

Pentecost



WNY Church Unleashed

May 23, 2021

*Welcome to WNY Church Unleashed hosted by:
St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Rev. Steve Biegner
Parkside Lutheran Church, Rev. Jeremiah Smith
Zion Lutheran Church, Rev. Julius Carroll*

Pentecost

May 23, 2021



*Future services will be recorded and aired on YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV.
MeTV will broadcast Sunday Services at 10:00 a.m. on the following channels:
For DirecTV: Ch. 67; For Cable, Fios, and Dish: Ch. 5; For "Rabbit Ears": Ch. 67-1*

Brief order for Confession and Forgiveness

- P** In this season, we worship the Holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sins, whose fire burns in our hearts and lives still today.
- C** Amen
- P** Seeking reconciliation with God and neighbor, let us remember the gift of baptism and confess our sin together. God of mercy,
- C** we confess that we have sinned against you, against one another; we forgot to love as we have been loved. We are worried and distracted by many things, and we fail to love you above all else. Many times, we store up treasures for ourselves and turn away from our neighbors in need. Forgive us, for all that we've messed up, that we may live in the freedom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen
- P** When we were laid low by sin and guilt, God made us alive together with Christ, forgiving us all our trespasses by taking our sins to the cross. So rejoice in this good news: you are brought back to the Father who created you, forgiven by the Savior who died for you, and poured out over again by the Holy Spirit who walks with you in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and all God's people said:
- C** Amen

Opening Hymn: ELW 733

Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -
stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in
pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.
man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960

Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

Text and music © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

First Reading: Acts 2:1-21

Originally Pentecost was a Jewish thanksgiving-type festival celebrated seven weeks after Passover. On this particular Pentecost, however, the Holy Spirit is poured out upon the entire community of believers just as Jesus had promised and the scriptures had prophesied. Empowered by the Spirit, the entire community bears witness to God's activity in multiple languages.

When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

P The Holy Gospel according to John the 15th Chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

While speaking to his disciples before his death, Jesus refers to the Holy Spirit as “the Helper” and describes the difference the Spirit will make in their lives and in the world.

[Jesus said,] “When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. “I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon



I Love to Tell the Story



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Youth Time

Apostles' Creed

P Let's confess the faith of the Church together using the Apostles' Creed:

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

Prayers of the Church

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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

Benediction

P And now as you go on your way, may the Lord go with you. May he go before you to show you the way, behind you to encourage you, beside you to be your friend, above you to watch over you, and within you to give you peace. Go today celebrating in the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, and all God's children said...

C Amen.

Sharing the Peace and Sending

P Go in peace, remember the poor, and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: May 23-30, 2021

- TODAY:** 10:00 am: WNY Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: In-Person Worship and Communion
11:00 am: Baptism of Erin Elliott Crowley
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope
- Monday:** 5:00 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck at Amherst High School
- Tuesday:** 10:00 am: Bible Study
- Wednesday:** 12:30 pm: Staff Meeting via Zoom
- Thursday:** 7:00 pm: Emotional Sobriety Too Meeting
- Sunday:** 10:00 am: In-Person Worship and Communion
10:00 am: WNY Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

Attendance last week: YouTube/Facebook/MeTV: 200+ In-Person: 41 Offering: \$3,340.00

Prayer List: In our congregational family: (* indicates new names or changes added this week)

Marion Alexander: Tennyson Court, #127 in Memory Care Unit, Williamsville, NY 14221

Neal DeLeo: Brothers of Mercy, 10570 Bergtold Road, Clarence, NY 14031

Claire Franke: Elderwood, 225 Bennett Road, #223, Cheektowaga, NY 14227

Chad Israel

Christopher Magin: 22 Dale Drive, Tonawanda, NY 14150

Dorothy Menth: 2330 Maple Road, Apt. 383, Williamsville, NY 14221

Alison Silsby: 4360 Peet Street, Middleport, NY 14105

David Wolf: P.O. Box 198, Clarence Center, NY 14032

Prayer List: In our and extended family: Ira Striejewske; Ralph Vahue; Thomas Maier

ST. PAUL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: We resumed Sunday in-person worship beginning at 10:00 am. As we previously handled in-person worship, reservations are requested if you plan to attend any of the in-person services. You will still need to wear face masks, maintain limited capacity in the sanctuary, and adhere to current Covid-19 protocols. Please contact the Church Office at 716-835-0407 to make your reservation. If you cannot join us for in-person worship, please continue to worship with us as WNY Church Unleashed on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am on WBBZ, YouTube, or Facebook.

Covid-19 Restrictions: While zone designations (yellow, orange, red) remain in various areas, we ask that you not stop by the Church Office unannounced. If you need to come to the office or meet with Pastor Steve, please call ahead and make an appointment (716-835-0407). This way we can continue to keep you and our staff safe during this difficult time.

Tigers Den Food Pantry: The Food pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226 or by referral. The May Pantry hours are Thursday 5/20 from 3:00 pm to 6:30 pm, and Saturday 5/22 from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm. Donations for May are: condiments, rice, and cereal.

Daily Bread Food Truck News: The DBFT will be parked in the Amherst High School front parking lot every Monday from 5:00-7:00 pm, to hand out free meals to the community. A number of neighborhood eateries will be teaming with the DBFT to “host” these meals. If you would like to volunteer to help out on Mondays, please contact Katie at 835-0407.

Outdoor Coffee Hour: Beginning in May or June (depending on the weather), we will gather outside following the 10:00 am worship service to share conversation, coffee, and fellowship. This will be a time to renew relationships and meet new missionaries at St. Paul's. If you would be interested in helping us with this (set-up, provide a snack, and break-down), please call the office or sign-up on the board in the Gathering Area.



WNY Church Unleashed is a partnership between Pastor Jeremiah Smith from Parkside Lutheran Church, Pastor Julius Carroll from Zion Lutheran Church, and Pastor Steve Biegner from St. Paul's Lutheran Church whose mission is to unleash the message of God's good news into every home in Western New York.

WNY Church Unleashed Prayer List

Bruce Herman

Beverly Root

Neil Sommerfeldt

Parkside Lutheran Church Announcements – May 23rd, 2021

At Parkside we are rediscovering the radical love of Jesus –

Gathering All, Serving All, Caring for All

2 Wallace Ave Buffalo, NY 14214 (corner of Depew)

(716)836-1361 parksidelutheran@gmail.com

There are 3 ways to watch the recorded Service 10am Sundays:

1) Watch on your TV: Station METV – channel 5 on Cable, Fios & Dish or channel 67 on DirecTV

2) WNY Unleashed Facebook Page 3) WNY Unleashed YouTube Page

Indoor Worship at Parkside Lutheran Church continues with masks and social distancing

There will be a **memorial service for Hazel Dodson** Saturday, June 5th 11am

North Buffalo Food Pantry Hours are Saturday 9am-1pm – enter on Depew. Donations can be dropped off at the Pantry during regular Pantry hours or call the office to arrange drop off.

May collection-Crackers and Toilet Paper *Backup volunteers* are needed. Contact the office if you are interested in helping on the *occasional* Saturday for 3 hours.

Nonperishable food items can also be left in our little red “**Blessing Box**” on the Depew side of the building.

Meals on Wheels Parkside LC location is in great need of volunteers – if you can help 2 or 3 mornings during the week for an hour or two, please contact the office.

Burrito Project - Every fourth Tuesday of the month, volunteers from Parkside hand out Burritos in Downtown Buffalo. Contact the office if you’d like to help!

Next date is May 25th.

Prayer Tree:

Congregation: Ruth DeAeth; The Hagner Family, including Lorri’s father, Gary B., who has been very ill.

Friends & Family: Friends and family of Georgie Knight, as they mourn her passing; Stephanie and Austin; Sharon Hill; Continued prayers for Donald Railey as he recovers from major abdominal surgery; Prayers for India; We offer our prayers for the church, the world & all people in need. **If you would like to add to the prayer list please contact the office.**

Parkside For Social Justice Traditionally, May marks the arrival of spring flowers and all things beautiful. Additionally, the National Alliance on Mental Illness has designated May as Mental Health Awareness Month. The goal of this designation is to help Americans learn to better understand the reality of living with a mental health diagnosis, and to support the millions of Americans who have already been diagnosed.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, 2020 saw a significant influx in people seeking mental health treatments, as well as increase in substance abuse, domestic violence and other secondary symptoms associated with mental illness. The enforcement of social distancing and increasing isolation created many extra barriers for those seeking treatment. Throughout 2020, NAMI pushed their campaign "You Are Not Alone" to increase awareness and spread a message of unity to people who may have felt disconnected from their resources, loved ones and community.

Despite continued efforts to erase the stigma of mental health, it remains a complicated and misunderstood part of our society. Unlike many physical disabilities, which are visible, mental health is not something that can be "seen," which in turn makes it difficult to understand. Anxiety and depression are among the most common diagnoses in the United States, where it is estimated 1 in 5 adults meet criteria for these illnesses, yet do not seek treatment. By age 24, about 75% of all lifetime mental health illnesses will have been diagnosed, leaving our young population vulnerable and confused.

It is not surprising that statistically, suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death for individuals ages 10-34. In fact, the rate of suicide has increased by 34% since 1999. Marginalized communities are at the most risk for successful suicides; members of the LGB youth are 4x more likely to attempt to kill themselves than straight youth, and transgender adults are 12x more likely to attempt than the general population.

Mental health emergencies continue to play a role in the news, following multiple lethal interactions between law enforcement and those in crisis. In fact, 1 in every 8 emergency department visits are related to mental health or substance abuse. Due to the nature of emergency rooms, there is a significant lack in available resources to provide the follow up care many people need. This in turn increases the rate of people experiencing homelessness with serious mental health issues (20%) as well as those incarcerated (37%).

By gathering a better understanding of the frequency of mental health illness, treatment options and other important information we can help decrease the stigma across America. Mental illness presents in many diagnoses in all walks of life. The more we continue to push the message that you are not alone, the more likely people will be to reach out for help. For further information and resources please visit the following websites:

<https://www.nami.org/Home>

<https://www.samhsa.gov/>

<https://www.nimh.nih.gov>

<https://afsp.org/>

Have a suggested resource or question about this Parkside For Social Justice?

Contact Pastor Jeremiah or Alison Smith alisonmsmith07@gmail.com.

Want more information about all that is happening at Parkside LC?

Sign up for our weekly email

on our website - parksidelutheran.org - Like us on Facebook - Follow us on Instagram

OPPORTUNITIES AT ZION



+ **Indoor Worship:**

+ **Saturdays @ 5pm and Sundays @ 9:15am -- ALL ARE WELCOME, WE MEAN IT!**

+ **Sunday indoor Church School ('rolling schedule'):** *contact Elaine Baker*
(elaine@zionclarencenter.com) *for the schedule.*

+ **Sunday Adult Bible Class @ 10:30am:** *contact Pastor Carroll for a referral to Zion's adult education coordinator more information.* (pastorcarroll@zionclarencenter.com)

- Interested in helping the folks at Zion expand Zion's digital 'footprint'? *Contact Pastor Carroll for a referral to Zion's digital coordinator* (pastorcarroll@zionclarencenter.com)

*Zion Lutheran Church
9535 Clarence Center Road
Clarence Center, NY 14032
(716) 741-2656*

We would like to express our gratitude to the following individuals
who have been gifting their services to help bring you
the Sunday MeTV productions:

Musician:

Michael Hooker

Soloist:

Theresa Kosmowski

Video and Editing:

Nick Stroczkowski, Brothers and Sisters Film Production Company

Sound:

Andrew Gruszka, The Record DJ Co.

DJs/MCs, SOUND & LIGHTING

