

St. John's Episcopal Church



Feast of Pentecost

May 24, 2026 - 9am Holy Baptism with Eucharist

Prelude

Processional: *Come Holy Ghosts, Creator blest*

LEVAS 112

1. Come Holy Ghost, Creator blest,
And in our hearts take up thy rest;
come with thy grace and heav'nly aid,
to fill the hearts which thou hast made,
to fill the hearts which thou hast made.
2. O Comfort, to thee we cry,
thou heav'nly Gift of God most high;
thou fount of life and fire of love,
And sweet anointing from above,
And sweet anointing from above.
3. O Holy Ghost, through thee alone,
know we the Father and the Son;
be this our firm unchanging creed,
that thou dost from them both proceed,
that thou dost from them both proceed.
4. Praise we the Lord, Father and Son,
And Holy Spirit with them one;
And may the Son on us bestow
all gifts that from the Spirit flow,
all gifts that from the Spirit flow,

Opening Acclamation:

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

There is one Body and one Spirit;

There is one hope in God's call to us;

One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

One God and Father of all.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Collect of the Day

A Prayer Book for Australia

Almighty God, at the feast of Pentecost you sent your Holy Spirit to the disciples, filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel: Empower us with that same Spirit to witness to your redeeming love and draw all people to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

First Lesson:

A reading from *The Book of Numbers* (11:24-30).

Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again. Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!" And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

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

Psalm 104:25-35, 37

Let us recite the psalm responsively, alternating verses.

25 O Lord, how manifold are your works! *
in wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.

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

27 There move the ships, and there is that Leviathan, *
which you have made for the sport of it.

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

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

- 30 *You hide your face, and they are terrified; **
you take away their breath, and they die and return to their dust.
- 31 You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; *
and so you renew the face of the earth.
- 32 *May the glory of the Lord endure for ever; **
may the Lord rejoice in all his works.
- 33 He looks at the earth and it trembles; *
he touches the mountains and they smoke.
- 34 *I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; **
I will praise my God while I have my being.
- 35 May these words of mine please him; *
I will rejoice in the Lord.
- 37 *Bless the Lord, O my soul. **
Hallelujah!

Second Lesson:

A reading from *The Acts of the Apostles (2:1-21)*.

When the day of Pentecost had come, the disciples 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.' ”
The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Sequence Hymn: *Baptized in water (vv. 1 & 2)*

tune: BUNESSAN (eg, # 8)

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| 1. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
Cleansed by the blood of Christ our king:
Heirs of salvation, trusting his promise,
Faithfully now God's praise we sin. | 2. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
Dead in the tomb with Christ our king:
One with his rising, freed and forgiven,
Thankfully now God's praise we sing. |
|--|---|

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *John (7:37-39)*.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, ‘Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water.’” Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

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

Sequence Hymn: *Baptized in water (v. 3)*

3. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, Marked with the sign of Christ our king:
Born of the Spirit, we are God's children; Joyfully now God's praise we sing.

Homily

Fr. Walter Connelly

Presentation of the Candidate:

Sponsors: I present Alana Elizabeth Cento to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Priest: Do you desire to be baptized?

Candidate: I do.

Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

I renounce them.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

I do.

Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

I do.

Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

I do.

After the candidate has been presented, the Priest addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support *Alana Elizabeth* in her life in Christ?

People ***We will!***

Let us join with *Alana Elizabeth* who is committing herself to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

***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 to the dead.

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

***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.***

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

I will, with God's help.

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

I will, with God's help.

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

I will, with God's help.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people,
and respect the dignity of every human being?

I will, with God's help.

Prayers for the Candidates

Lay Leader: Let us now pray for *Alana Elizabeth* who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth and for those who have renewed their commitment to Christ.

Deliver *Alana*, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Open *her* heart to your grace and truth.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Fill *her* with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Keep *her* in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Teach *her* to love others in the power of the Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Send *her* into the world in witness to your love.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Bring *her* to the fullness of your peace and glory.

Lord, hear our prayer.

As we welcome *Alana Elizabeth* into the Church of Christ, let us also remember before the throne of grace all those within God's family who are in need of prayer: Nancy Scarry, Malcolm Silva, Teddi, Terrie Sevier, Gail Smith, Dom & Joanie Tello, Nancy White, Rachel, Abigail, Claire, Kevin O'Connor, and Jesse Tucker. For these and all those whom we hold in our hearts, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us also remember before God, Leo & E. Irene Lowe, I. Sharyn Pumphrey, The Calderwood Family, Robert & Ruth Collins, Kathy Webber, and *Alana's* father, Carl Hagarty. For all those who have gone before us in faith, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest: Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. ***Amen.***

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Baptism

Alana Elizabeth, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon *Alana* your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised *her* to the new life of grace. Sustain *her*, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give *her* an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. *Amen.*

Alana Elizabeth, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. *Amen.*

Sharing the Light of Christ

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light. You have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life.

Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

Peace and Announcements

God has made us one in Christ. He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come, has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Invitation to the Offering

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works, and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Offertory Hymn: Come down, O Love Divine

Hymnal #516

1. Come down, O Love divine, seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardor glowing;
O Comforter, draw near, within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.
2. O let it freely burn, till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.
3. And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace, till Love create a place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

Doxology

Hymnal #380 (v. 3)

*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.*

Giver of life, receive all we offer you this day. Let the Spirit you bestow on your Church continue to work in the world through the hearts of all who believe. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. *Amen.*

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

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 our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. In fulfillment of his true promise, the Holy Spirit came down on this day from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to your Church the power to serve you as a royal priesthood, and to preach the Gospel to all nations. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

Sanctus S-128

Hosanna in the highest.

+ Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with The Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed John the Evangelist and all

your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *Amen.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*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, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Fraction: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)

Hymnal S-165

*Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, give us your peace.*

The Invitation to Holy Communion

In fellowship with our sisters and brothers worshiping online, let us join together in praying for that spiritual communion shared by all Christ's disciples.

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Jesus said, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls" (Mt 11:28-29). All those wishing to share in the life of Christ are welcome at God's altar.

Post-communion Prayer

*Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Pentecost Blessing:

May the Spirit of truth lead you into all truth, giving you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, and to proclaim the wonderful works of God; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you, and remain with you always.
Amen.

Recessional: *Almighty Father, strong to save (vv. 1-4)*

Hymnal #579

1. Almighty Father, strong to save,
whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
who bidd'st the mighty oceans deep
its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.
2. O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain
o'er which our traffic runs amain
by mountain pass or valley low;
wherever, Lord, thy people go,
protect them by thy guarding hand
from every peril on the land.
3. O Spirit whom the Father sent
to spread abroad the firmament;
Word of heaven, by thy might
save all who dare the eagle's flight,
and keep them by thy watchful care
from every peril in the air.
4. O Trinity of love and power,
our people shield in danger's hour;
from rock and tempest, fire and foe,
protect them wheresoe'er they go;
thus evermore shall rise to thee
glad praise from space, air, land & sea.

Dismissal:

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Let us go forth into the world,
rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Postlude:

Welcome to St John's Episcopal Church. All those wishing to share in the life of Christ are invited to receive Holy Communion. Proceed up the aisle on the right, allowing room on the left for others to return. You may kneel or stand at the rail to receive. Most people receive the consecrated Host in the hands, and some receive on the tongue. We have not returned to the Common Cup but offer individual Communion Cups. Please deposit the empty cups in the tray as you return. If you would prefer a blessing instead of Holy Communion, simply cross your hands over your chest as the priest approaches. Please join us for fellowship and refreshment in Ashworth Hall after worship.

Parish Cycle of Prayer

(Please help to keep this list current and inform the office of any changes – thank you.)

Week One of the Month:

Emily Graves Autori, Nicholas Bettencourt, Paul Brophy, Norma Cahill, Barbara Cox, Ken DiBiccari, Jim & Tim Eldridge, Joanne & Paul Felci, Ruth Garrett, and Allison Gray

Week Two:

Will Hare, Carolyn Hashem, Bruce Higgins, Louis Hoelzl, Jeanne Kelly-Smith, Anthony & John, Janet Lancaster, Melissa McSheffery, Matt, Mary & Dante, Harriet Miraglia, Jonelle Moloney, Joe W., and Debbie Rossetti

Week Three:

Erica Moore, Jeanine Morris, Fran Muise, Sara Murray, Lisa P., Kathy Pothier, Tom & John Puckett, Shirley Raithel, Sandy & David St. Clair, Marilyn Aham, Amy Wright, Nina Lafauci, Steve P., Janice Noseworthy, and Gary Battite

Week Four:

Nancy Scarry, Malcolm Silva, Teddi, Terrie Sevier, Gail Smith, Dom & Joanie Tello, Nancy White, Rachel, Abigail, Claire, Kevin O'Connor, and Jesse Tucker

Parish Calendar:

May 28 Sun Trinity Sunday Eucharist with Baptism of Liam A. Duracin at 9am.

June 13 Sat Annual Yard Sale, 9am-1pm

Participants in this Service:

The Rev. Walter Connelly, Priest-in-Charge

Stephen Sikorski, Music Director

Sandy Mears, Lay Reader ~ Kristina Palazzo, L.E.M.

St. John's Episcopal Church, 8 Prospect Street, Saugus, MA 01906