



## BLESSED SACRAMENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

“For our consolation, all nature suggests a future resurrection. The sun sinks down and arises, the stars pass away and return, the flowers die and revive again.” Mark Minucius Felix (c. 200), 4.194.

Dear Saints,

*Seventh Sunday of Easter (Exaudi) 16 May 2021*

This particular Sunday is also known traditionally as Exaudi Sunday, so called because of the traditional Introit, taken from Psalm 17.1: “Hear a just cause, O Lord; attend to my cry.” Exaudi Sunday takes place between the Ascension (always a Thursday) and Pentecost, ten days later. The two first words in Latin are ‘Exaudi Domine’ — ‘Hear, Lord’. It is said to be the saddest Sunday of the church year, because the forlorn disciples were at a loose end after Jesus ascended to Heaven. They missed Him and were unsure as to what the arrival of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost would mean. But, in retrospect, we can rejoice in this Sunday because what the Apostles waited for, we have in earnest — the endowment of the Holy Spirit.

<sup>16</sup> John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Exaudi Sunday signals a longing for Christ’s return but also a greater dependence upon the Holy Spirit working through the Word of God and the Sacraments for our salvation.

The fruits of the Spirit follow from faith in Christ, and God is glorified by all things done in faith. Those who wish to harvest more for the Kingdom should broadcast the Word with complete abandon, trusting in God’s Promises. To enjoy the benefits of the Gospel, we abide in the Means of Grace, the Word and Sacraments. They are the treasures of the Church which give the blessings God wishes to impart to us. These are the gifts and benefits on which we may reflect between the Ascension and Pentecost — and beyond.

Martin Luther had this to say on Exaudi Sunday:

“We have the comfort of this victory of Christ—that He maintains His Church against the wrath and power of the devil; but in the meantime we must endure such stabs and cruel wounds from the devil as are necessarily painful to our flesh and blood. The hardest part is that we must see and suffer all these things from those who call themselves the people of God and the Christian Church. We must learn to accept these things calmly, for neither Christ nor the saints have fared better.” *Sermons of Martin Luther*, 263.

Therefore, let us continue to witness in our own lives through the power of the Holy Spirit.

	May 16	Seventh S. of Easter (Exaudi)	Ezek. 36:22–28	Psalm 51:1–12	1 Peter 4:7–11 (12–14)	John 15:26— 16:4
<b>PENTECOST</b>	May 23	The Day of Pentecost	Gen. 11:1–9	Psalm 143	Acts 2:1–21	John 14:23–31
<b>TRINITY</b>	May 30	The Holy Trinity	Is. 6:1–7	Psalm 29	Rom. 11:33–36	John 3:1–15 (16–17)

**\*Seventh. Sun. of Easter** 16 May. Color: White. Processional 525; Kyrie; This is the Feast. Hymn of the Day 539; Psalm 51 chanted responsively during distribution; No Distribution Hymn; Post-Communion Canticle: Thank the Lord; Recessional 492. Sermon: Ezekiel 36.22-28, “A Stunning Promise.”

**\*Pentecost** 23 May. Color: Red. Processional 498; Kyrie; Gloria in Excelsis; This is the Feast. Hymn of the Day 500; Psalm 143 chanted responsively during distribution; No Distribution Hymn; Post-Communion Canticle: Thank the Lord; Recessional 953. Sermon: St. John 14, “A Trinity of Lawyers.”

**Catechesis. AUGSBURG ACADEMY (1400-1445) resumes this Sunday with Sophia Bombaro presenting the thesis: “Consumerism and the Church.”**

Pentecost Sunday: “Where Heaven and Earth Meet.” Session 6: Where God Dwells.

Trinity Sunday: Session 7: The Temple

\* It is customary to wear **RED** on Pentecost.

\* The Athanasian Creed is recited on Trinity Sunday.

**UPCOMING:**

- (1) Logos & Lager men’s theological “pub” night will take place at the Bombaro home on Friday 14 May @ 1900.
- (2) Confirmation Catechesis 4:30pm resumes Thurs 27 May at CCA.
- (3) Acolyte Training will take place at the Church, Saturday 15 May @ 0830-0930am.
- (4) Our Bishop, The Rev. Dr. Jamison Hardy will be visiting Blessed Sacrament Sunday 6 June. He will formalize the recognition of Blessed Sacrament. Pastor Bombaro will preach and serve as the Celebrant.
- (5) Beginning the first Sunday in June, we will move to a summer schedule with Augsburg Academy. Now for agreement on the times: proposing Augsburg Academy at 4 or 5pm, Mass at 5 or 6pm? Please let Nathan, David, or Pastor know your thoughts.



Gratefully yours in Christ Jesus,  
Pastor John