

Receive the Holy Spirit

JOHN 20:22



FRIEDENS LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Day of Pentecost ✠ *May 24, 2026*

*Indicates for the congregation to stand if you are able.

Congregation responses are printed in **bold print**.

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS and PRELUDE

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspirations of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God, *have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

*HYMN "O Day Full of Grace" P. 161

*PRAYER OF THE DAY (Spoken)

O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

*HYMN OF PRAISE "Praise to the Father" (Sung)

Praise to the Father for his loving kindness, Tenderly caring for his erring children; Praise him, all angels; praise him in the heaven; Praise to the Father!

FIRST READING: Acts 2:1-21

¹ When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. ² 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. ³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. ⁵ Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶ And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷ Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹² All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³ But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵ Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷ '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. ¹⁸ Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹ And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. ²⁰ The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. ²¹ Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' "

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: 104:24-34, 35b

²⁴ How manifold are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

²⁵ *Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number, living things both small and great.*

²⁶ There go the ships to and fro, and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.

²⁷ *All of them look to you to give them their food in due season.*

²⁸ You give it to them; they gather it; you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

²⁹ *When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.*

³⁰ You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth.

³¹ *May the glory of the LORD endure forever; O LORD, rejoice in all your works.*

³² You look at the earth and it trembles; you touch the mountains and they smoke.

³³ *I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being.*

³⁴ May these words of mine please God. I will rejoice in the LORD.

^{35b} *Bless the LORD, O my soul. Hallelujah!*

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

^{3b} No one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit. ⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, ⁵ and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. ¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

GOSPEL: John 20:19-23

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, O Christ.*

CONGREGATIONAL MESSAGE, Pastor Linda Bonfiglio.

HYMN "Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove" P. 475

* NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*PRAYERS Merciful God, *receive our prayer.*

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. *And also with you.*

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY** (Sung)
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** (Spoken)
The Lord be with you. *And also with you.* Lift up your hearts. *We lift them to the Lord.* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

***PREFACE**
"HOLY, HOLY, HOLY" (Spoken)
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**
***LORD'S PRAYER** (Spoken)
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.

COMUNION

TABLE PRAYER
HOLY COMMUNION PRAYER
Amen.

***BLESSING**
***SENDING HYMN** "Lift High the Cross: P. 377

***DISMISSAL**
Go in peace. Serve the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Postlude

Website: [HTTPS://www.thefriedenslutheran.com](https://www.thefriedenslutheran.com)
Church e-mail: friedenslutheran4@gmail.com
Designated Pastor: Pastor Lee A. Diefenderfer, 1295 Red Dale Road, Orwigsburg, PA 17961, 610-858-4136
Council President: Ed Tietsworth, (570) 292-1061

Calendar
Today, Pastor Linda Bonfiglio.
May 31, James Kimmel.

Announcements
5/27/2026 – Baccalaureate services will be held at Trinity Lutheran at 7:00 PM. Pastor Suzanne Elliott will provide the message.
5/31/2026 – Last day of Sunday School. See you in the fall.
5/31/2026 – Recognition of 2026 Graduates.
6/1/2026 – Scholarship applications are due.

Prayer Corner
Rick Herring; David Merwine; Terry Schwartz; Saralinn Grantz Linda, Lee & Jared Kiefer; Robert Lettick; Elaine Carter; Deb Barry; Gary Snyder; Caitlyn Steppy; Tom Bixler; Jack Wehry; Josh & Dani Kiefer and unborn Child; Drew Hikes; Marvin Ruch; Irvin Lenker Sr.

Today's Leaders - Service, Pastor Linda Bonfiglio Lector, Ann Miller Counters, Mike & Sue Deiter Head Usher, Dave Henninger Ushers, Christy Leiter, Mike Deiter, Ed Tietsworth Greeters, Cindy & Larry Klinger.

Flowers – In honor and memory of all veterans. Thank you for your service. God bless. Ruth
Bulletin – In honor of all veterans. Ruth

Summer Bible School
Friedens's Bible School will be held from June 15th – 19th, 6:00 – 8:30 PM.
Vacation Bible is for children ages 3 (Potty trained) to those students who have completed 6th grade. The Bible School program will be on Sunday, June 21, 2026, 10:30 AM. Please join our youth as they showcase what they have learned during the week.

Volunteers 5/31/2026 – Message, James Kimmel Lector, Scott Deiter Counters, Janet & Ron Radel Head Usher, Dave Henninger Ushers, Rodney Troutman, Ben Wetzel, Jason Wolfgang Greeters, Cindy & Rick Herring and Joan Smith.

Attendance: 32 (5/17/26) Offering:

May 17, 2026 – Current	\$1,379.00
Other	\$110.00
Total	\$1,489.00

Deep Breath

In the world of the Bible, the word *breath* is synonymous with “life.” Breath is necessary for a creature to be considered alive; where there isn’t breath, there isn’t life. Breath from God animates—brings to life—the creature formed from dust, the first human. When Jesus dies on the cross, three of the four gospels describe the moment using the phrase “breathed his last.”

In today’s gospel reading, Jesus appears to the disciples after the resurrection and offers his body to them for inspection. His scarred hands and side reveal that he is, in fact, Jesus, who was crucified. He is not an impostor. The disciples rejoice at the recognition. Next, Jesus breathes on them, a clear physical and symbolic assurance that he is not just a body but a *living* body. The breath that was once spent and gone has returned. He is not reanimated; he is *resurrected*. He has life in him again!

When Jesus breathes on his disciples, he also invites them to receive the Holy Spirit. This moment is extraordinary. Jesus animates the disciples in the same way God animated Adam: by bestowing divine breath, which brings not only physical life but spiritual life as well. Moreover, Jesus reveals that the Holy Spirit he promised to the disciples is, in fact, his own animating Spirit.

The earth-shaking wind of the Spirit at Pentecost is also an intimate breath of life. Through this divine exhale, there is the gift of life—body *and* spirit—and the enduring promise of resurrection.

Spend a few moments today doing some deep breathing as you give thanks for God’s gift of breath and for the Holy Spirit.