THE DAY OF PENTECOST

What About Women?

AS WE GATHER

During the summer, pastor is preaching on a variety of topics selected by members of the congregation. Today he is focusing on the gifts God has given to women and their role together with men in fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandment. In our Old Testament lesson, Queen Esther risks her life to save her people - the entire Jewish nation! In our Epistle we see the role of Lois and Eunice, grandmother and mother of Timothy, who nurtured his faith and life in Jesus. In our Gospel, we hear the song of Mary, who humbled herself to become what theologians have called the Theotokus - the God-bearer, in becoming the mother of Jesus. Because of her trust in God and example of faith, all nations have called her blessed. The list of faithful women and their examples goes on: Dorcas, who served the sick and poor, touching them with compassion; Hannah, who dedicated her firstborn to the Lord; Ruth, who faithfully served her mother-in-law in a strange land among those who were not her people; Mary Magdalene, whose promiscuous life was transformed by the Lord and who became a first-witness of his resurrection. Financially and emotionally, there were quite a few women who supported Jesus with their gifts and their lives. Today's service is a call for both men and women to follow these faithful examples of godliness and humility.
PREPARATION

PRELUDE
“Earth and All Stars”
David Cherwien

PASTORAL GREETING

TOLLING OF THE BELL

HYMN
“Earth and All Stars” revised;
Verses 1-3: Herbert Brokering;
Verse 4: Michael Zehnder

INVOCATION
Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES
Psalm 143:8, 10

Pastor: Let me hear in the morning of Your steadfast love,
People: for in You I trust.
Pastor: Make me know the way I should go,
People: for to You I lift up my soul.
Pastor: Teach me to do Your will,
People: for You are my God!
Pastor: Let Your good Spirit lead me
People: on level ground!
CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Creator Spirit,
People: we confess our alienation from You both by nature and by choice. We have not allowed Your love to have free reign in us, and so our love for You, for ourselves, and for other people keeps on faltering. We have sometimes allowed gender stereotypes to lessen our view of others. We have not always fully valued women or men as You do, each having unique and necessary gifts. Send Your wind of transformation. Heal us with forgiveness for Jesus’ sake.

Pastor: Come, Holy Spirit! Breathe over and ignite the love of God for women and men both within and among us!
Our dear Holy Trinity in mercy has given the Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Jesus and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the *Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

* WORD *

KYRIE

Pastor: O Lord, who graciously frustrates the plans of our sinful nature,
People: have mercy on us.
Pastor: O Christ, who promised the Holy Spirit to be our convicting and comforting counselor,
People: have mercy on us.
Pastor: O Lord, who on Pentecost breathed the Holy Spirit upon Your gathered people, both women and men,
People: have mercy on us, and grant us Your peace. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE “All You Works of God, Bless the Lord” LSB 930
(Verse 1, 4, 6)

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, on this Pentecost day You sent Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy guidance; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.
Old Testament Reading: Esther 4:9-17

Hathach went back and reported to Esther what Mordecai had said. Then she instructed him to say to Mordecai, “All the king’s officials and the people of the royal provinces know that for any man or woman who approaches the king in the inner court without being summoned the king has but one law: that they be put to death. The only exception to this is for the king to extend the gold scepter to him and spare his life. But thirty days have passed since I was called to go to the king.”

When Esther’s words were reported to Mordecai, he sent back this answer: “Do not think that because you are in the king’s house you alone of all the Jews will escape. For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father’s family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?”

Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: “Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my maids will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish.”

So Mordecai went away and carried out all of Esther’s instructions.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL Acts 2:17b; Rom. 10:10

I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy.
With the heart one believes and is justified,
and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

Epistle Reading: II Timothy 1:3-7

I thank God, whom I serve, as my forefathers did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also. For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.
Congregation, please rise for the Alleluia verse and the Holy Gospel.

VERSE

Pastor: Alleluia. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful, and kindle in them the fire of Your love.


Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the first chapter.
People: Glory to You, O Lord.

And Mary said:
“My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me—holy is his name. His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful to Abraham and his descendants forever, even as he said to our fathers.”
Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY “For All the Faithful Women” LSB 855

(Verses 1, 8-9, 13, 4)

SERMON “What About Women?” Pastor John Larson
TEXT: II Timothy 1:3-7

NICENE CREED Text found in the back of the Hymnal.
PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray together in Christ Jesus for all people according to their needs. Counselor Spirit, thank You for Your ministry among us through Your Law and Gospel. Use them to convict Your people of all the ways we turn away from Your love and to comfort us with healing forgiveness through Jesus. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Fire of Love, pour out the love of Jesus into the hearts of Your people. Inspire all who speak Your Word among us with wisdom and faithfulness. Open the hearts of all who attend to Your Word that Your people hear and gladly follow Your voice. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Spirit of Peace, there is much violence and turmoil in this world. Grant to the leaders of our communities, regions, and all nations courage to serve all who are marginalized, impoverished, and outcast; to listen to the voices of the voiceless; to put an end to warfare and violence; and to protect life in all its forms; that all people live in peace and quietness. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Breath of God, breathe Your healing presence among all people who suffer any affliction of body, mind, or spirit, [especially . . .]. Lift up the downcast, restore the fallen, strengthen the weak, and fill the hungry with good things. Help all who suffer to trust in Your abiding presence and to rest in Your love that surrounds us all. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: [Additional intersessions may be added here…]. Lord, in Your mercy,

Pastor: Spirit of Jesus, we thank You for the faithful examples of holy women, like Esther who faced the threat of death to save her people, like Eunice and Lois who by faith and example nurtured the faith and life of Timothy, like Mary who surrendered herself to Your will in becoming the human God-bearer. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Spirit of Unity, You call, gather, enlighten, and sanctify the people of God in every tribe, kindred, nation, and language throughout the many diversities of this world. Help us to live with our families, neighbors, men and women, fellow students, and co-workers with the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Keep us in Jesus who is the way, the truth, and the life until that day when we dwell together under God’s reign of love among all the saints in light. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.
THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
People: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

HOLY COMMUNION AT ASCENSION

The Lord, our Host, invites to his Supper those who are baptized into the Christian faith, confess him as Savior, have been instructed and have examined themselves, truly repent of sins, believe the Risen Lord is present in the sacrament with his true body and blood, and resolve to live faithfully and obediently. For those with an intolerance to alcohol, the center ring of the tray contains grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available to those with wheat allergies. Children who have not been instructed, yet desire a blessing, are invited to come forward with arms crossed. When receiving the bread and wine, the communicant may respond with “Amen!”, a word of affirmation and belief.

SACRAMENT

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.  
People: And also with you.
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.  
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who ascended above the heavens and, sitting at Your right hand, poured out on this day the promised Holy Spirit on His chosen disciples. For all this the whole earth rejoices with exceeding joy. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus (Divine Service, Setting Four)

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “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, and when He had given thanks, He 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 for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”
LORD’S PRAYER  Matthew 6:9–13  Text found in the back of the Hymnal.

Agnus Dei (Divine Service, Setting Four)

1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,

Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Canon in D Minor”  
Johann Pachelbel
Diana Gaide, pianist

“O Sons and Daughters of the King”  
VSBS 470
(Verses 1-2, 9)

“Who Are You Who Walk in Sorrow”  
VSBS 476

GENERAL COMMUNION BLESSING
BENEDICAMUS

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. Numbers 6:24–26
People: Amen.

HYMN “Rise, Shine, You People” LSB 825

CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS

POSTLUDE “Rise, Shine You People” Jeffrey Blersch
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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Names</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OFFICIANT and CELEBRANT</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Pastor John Larson</td>
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<td>10:00</td>
<td>Michael Zehnder</td>
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<td>DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES</td>
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<td>Diana Gaide</td>
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<td>ORGAN ASSISTANT</td>
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<td>Rose Berger, Bri Fort, Will Kopriva,</td>
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<td>AGAPE</td>
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<td>Jenna Lawrenz, Lisa O’Neal, Ken Price,</td>
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<td>ACOLYTE</td>
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<td>Chrissy Coon</td>
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<td>USHERS</td>
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<td>Larry Nisbet, Members of the Congregation</td>
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<td>10:00</td>
<td>Jason Dierking, Members of the Congregation</td>
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<td>SERVER</td>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Margo Pasha</td>
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<tr>
<td>ALTAR GUILD</td>
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<td>Sally Atchison, Gloria Gaudreault, Judy Peterson, Deb Shiflet</td>
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<tr>
<td>FLOWERS</td>
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<td>Patti Zeggert, in celebration of her son, Nick’s, 29th birthday.</td>
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