

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 29, 2025

Welcome/Announcements

New Tree, New Fruit

As We Gather

If you have ever enjoyed a homegrown tomato or plucked a ripe peach straight from the tree, you know there is no substitute for good fruit. Today, the Holy Spirit is continuing the work begun in your Baptism, bringing forth good fruit. Too often, we imagine bearing good fruit is a result of our own careful cultivation, paying special attention to getting things right. The Spirit takes another approach. Just as the flavor of fresh fruit is a delight to our senses, the Spirit delights our soul with the tantalizing tastes of joy, kindness, gentleness, and love! The Spirit teaches us to crave what is good and, in so doing, leads believers to produce the fruit the Lord always intended.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn

LSB 561 The Tree of Life

- 1 The tree of life with ev'ry good
In Eden's holy orchard stood,
And of its fruit so pure and sweet
God let the man and woman eat.
Yet in this garden also grew
Another tree, of which they knew;
Its lovely limbs with fruit adorned
Against whose eating God had warned.
- 2 The stillness of that sacred grove
Was broken, as the serpent strove
With tempting voice Eve to beguile
And Adam too by sin defile.

O day of sadness when the breath
Of fear and darkness, doubt and death,
Its awful poison first displayed
Within the world so newly made.

3 What mercy God showed to our race,
A plan of rescue by His grace:
In sending One from woman's seed,
The One to fill our greatest need—
For on a tree uplifted high
His only Son for sin would die,
Would drink the cup of scorn and dread
To crush the ancient serpent's head!

4 Now from that tree of Jesus' shame
Flows life eternal in His name;
For all who trust and will believe,
Salvation's living fruit receive.
And of this fruit so pure and sweet
The Lord invites the world to eat,
To find within this cross of wood
The tree of life with ev'ry good.

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

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Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Opening Sentences

Ezekiel 17:22–24, adapt.

P Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful,

C and kindle in them the fire of Your love.

P Thus says the Lord GOD: "I Myself will take a sprig and plant it on a high and lofty mountain,

C that it may bear branches and produce fruit.

P And all the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD;

C I bring low the high tree, and make high the low tree,

- P** dry up the green tree, and make the dry tree flourish.
C **I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it.”**

Confession and Absolution

- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**
- P** Almighty Father, we confess that by our inability, insolence, and inaction, we have not made Your ways our ways.
C **For our failure to walk in the ways of love, joy, and peace, forgive us, Lord.**
- P** Lord Jesus, we admit we too often conform our desires to the world around us, adopting its compromised standards for living.
C **For our failure to value the gifts of patience, kindness, and goodness, forgive us, Lord.**
- P** Holy Spirit, our very natures are set against You, Your Gospel proclamation, and the fruit You intend to bring.
C **For our failure to manifest the fruits of faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control, forgive us, Lord. For Jesus’ sake, melt our sinful hearts, and mold us into the reflections of Your righteousness that You call us to be.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son, Jesus, to die for you, and for His sake forgives You all Your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word made flesh and by His authority, I therefore forgive You all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

WORD

Introit for Pentecost 3

Psalm 85:8–10, 13; antiphon: v. 7

- C** **Show us Your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us Your salvation.**
- A** Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints; but let them not turn

back to folly.

Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him,
that glory may dwell in our land.

Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;
righteousness and peace kiss each other.

Righteousness will go before Him
and make His footsteps a way.

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;**

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Show us Your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us Your salvation.

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Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, author and giver of all good things, graft into our hearts the love of Your name and nourish us with all goodness that we may love and serve our neighbor; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

1 Kings 19:9b–21

Behold, the word of the LORD came to [Elijah], and he said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁰He said, “I have been very jealous for the LORD, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away.” ¹¹And he said, “Go out and stand on the mount before the LORD.” And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. ¹²And after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire the sound of a low whisper. ¹³And when Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. And behold, there came a voice to him and said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁴He said, “I have

been very jealous for the LORD, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away.”¹⁵ And the LORD said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus. And when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael to be king over Syria.”¹⁶ And Jehu the son of Nimshi you shall anoint to be king over Israel, and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah you shall anoint to be prophet in your place.¹⁷ And the one who escapes from the sword of Hazael shall Jehu put to death, and the one who escapes from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha put to death.¹⁸ Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

¹⁹So he departed from there and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen in front of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and cast his cloak upon him.²⁰ And he left the oxen and ran after Elijah and said, “Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you.” And he said to him, “Go back again, for what have I done to you?”²¹ And he returned from following him and took the yoke of oxen and sacrificed them and boiled their flesh with the yokes of the oxen and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he arose and went after Elijah and assisted him.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Galatians 5:1, 13–25

¹For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. . . .

¹³For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.¹⁴For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”¹⁵But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

¹⁶But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.¹⁷For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality,²⁰idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions,²¹envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

²³gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

²⁵If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Verse

Luke 9:51

P Alleluia. When the days drew near for Him to be taken up,

C He set His face to go to Jerusalem. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 9:51–62

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the ninth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁵¹When the days drew near for [Jesus] to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵²And he sent messengers ahead of him, who went and entered a village of the Samaritans, to make preparations for him. ⁵³But the people did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. ⁵⁴And when his disciples James and John saw it, they said, “Lord, do you want us to tell fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” ⁵⁵But he turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶And they went on to another village.

⁵⁷As they were going along the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” ⁵⁸And Jesus said to him, “**Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.**” ⁵⁹To another he said, “**Follow me.**” But he said, “Lord, let me first go and bury my father.” ⁶⁰And Jesus said to him, “**Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.**” ⁶¹Yet another said, “I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home.” ⁶²Jesus said to him, “**No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.**”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day

LSB 693 O Holy Spirit, Grant Us Grace

- 1 O Holy Spirit, grant us grace
That we our Lord and Savior
In faith and fervent love embrace
And truly serve Him ever.
The hour of death cannot bring loss
When we are sheltered by the cross
That canceled our transgressions.
- 2 Help us that we Thy saving Word
In faithful hearts may treasure;
Let e'er that Bread of Life afford
New grace in richest measure.
O make us die to ev'ry sin,
Each day create new life within,
That fruits of faith may flourish.
- 3 And when our earthly race is run,
Death's bitter hour impending,
Then may Thy work in us begun
Continue till life's ending,
Until we gladly may commend
Our souls into our Savior's hand,
The crown of life obtaining.

Text: Bartholomäus Ringwaldt, 1532–99; tr. Oluf H. Smeby, 1851–1929, alt.
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Sermon

Guest Pastor, Rev. John Schinkel

Apostles' Creed

**C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✝ everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Gracious Holy Spirit, grow the faith of all those who believe. Bring forth the fruit of holiness and supply them with opportunities to display that fruit for the sake of their neighbor. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Abiding Holy Spirit, be a companion for all who feel lonely and isolated, and preserve them from depression and despair. Send us, Your people, to be visible and tangible witnesses that Your presence is with them always. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Ministering Holy Spirit, safeguard and support all those You have called into ministry. Encourage them amid the challenges of their Gospel work that they do not face the trials and triumphs of this mission alone. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Interceding Holy Spirit, plead for all who face sorrow, sickness, or adversity, comforting them with Your tender care. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Sanctifying Holy Spirit, strengthen Your church. Give all the baptized passion for Your Word, eagerness for service, and courage to reject the world's faulty

wisdom and misplaced priorities. Fan into flame hearts that might be a beacon for those in darkness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Eternal Holy Spirit, preserve Your church until the day of the return of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Father, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

C 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.

Offering: If you were prepared to bring an offering today, you may leave it as you exit the sanctuary. Member/Visitor and Prayer Request cards may be left with your offering as well. Thank you

Benediction

P 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.
C Amen.

Closing Hymn

LSB 650 Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

- 1 Holy Spirit, ever dwelling
In the holiest realms of light;
Holy Spirit, ever brooding
O'er a world of gloom and night;
Holy Spirit, ever raising
Those of earth to thrones on high;
Living, life-imparting Spirit,
You we praise and magnify.
- 2 Holy Spirit, ever living
As the Church's very life;
Holy Spirit, ever striving
Through us in a ceaseless strife;
Holy Spirit, ever forming
In the Church the mind of Christ:
You we praise with endless worship
For Your gifts and fruits unpriced.
- 3 Holy Spirit, ever working
Through the Church's ministry;
Quick'ning, strength'ning, and absolving,
Setting captive sinners free;
Holy Spirit, ever binding
Age to age and soul to soul
In communion never ending,
You we worship and extol.

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