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at God’s right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

Gospel Acclamation: Spirit Of The Living God TFBF 101

Spirit of the living God fall fresh on me. Spirit of the living God fall fresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God fall fresh on me.

John 14:15-21 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁵ “If you love me, keep my commands. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be^[a] in you. ¹⁸ I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹ Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.”

Children's Message

Sermon

“What we Need the Most--Hold On;
We're In for quite the Ride”

What do you need the most? What is that one desire you have that if fulfilled will make your life perfect in your eyes? This is a question that we probably can fill pages with. What would you answer? I asked people who came into the office today, here are the answers... A new house. A Job. To win the lottery. A new truck. The newest, ultimate video game. More grace and forgiveness. For me, it'll be an appointment with the hair dresser, for my doctor, he says it's for me to lose 20 lbs...

Greg and I really enjoy watching the Harry Potter series. For the past 15 or more years, we have watched one DVD at least once a week. In the first Harry Potter movie, the Sorcerers' Stone, the main character's, Harry, deepest desire was to be with his parents who had died when he was an infant. He finds the Mirror of Erised in the school, which is a magical mirror. He spends hours looking into that mirror, seeing his parents standing next to him. He asks the head master about this object. According to Albus Dumbledore, the head master, the mirror shows the "deepest, most desperate desire of our hearts." Obviously, what Harry felt he needed most was his parents. The name "Erised" is "desire" spelled backwards, as if reflected in a mirror. Albus says, "The happiest and most satisfied person in the world would look in the mirror and see a reflection of them, exactly as they were, for they would then have no one and nothing more to yearn or desire for that the mirror could ever show them." And then in the movie, Albus warns Harry not to spend time in front of it he says, *"Men have wasted away before it, not knowing if what they have seen is real, or even possible."*

We all waste away with desires, and even when I asked people in the office, they were really too humble and hesitated to talk about it...but Jesus in our Gospel talks about this. He tells us what we do need. As Jesus was about to lay down His life on the cross and leave His disciples, He talked with them about the one thing they needed most. Follow with me as we begin reading in John 14:15 "If you love Me, keep My commandments. 16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever -- 17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you."2

We have talked a lot about love, we have talked a lot about commandments. Today I want to focus on the Helper, the Spirit of truth. Of course, you know Jesus was referring to the Holy Spirit.

The Spirit is the most controversial person in the Trinity. Although the disciples didn't speak with the doctrine of the Trinity, because that was a much later theological definition of God, they did know about the Spirit of God. In the beginning, "The Spirit moved over the waters", Genesis tells us. God in three persons existed—God is co-eternal, but the Spirit dwelling inside of us is a new concept. For us, it's still a new concept. One I really want to spend time slowly unfolding in the next 4 weeks.

Who is the Holy Spirit really?

- The Spirit gives wisdom beyond our own natural abilities, as we learn to listen to Him. "But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere" (JAMES 3:17). Beloved, if we let ourselves totally immersed, totally saturated in God, if we streamline our focus on His thoughts, then we can do **powerful** things in this world.

It's like plugging ourselves into an immense power source. We become incredibly fired up, enthused with passion and energy to do His work.

There's a story about a wealthy but miserly lady who lived in New England earlier this century. When they brought electricity to her part of the country, she was among the first to sign up, and people in the area were amazed. But the guy who read the meters was surprised the first time he came out to see how much electricity she had used. He wondered if the meter was broken. He went and knocked on the door and asked her if everything with her electricity was alright. She told him it was. He said, "Well, I was just wondering, it didn't seem like you used much." She said, "Oh, I don't. When the sun goes down I turn on a lamp just long enough to light my oil lamps, then I turn it off."

There are a whole lot of people who live in the Spirit about that much. You have the power of God in your lives, but are miserly in the way you use it. God has blessed you abundantly and yet you only use a trickle of that power for living. Invite the Spirit in, then put your seat belt on, because it's gonna be some ride! I challenge you to get ready and then hold on!

- The Spirit helps us to pray. He guides us in what to pray for and how to pray. “In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans (ROMANS 8:26). When we are committed to praying seriously, the Spirit helps us know what to pray for and can bring God’s power into the lives of those we care about through intercession. The Spirit can pray for us when we don’t even know or have the energy to pray. Have you been there?-- Desperate, anxious, worried, not knowing what to do?—then the world opens up. God moves...the Spirit has interceded.
- The Spirit seeks to bring greater joy to the Lord through every believer. “Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. So also, you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. In that day, you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full” (JOHN 16:20-24).
- He gives gifts to whomever He will for the purpose of giving glory to God. “Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone” (1 COR. 12:4-6). Our motivation for receiving the Holy Spirit is not to have a ‘gift’ but to want to be everything that God wants us to be, and not miss out on the blessings he wants to give us. The Spirit gives us power to see God’s purpose for our life. God has called each of us to follow Him and has given us a purpose and a hope. That’s our reason for following Him and for doing what we do, how very great is His power at work in us.

Paul talks about this in 1 Cor. 2, mere human flesh cannot comprehend the things of God. "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him." But (1 Cor 2:10) "But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit." (Through the Spirit of truth). "For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. 11 For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God."

That revelation is ongoing in our lives. God is showing us what He has done for us, who we are in Christ, and the wonderful things available to us as well. That's why Paul prayed for believers at Ephesus that "The eyes of (their) understanding (be) enlightened; that (they) may know" three things. (1) "what is the hope of his calling, and (2) what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, (3) And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to toward us who believe...." (Eph 1:18-19). It is "the spirit of truth" that lets us see a glorious future ahead. The world is in a downward spin; but God has planned good things for His own. He has not appointed us to wrath. One day we will be caught up together with the Lord and be with Him forever and ever in paradise. And even now He has said He will never leave us nor forsake us. God is for us; who can be against us? We have a hope that the world knows nothing about. And as the Holy Spirit reveals those realities to our spirit we are strengthened. His grace is sufficient for each and every day.

It is "the spirit of truth" that lets us know how precious we are in the Father's eyes. Jesus was rejected by the world. He warned us that we would experience similar persecutions and rejection. But we are "accepted in the Beloved." We are part of the family of God. We have a destiny filled with glory and joy. The Holy Spirit communicates the Father's love to our hearts. And that can bring wonderful healing to the soul.

It is "the spirit of truth" that awakens us to the power of God exercised in our behalf. The power of God released in the resurrection of Jesus; the power of God that will raise you and me from the dead one day. There is no greater power; and that power is used for us, not against us.

"The Comforter." is called to our side to counsel us, help us, strengthen us, empower us, enable us.

Jesus said an amazing thing to the disciples in John 16:7
"Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will

send Him to you.” How could anything be better than having Jesus right there with you in the flesh? Jesus was with the disciples; but the Holy Spirit is “in” us. His Spirit is joined with your spirit. You can’t get any closer than that.

We need to learn to rely on our Comforter more fully. We need to know Him better. How can I know Him better? by turning my attention toward Him more fully; by listening to His voice; by obeying His guidance; by allowing Him to prompt intercession in our hearts. Knowing is about companionship. He is your closest companion; but the benefit of that comes as we give attention to Him and to what He tells us.

He is what we need most because He comes along beside us to help us with everything. Do you need healing? He comes to bring healing and health in your life. Do you need provision? He directs you to the stream where the ravens are appointed to feed you. Then when the brook dries up, he directs you to the widow with the barrel of meal.⁷ He’s got your back. Do you need victory over some besetting sin? He is that divine influence we call grace. “Sin shall not have dominion over you, for we are not under law but under grace.”⁸ And His grace is always sufficient. He is the great sanctifier. He is the “Holy” spirit; and He alone can make you holy. You will not overcome that bad habit by trying harder. You will overcome it by getting full of the Holy Spirit. “...walk in the Spirit, and you will not fulfill the lusts of the flesh.”⁹ There is no other way to accomplish that. “Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit says the Lord.”¹⁰ You and I need the Holy Spirit more than we need anything else.

The Holy Spirit has taken up residence within you. He is a permanent dweller. The Spirit of God has come to live in believers. This is your strength. It is your life. It is what you need. Plug in and grab hold...your life is going to be quite a ride.

Sermon Song: “They’ll know we are Christians”

**We are one in the Spirit. We are one in the Lord.
We are one in the Spirit. We are one in the Lord.
And we pray that all unity, May one day be restored.**

**And they'll know we are Christians, By our love, By our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians, By our love.**

**We will walk with each other. We will walk hand in hand.
We will walk with each other. We will walk hand in hand.
And together we'll spread the news, That God is in our land.**

**And they'll know we are Christians, By our love, By our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians, By our love.**

Prayers of People

Holy and Gracious God, God whose Spirit moved over the waters, and still moves over your people and all of your creation, continue to abide with us and bless us as we come before you opening up our prayers and petitions.

**C. Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.**

We pray for this present time and all those who strive to live and work to bring about your kingdom in this place. Bless our leaders in the church and in our government who strive to follow your call. Help them in times of need to hear your voice and Its wisdom in leading their people. Bless our health care workers and all essential employees who put themselves at risk for our sakes. Bless those who staying at home, working, or resting from work-- keep us inspired by your goodness to give thanks and trust in your guidance. Help us to cope with our world as it is and send us your spirit to empower us to bring forth the best for your creation, our lives, and the lives of all.

**C. Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place; Lord,
listen to your children praying, Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.**

We pray for the homeless, the hopeless, those who are sick in body mind or soul. Especially we lift up our petitions for those who need your healing, your spirit's touch to renew and restore, as we speak their names and our concerns out loud to you....Empower us to bring forth the best for your creation, our lives, and the lives of all.

**C. Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.**

We pray for your vision for the whole earth. Help us to steward all your gifts well, so that we can pass them to the next generation. We give you thanks for all the gifts and skills you've given us to use to lighten and bless one another. Accept our offerings in service to us. Empower us to bring forth the best for your creation, our lives, and the lives of all.

**C. Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.**

Empower us to bring forth the best for your creation, our lives, and the lives of all. **C.
Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.**

We place our very lives before you and ask you to infuse your spirit of love, power and grace into them. Accept our petitions spoken and unspoken. We trust in your love and goodness. Amen.

Meal

The Great Thanksgiving

P. The Lord Be with you. **C. And also with you.**

P. Lift up your hearts. **C. We lift them to the Lord.**

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C. It is good to give God thanks and praise.

The Words of Institution

P. "Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying: 'Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.' "In the same way also He took the cup after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying: 'Drink of it all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. This do as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.'"

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Post Communion Prayer

P. May the body and blood of our Savior, strengthen and preserve you giving you peace and grace. Amen.

Sending

Blessing

P. Go forth in the power of the Holy Spirit! Proclaim the gospel throughout the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness in the power of the kingdom and with deeds of justice and mercy. **C. We are sent in the name and power of the Lord!**

P. May the God who raised Jesus from the dead bless you. **C. Amen.**

Song: Alleluia, Jesus is Risen ELW 377 vs 1-3

1. Alleluia! Jesus is risen! Trumpets resounding in glorious light! Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever! Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!

Refrain: Jesus is risen and we shall arise. Give God the glory! Alleluia!

2. Walking the way, Christ in the center telling the story to open our eyes; breaking our bread, giving us glory: Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise. Refrain

3. Jesus the vine, we are the branches; life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree; heaven to earth, Christ to the people, gift of the future now flowing to me. Refrain

Dismissal

A. Go in Peace and serve the Lord. **C. Thanks Be to God.**