



Sunday, May 24, 2026

10:00 a.m.

Day of Pentecost



“We Are Not Alone”

Pastor Amanda Ghaffarian



WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude

“Prelude 2 in G Major”

F. Mendelssohn arr. L. Smith

Announcements

GATHERING

Song

Salt and Light

Call to Worship *(based on Psalm 104)*

P: O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

C: We come to worship God whose Spirit renews the face of the earth.

P: When you send forth your Spirit, creation is made new; when you open your hand, all are filled with good things.

C: We come rejoicing in the renewing power of God’s Holy Spirit.

P: May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may God rejoice in all creation.

C: We come to sing praise to the Lord as long as we live.

P: Bless the Lord, O my soul!

C: Praise the Lord

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C: And also with you!

(pass the peace as you feel comfortable)

Song

Holy Spirit

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Trusting in the word of life given in baptism, we are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God, who chose us in Christ. Let us come to the fountain of mercy.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Almighty God,

C: In raising Jesus from the tomb, you destroyed the power of sin and death. Hear us as we confess our failure to live the good news of the resurrection. Grant us the radiant power of your grace. Forgive us, heal us, and renew us, so that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.

P: In great mercy God has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. In obedience to our Lord's command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray: 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.

C: **Amen.**

please be seated

WORD

Lesson Acts 2:1-21

Gospel John 20:19-23

Gospel Response

P: Word of God, Word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message Pastor Amanda

Sermon "We Are Not Alone" Pastor Amanda

Hymn God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind ELW 400

The Apostles' Creed

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come 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.

please be seated

Offering

If you would like, you may give online by scanning the QR code or Offering Plates are located at the back of the Sanctuary.



Offering Response

We Are an Offering

ELW 692

Offering Prayer

P: Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus.

C: **Amen.**

Prayers of the Church (*the congregation joins in speaking the first names of those for whom we pray.*)

Members: Sue, Amy, Sylvia, Marion, Kelly, Marj, Vickie

Family & Friends: Anna, Janell, Richard, Kathy, Jessie, Adelyn, Kipp, Dale, Melanie, Charles, Chuck, Mary, Carol, Bob

COMMUNION

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

C: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen!**

Invitation to Communion

P: Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

please be seated.

Distribution

All baptized Christians who seek the blessings of Christ's true body and blood in the bread and wine of Holy Communion are welcome. Those who do not wish to receive may come forward for a blessing. Please let your server know if you desire a gluten-free wafer.

SENDING

Blessing

P: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace ✠ bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Song

Dancing Heart

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Postlude

“Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty”

John B Dykes/arr Hugh S. Livingston Jr.

Announcements

Welcome

Today we extend a special welcome to Pastor Amanda Ghaffarian who serves as the campus pastor at Rose House LuMin- Lutheran Campus Ministry at IU Bloomington. Thank you Pastor Amanda for leading worship today.

Office Closure

Just a reminder, the office will be closed tomorrow in celebration of Memorial Day. May God continue to bless the families of those who have given their all for our freedom in this great Nation!

Nora Food Pantry

We are looking for a couple of volunteers to help with the Nora Food Pantry on Thursdays June 11 and July 16 from 3:45-5:45 pm. No background check required. Interested? See Kathy Peterson or call the office (317-640-9216 opt 2).

Youth Group Mission Trip Envelope Fundraiser!

It's easy. Simply stop by the bulletin board near the entrance and take an envelope with a number on it. The number matches the monetary donation you will give, example...envelope 7 is a \$7 donation. You are welcome to give more than the total on the envelope! The money is used to support the youth mission trip costs. Please return all donations by June 1st. If giving online (<https://kogcarmel.org/give>), please note "Youth Envelope Fundraiser and include your envelope number". We ask that you use the numbered envelope or ensure the number is indicated so we can account for all envelopes. Thank you for your support of our youth mission trip!

Carmel Marathon

The rescheduled Carmel Marathon is next Sunday (yes, that is not a typo) May 31. If you would like to help with the waterstop please copy and paste the link below to sign up. Or, just show up at church by 6:00 am. The good news is, the runners will be way past our building so 106th Street will be open and we will still be having worship at 10:00 (but there will be limited access to the building until about 8:15/8:30 or so, until the roads are reopened).

<https://runsignup.com/Race/Volunteer/IN/Carmel/13thAnnualCarmelMarathonWeek-end>

Sharing Place - Peanut Butter Needed

We are still collecting Peanut Butter for the Sharing Place. If you shop at Kroger, Jiff is \$1.99 when you buy 5 items that qualify (you could just buy 5 jars of Jiff). Please bring your items and place them in the wagon across from the Nursery. Thank you!

Council Update

At our May Council Meeting, the following individuals were confirmed for the following roles: Susan Kraabel, President; Cynthia Bowen, Vice-President; and, Sarah Lillard, Secretary. Thank you Susan, Cynthia and Sarah for your openness to the Spirit and willingness to serve in these leadership roles at KOG!

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

Theme of the Week: The Holy Spirit: Creator of the Church

The Holy Spirit brings us to Jesus. How does this happen? The Spirit inspired the Apostles' witness to be more than just thoughts about God. The Spirit breathed God's Word into their proclamation and brought to their remembrance all that Jesus said and did in His life, death, and resurrection. In Scripture, we do not receive merely human perspectives about God, but the living witness of God's saving love made known in Christ. The Spirit opens our ears to hear the Good News of Jesus, and through this inspired Word, Christ draws us into the life and love of God, so that we may know grace, receive mercy, and respond in faith with prayer, praise, thanksgiving, and lives of love for the world.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE: John 14:23-31 The Work of the Holy Spirit

Jesus' words in this text overflow with promise and comfort. It would be impossible to know and love Jesus, or to abide in Him, apart from the Holy Spirit. Jesus wants His disciples to be certain of God's love for them. The Spirit is sent so that the Father and the Son may make their home with us. The Spirit teaches us Christ's Word, strengthens faith, and reminds us that we are never abandoned. The Spirit also sustains us when we are afraid, weary, or tempted to trust in powers that cannot give life. God's peace is not the fragile peace the world offers, dependent on perfect circumstances or human control. It is the peace of Christ, given freely, rooted in the promise that God has come near and will not let us go. As Luther reminds us through Word and Sacrament, the Spirit calls, gathers, enlightens, and makes holy the whole church on earth, keeping us in the grace of Jesus Christ. *Thank you, O God, for sending the Holy Spirit to call, gather, enlighten, and sanctify me and your whole church. Keep me in Christ's peace today and always. Amen.*

MONDAY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 48 Zion's Ramparts

Consider the nature of Christ's reign on earth. It does not spread by force, domination, fear, or political power. Christ's kingdom comes through the proclamation of God's Word and the Spirit's work of gathering people into the life of God. Wherever the good news of Jesus is proclaimed, forgiveness is announced, or the weary are given hope, a spiritual Mount Zion rises from the parched earth of despair. The faithful gather there and find refuge—not because they have built perfect walls, but because God is faithful. This is how the praise of the Lord reaches to the ends of the earth. This is how the heavenly Jerusalem is filled with children of God from every people and place, welcomed by grace and sheltered in mercy. So walk around Zion. Go around her. Study the promises of God. Marvel at the grace that protects the church from sin, death, and despair for God will guide us forever. *O God, your praise reaches to the ends of the earth. Teach us to rejoice in your mercy and to trust the refuge you give in Christ. Amen.*

TUESDAY SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 4:7-11 The Prayer Killer

Sin can close us in on ourselves. When our conscience is burdened, when we cling to resentment, selfishness, or harm, prayer can become difficult. This is why the author exhorts the church to be “self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers.” A troubled conscience can make us afraid to come before God, as though we must first make ourselves worthy to be heard. But the gospel tells us something better: we come to God because Christ has already opened the way. Indeed, we are called to live with love, and service because God's grace has been entrusted to us for the sake of others. The gifts we have received are not for self-protection or pride, but for building up the body of Christ and serving our neighbors. When we sin, we do not hide from God. We return to the One who is merciful. We confess, receive forgiveness, and are raised again into the life Christ gives. *Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on me. Turn me from sin, restore my conscience, and teach me to live in the freedom of your forgiveness. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY SCRIPTURE: Joel 2:28-32 The Spirit Brings Faith

The promise preached by the prophet Joel comes to fullness at Pentecost. The Spirit is poured out on the whole people of God! Sons and daughters prophesy. The young see visions. The old dream dreams. Servants receive the Spirit. The promise of God breaks open every boundary we try to place around grace. The Spirit is poured out on the church so that the Good News may be proclaimed to all the world: “There is therefore now no condem-

nation for those who are in Christ Jesus” and “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” This is truly good news. Salvation is not earned by spiritual achievement or human worthiness. It is the free gift of God in Christ. The Spirit creates faith, draws us into prayer, and teaches us to call upon the Lord with confidence. *O Holy Spirit, pour your grace upon me. Create faith in my heart, teach me to call upon the name of Jesus, and send me to bear witness to your saving love. Amen.*

THURSDAY SCRIPTURE: John 14:15-21 Delightful Commandments

One reason the Holy Spirit is given to us is so that we may learn to rejoice in the way of Christ. Jesus tells his disciples, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.” He is not saying that we must keep the law perfectly in order to earn salvation. Rather, those who are loved by Christ and drawn to cherish His teaching. The commandments become not a ladder by which we climb to God, but a gift that guides us in love for God and neighbor. By the Holy Spirit, we learn that God’s commands are not simply moral rules for or a way to secure our own best life. They are part of God’s gracious ordering of creation for the good of our neighbors, our communities, and the world God loves. The Spirit teaches us to see Christ’s commandments through the lens of love: love that protects the vulnerable, tells the truth, honors relationships, forgives, serves, and seeks justice. What once may have seemed burdensome becomes, by grace, a path of life. *Blessed Lord, send your Spirit to help me delight in your commandments. Teach me to love you by loving my neighbors in word and deed. Amen.*

FRIDAY SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 4:7-16 Built Up in Love

The riches of Christ’s ascension and the sending of the Spirit are beyond measure. Once we were captive to sin, fear, and the powers that distort life. Now, in Christ Jesus, we are set free by grace. This freedom is not isolation or self-sufficiency. It is freedom for life together, freedom for service, freedom to grow into the fullness of Christ’s love. By grace, God gives gifts to the church. Through the Spirit, we learn to discern the truth, to turn from manipulation and deceit, and to trust the promises of God. We are not meant to remain spiritual children, but called to grow up into Christ, who is the head of the body. We do not all have the same calling, gifts, or work to do. Yet each calling matters. Each gift is given for the sake of the whole body. In Christ, we are joined together, strengthened by love, and sent for the life of the world. *Gracious God, grant that I may grow into Christ, the head of the church. Use my gifts to build up the body in love. Amen.*

SATURDAY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 145 — Pass Down the Faith

“One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.” God’s mighty works are meant to be told and retold. The story of creation, covenant, liberation, incarnation, cross, resurrection, and new life is not ours to keep to ourselves. It is entrusted to us so that others may hear and know the goodness of God! Passing on the faith from one generation to another is a holy calling shared by parents, grandparents, sponsors, teachers, pastors, mentors, and the whole congregation. We share our faith not because we can control another person’s belief, but because it is a joy to speak of Christ’s love. It is a joy to tell children that they are claimed in baptism, beloved, forgiven, and called to lives of mercy and service. Everything else in this life will fade, but the people God loves are held in eternity. So we teach, pray, bless, forgive, serve, and sing. We commend God’s works to the next generation and trust the Spirit to do what only the Spirit can do. *Lord Jesus, help me tell others of your saving love. Give your church joy in passing on the faith, and keep every generation in your grace. Amen.*