May 2021 Newsletter



Volume 17, Issue 5

FROM THE PASTOR

Plug in To the Power of Pentecost!

Just before Jesus ascended into heaven, he gave his disciples a powerful promise. He said, "John baptized with water, but in a few days, you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit...You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:5, 7-8

Jesus fulfilled his promise ten days later when he poured out the Holy Spirit upon his disciples in a special way on Pentecost. The visible signs of the Holy Spirit's presence were the sound of a blowing wind, tongues of fire that came to rest on the disciples, and granting them the ability to speak in tongues, that is, to preach the Gospel in a foreign language they had never learned before. God used this miraculous event to share the Gospel with people gathered in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven.

Inwardly, the Holy Spirit filled the disciples with power, courage and conviction to live their faith and to share their faith with others. Through the power of his Word, he empowered them to be bold witnesses for Jesus Christ. Read the book of Acts and you will witness the Spirit's work in action.

But Jesus' promise to pour out the Holy Spirit upon his disciples was not just limited to those chosen disciples in Jerusalem two thousand years ago. We celebrate Pentecost on Sunday, May 23rd. As we do, we consider how the Holy Spirit comes to us today. Jesus still pours out the Holy Spirit upon us in a powerful way through the means of grace, the Gospel in Word and sacraments. Consider the power of your baptism. Through this washing of rebirth and renewal the Holy Spirit created faith in your heart and granted you new life in Christ. He turned you from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God. Consider the power of Holy Communion. Through this life-giving meal Jesus not only washes away all your sin and guilt, but he also sweeps away all your doubts about his love for you, gives you his own strength to live a God-pleasing life, and grants you a joyful foretaste of heaven. Through the power of God's Word, he enables you to defeat sin, overcome temptation, and reject false teaching. The Gospel is the living and active force the Holy Spirit uses to set our hearts on fire with peace, hope, joy, and love. What power the Holy Spirit puts at our disposal! What blessings he desires to bring to our hearts and daily lives! Don't cut yourself off from these awesome blessings by missing out on worship, skipping Bible study, or failing to receive Holy Communion. Don't be guilty of despising preaching and God's Word! Come, grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ! Plug into the power and purpose of Pentecost!

CALL RECEIVED

Pastor Kehren has received a call to serve as a Christian Giving Counselor for the WELS Western Wisconsin District. Keep him in your prayers as he deliberates over the next few weeks whether it is best for the Lord's Kingdom to remain at Jerusalem or to accept this new call. He also welcomes any advice that you would like to share with him.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

We will have our regular quarterly congregational meeting on Sunday, April 25th, following the 10:30 am worship service. No food will be offered and we will practice social distancing. It will be held in the church sanctuary.

Reports to be discussed at the meeting are available for those who are unable to attend. Contact the church office at secretary@jerusalemlutheran.org or 847-965-4750. Let us know if you would like electronic or paper copies or a Zoom link to join the meeting online. We will vote on a recommendation from the church council to call a 1st and 2nd grade teacher graduate from Martin Luther College.

We plan to have a special budget Meeting on Sunday, May 23rd, following the 10:30 am service, to present our fiscal year 2021-2022 budget to the congregation.







Thanks to all who participated in our first annual Easter Egg Hunt. We were blessed with beautiful weather as we shared the Easter message of Christ's love poured out for us. About 35 children and their families from our church, school, and community participated. Thanks to event organizers and volunteers.









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Ascension Day Worship

We will celebrate the Ascension of Our Lord on Thursday, May 13th at 7:00 P.M



IN-PERSON WORSHIP

Sunday Worship is at 8:00 am and 10:30 am through May 23rd.

Beginning on Sunday, May 30th, we will switch to our summer schedule with one Sunday Service at 9:30 am.

Our first Thursday summer worship will be on June 3rd at 7:00 pm. The Thursday service will be the same as the following Sunday.

If you are coming to worship, please register in advance by e-mail (secretary@jerusalemlutheran.org) or phone (847-965-4750). If you get the voice mail, please leave a message indicating which service you wish to attend and how many are coming.

The nursery will not be available for church services until a later date.

ONLINE WORSHIP

We livestream our Sunday 8:00 am morning service on the internet.

Here is the link to our YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWzPzwN7HAE3BLM4ZpybHkQ

Here is the link to our Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/JerusalemMortonGrove/

Please also subscribe to our YouTube channel to give us more visibility on the internet. Just click the subscribe button when you are on our YouTube channel.

Sunday Bible Study and Sunday School

Class runs from 9:15 am until no later than 10:00 am. We will have 7th graders on up join the adult class. We continue the study of the life of David, a shepherd, warrior, king, and psalm writer. The Lord uses David's strengths and weaknesses to teach us. From David killing Goliath to David being overcome by temptation, we can see images of ourselves and learn how God deals justly with those He loves.

We will also have a video Sunday school class produced by NPH for any younger children who attend. NPH is also providing online Sunday School videos for parents to use at home at their convenience. To find the video lessons go <u>Sunday School At Home (nph.net)</u>. Scroll down to find the lesson for the week.

Sunday morning Bible Study and Sunday School take a break for the summer. Our final classes will be on May 23rd.

Wednesday Evening Zoom Bible Study

Pastor Kehren leads a Zoom Bible Class on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm called "Majoring in the Minors." We will look at the 12 minor prophets at the end of the Old Testament. These prophets confront us with our sin, call us to repentance and speak God's forgiving word to restore us to a right relationship with him. Pastor will send out an e-mail link the day before. Our last class will be on May 19th.

Read Through the New Testament in a Year!

Each week, Pastor Kehren puts out a series of readings. Feel free to jump in at any time. For those especially ambitious, he will also add Old Testaments readings to read through the whole Bible in a year. If you are interested in some study questions, e-mail pastor at jonkehren@gmail.com and he will add you to the mailing list.

Christian Estate Planning

Do you have questions about will and estate planning? Many of us of have been blessed with the ability to leave behind assets that can continue to show our Christian love to our family and to carry out our goal to spread the Gospel. Are you unsure how this might work and what opportunities you may have to support the Lord's work in this way? Talk to Pastor Kehren and he can direct you to our district's planned giving counselor, Rick Kneser, who can help you through this process.

LWMS SPECIAL OFFERING AND PRAYER OPPORTUNITY

On April 25th we will have a basket as you exit church for a special offering to support our WELS Missions. LWMS supports our Home and World Missions each year with gifts of money and prayers. With the joy of Easter surrounding us, we would love to encourage each of you to support our Befriend a Mission congregations with your prayers. To help you do that, we are giving each of the ladies in our congregation a book mark with the information about our Home and World Mission. Our Befriend a Mission assignments are World Missionaries Charles and Beth Flunker in Brazil and home mission Grace of God Lutheran Church-Dix Hills, NY.

Please look for your book mark in your church box. Philippians 1:3 "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now."

We Thank God for the Blessings of Mothers Mother's Day May 9th



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1st/2nd Grade Teacher Update

Jennifer Lindloff has returned our call to teach 1st and 2nd grade and will remain at Peace Lutheran in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin. The church council will recommend that we request a teacher graduate from Martin Luther College at the upcoming congregational meeting.

Jerusalem Graduations

Kindergarten Wednesday May 26th 6:30 pm

8th Grade Thursday May 23rd 7:00 pm

Preschool Friday May 28th 10:30 am

Attendance at some of our graduations may be limited to family members due to covid protocols – watch the Caring and Sharing for more information.

Preschool Summer Camp

Precious Child Early Learning Center will be holding a summer camp! There are three 2-week sessions available from 6/21 - 7/30. Sign up for all or just a few days. Sessions run from 9:00 am to noon daily - \$200 for the full session or daily enrollment of \$20.

The camp is for preschool children who turned three before September 2020 up through 5-years-olds entering kindergarten in Fall 2021.

Curriculum will include Bible Stories, Arts & Crafts, and outdoor activities.

Contact Ms. Vicki (vburger@jerusalemlutheran.org 847-965-4750 ext. 2) for more information. Enrollment will be limited to 10 students per day.

School News

Eagles of the week

Each week, students are selected by faculty members to be recognized based on their Christ-like attitude and academic effort.

Congratulations to our latest Eagles of the week:

Sebastian Flores
Johan Viruet
Faith Vo
David Camacho
Gavin Iusco
Emma Miron
Nili Boohene
Ashton Iusco
Liam Moon

Save the Date



Registration Opens Soon!

Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6218 Capulina Ave Morton Grove, IL 60053

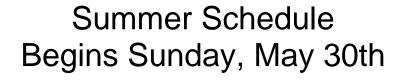
Pastor Jonathan Kehren Phone: 847-965-7340

Email: pastor@jerusalemlutheran.org

Worship Schedule

Sunday 8:00 am and 10:30 am Online Worship on Facebook and YouTube

"Our purpose is to serve all people with the gospel of Jesus Christ on the basis of Holy Scripture"





One Sunday Service 9:30 am

Thursday Worship 7:00 pm Beginning June 3rd