

The Holy Trinity

May 26, 2024

Virtual Bulletin with Holy Communion, Pentecost Peace

Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church

Rev. Garry Mohr, Interim Pastor

Douglas Shabe, Director of Music

Hannah Lee, Organist

Kate Radford, Soprano

Anita Mork, Assistant Minister

Madyson Ross, Lector

Bonnie Mohr & Shirley Gudal, Sunday School

Order of the Liturgy

Prelude *"How Deep the Father's Love for Us"* arr. Carol Tornquist

EASTER LITANY

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son \dagger , and of the Holy Spirit: **Amen.**

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

Amen.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Lord Jesus, our risen Savior,

We confess to you our sinfulness. We believe anyone and anything but your holy Word. We prefer easy lies to hard truth. We are quick to judge, condemn, and exclude, but slow to forgive. We have lived for this world alone, and doubted our home in heaven. In your mercy, forgive us. In your goodness, resurrect us. Amen.

Our Savior Christ comes with healing, forgiveness, and life in his wounded hands. He breathes his Holy Spirit upon us, kindling renewed faith, hope, and love. Receive all he gives with humble joy, and share them with warm generosity, in the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.



Hill Ave Grace
Lutheran Church

OPENING HYMN

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!

ELW 413

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.
 Music: NICAEA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

GREETING

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ; the love of God; and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

GATHERING SONG—SACRED SPACE

6 Ga-thered in this sa-cred space, with us is the

11 Hel-per, sent to seal your gift of grace in our hearts for e-ver.

15 Train our ears to hear her sigh with our soul's deep long-ing;

for true fel-low-ship we cry, ev'-ry-one be-long-ing.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE – TAPESTRY OF PEACE

8 Let us join our di-verse voi-ces in your praise;

13 may our sto-ries sing your glo-ry all our days. Weave a

18 ta-pes-try of peace in our mul-ti-co-lored strands; let all fear and hat-red

22 cease as we lift our hearts and hands. Your trans-cen-dent name con-

26 fes-sing, may our hi-er-ar-chies fall; let us share cre-a-tion's

bles-sings so your love is known and shown to all.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 6:1-8

¹In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. ²Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings:

with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.”

⁴The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

⁶Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” ⁸Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!”

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

PSALM: Psalm 29 *The congregation responds with the bold verses.*

¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God’s name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

⁴**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

⁶**the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

⁷The voice of the LORD bursts forth in lightning flashes.

⁸**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, “Glory!”

¹⁰**The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

¹¹O LORD, give strength to your people; give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:12-17

¹²Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

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

**GOSPEL
ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e-ter-nal life. Al - le - lu - ia!

GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” ³Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.”

⁴Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” ⁹Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

The Gospel of our Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Pastor Garry Mohr

HYMN OF THE DAY

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

ELW 414

1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we
2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel choirs a -
3 Lo, the ap - os - tol - ic train join your sa - cred
4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it,



bow be - fore you. All on earth your scep - ter claim,
 bove are rais - ing; cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
 name to hal - low; proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,
 three we name you, though in es - sence on - ly one;

all in heav'n a - bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your
 in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heav'ns with
 and the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low; and from morn to
 un - di - vid - ed God we claim you and, a - dor - ing,

vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.
 sweet ac - cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"
 set of sun through the church the song goes on.
 bend the knee while we own the mys - ter - y.

Text: source unknown; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900
 Music: GROSSER GOTT, *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, Vienna, 1774

APOSTLES' CREED

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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition ends with "Lord, in your mercy." The assembly responds with "hear our prayer."

SHARING OF THE PEACE - *The presiding and the assembly share a virtual sign of peace.*

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Amazing Grace"

- arr. Leland Sateren

OFFERING PRAYER - *All speak the prayer together.*

Lord Jesus, thank you for being our strength and our song. We gladly lay before you everything we have received from you: our lives, our time, our treasures, and our talents. Use all we have and all we are to glorify you and show your love to those who need it most. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 indeed right...we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

6 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and

10 might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.

13 Ho - san - na in - the high - est. Blest is the one who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in - the high - est.

HOLY COMMUNION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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 temptations but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD

6 Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
 10 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
 14 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
 give us your peace, give us your peace.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*All are invited into a time of reflection before they receive communion. During this time, you may prepare your hearts to receive the sacrament. Once ready, you may commune yourself and those around you with the bread and wine/grape juice. A representative from each household may say the following—bread: “**The body of Christ given for you.**” Wine/grape juice: “**The blood of Christ shed for you.**”*

COMMUNION HYMN

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep in his grace, now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG - BE THE GOOD NEWS

6 In our lea-ving, peace re-cei-ving, keep us in joy di -
 10 vine; in our pray-ing, work-ing, play-ing let hea-ven's good-ness
 14 shine. Now send us out in your Spi-rit to be the good news where we
 18 are. Let's not weigh what we have to off-er; each kind act we do can go
 22 far. We yearn for a world with-out vio-lence, we long for a life free from

25 pain. O Christ be the light in our dark-ness and we'll see that
faith, hope, love still re - main.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION - *All speak the prayer together.*

We thank you for your great gift of love, your Son Jesus Christ. May we who have received his body and blood bear the light of his love into the world, to your glory and for the healing of our world. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

May the Lord bless you, may the Lord keep you, the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and grant you his peace. In the name of the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

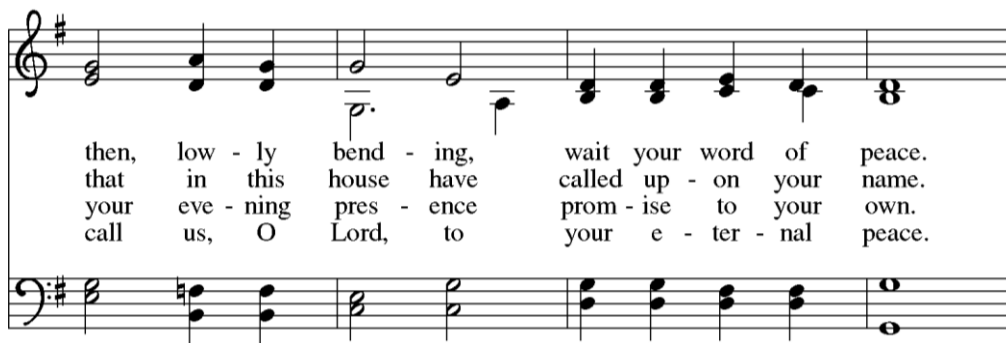
Savior, Again to Your Dear Name

ELW 534

1 Sav - ior, a - gain to your dear name we raise
2 Grant us your peace up - on our home - ward way;
3 Grant us your peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;
4 Grant us your peace through - out our earth - ly life,

with one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;
with you be - gan, with you shall end the day;
for us trans - form its dark - ness in - to light.
our balm in sor - row, and our stay in strife;

once more we bless you ere our wor - ship cease,
guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
Keep us from harm and dan - ger till the dawn;
then, when your voice shall bid our con - flict cease,



then, low - ly bend - ing, wait your word of peace.
that in this house have called up - on your name.
your eve - ning pres - ence prom - ise to your own.
call us, O Lord, to your e - ter - nal peace.

Text: John Ellerton, 1826–1893, alt.
Music: ELLERS, Edward J. Hopkins, 1818–1901; arr. Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842–1900

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Postlude

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

arr. Austin North

Altar flowers are given by Ken & Gretchen Sterling: Memorial Day should show us the future, as well as remind us of the past. God's Love Past, Present and Future. Forever with Us.

+++++

Calendar This Week		
Every Sunday	10:00 AM	Virtual & In-Person Worship Service
Wed 5/29/24	10:00 AM	Bible Study in the Chapel
Thurs 5/30/24	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
Sat 6/1/24	9:30 AM	Food Shelf Open

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

We are sad to report what we heard from Dan Lien: "My heart is too heavy right now to say more. Our 44 1/2 year relationship on earth ended last night! **Mark F. King departed to be with God** at 11:57 pm Sunday night (5/5/24)! Forever in my heart. Even now as it is shattered. God bless you till we are together again!"

Sunday June 30th is an important day for the future of our congregation! A **Special Congregational Meeting (very brief, after service) will be held to nominate the Call Committee**. Immediately after that meeting the newly formed Call Committee will begin their work with the synod staff to put down our goals for our congregation and a new pastor, to help the Call Committee. Please plan to attend the Congregational meeting, and let anyone on council know if you'd like to be part of the Call Committee!

The Hill Avenue Grace Food Shelf needs volunteers! We're looking for new, friendly faces to help distribute food on Saturday mornings from 9:30 – 11:30 AM. You can help out as often or as little as you want. If you're open to hearing more, please contact Tobe Poehlmann at foodshelf@hillavenuegrace.org.

THANKOFFERING CHURCHES 🏛️

Beginning Sunday, May 5th, you will notice a decorated shoebox in the narthex. Please write your name and your suggestions for donations to a charitable organization(s) and place them in the box. You may also text or email me. 626-215-3964, marshag06@gmail.com.

Thank you Women of Grace for participating, Marsha Green

Join us this Sunday at 10 AM for our Virtual Worship via Zoom!
Check in a few minutes early and hear the prelude! You may also join us on Facebook Live.
We look forward to seeing your faces and worshipping together!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95007590439?pwd=M2NmMUZCZzhMOUY0SG8xeHpzcU5RUT09>

Meeting ID: 950 0759 0439 Passcode: worship

One tap mobile

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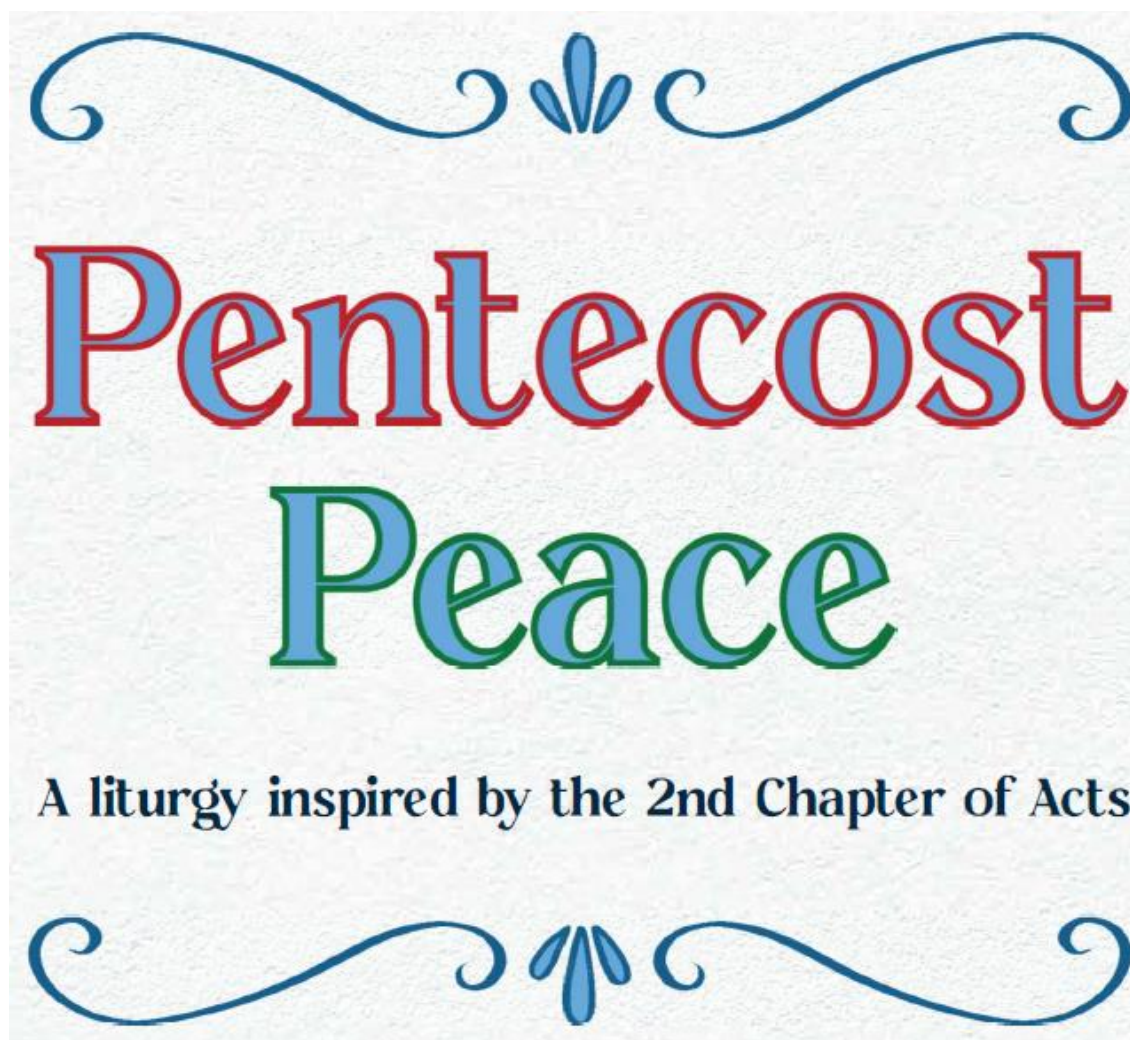
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We are back to joining at the altar for communion. We will be going up the center aisle and returning down the side aisles. If you are not comfortable with that, pick up a communion set at the table in the narthex and then proceed into the sanctuary. There will be 3 options for communion: bread and wine, bread and juice, and gluten-free bread and

wine. Only take one set for yourself. Wait for communion instructions before opening the packet.

The service will still be available on Zoom and Facebook Live for those who prefer to remain at home. If you have questions, please let our church office know. We look forward to actually seeing you at church this Sunday!



Original words and music by Paul Heatley
Composer-in-residence, Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church, Pasadena, CA

Written in consultation with Bishop Brenda Bos
and in fond remembrance of Pastor Zachary Johnson

— Composer's Note —

ONE SUNDAY in the summer of 2023 Pastor Zach Johnson suggested that I compose a liturgy. I had not thought about this before but the idea soon took root and I felt I might be able to bring something new to our liturgical worship, both musically and lyrically—I especially wished to focus on our life together as

the body of Christ and our calling to work for peace and justice in the world. I emailed Bishop Brenda Bos to ask if she had any ideas about this, and she certainly did: in a virtual meeting at the end of August she and I agreed that I would compose a liturgy for the Pentecost season inspired by the 2nd chapter of Acts. I immediately phoned Pastor Zach to share the news and was expecting to collaborate with him to flesh out the themes and text of the liturgy. That turned out to be the last conversation I had with Zachary Johnson who was called to his eternal home the very next day.

Zach was our pandemic pastor, coming to us from Iowa with his wife Kristin and their two young daughters in February 2020, just a few weeks before the lockdown that would physically separate him from his new flock. In addition to the problems of preaching and pastoring at a distance, he also faced serious health challenges in the last few years. Even with all these difficulties our congregation was uniquely blessed by Pastor Zach's ministry to us, and with his love of music he was particularly encouraging to me as a songwriter. He helped to facilitate my participation in an artist residency program with Fuller Seminary, culminating in a hymn festival featuring several of my scripture songs which our church held in 2022.

In our shared grief at the loss of a beloved pastor and friend, Bishop Brenda and I were determined that the creative seed he planted would be brought to fruition in his honor, and she made time in her busy schedule to help me explore the aspects of the Pentecost story that we wanted to highlight in this liturgy. I was struck by how the Spirit enabled the disciples to both transcend their differences and celebrate their diversity: we see this in the way that the gospel of Christ is proclaimed in many languages, and also in the shared life of sacrificial love exhibited by the early church. Inspired by these reflections I wrote a six-piece liturgy called *Pentecost Peace* featuring three pieces with original lyrics: *Sacred Spate*, *Tapestry of Peace*, and the sending song *Be the Good News*.

Some of my favorite verses of scripture come from the end of Acts Chapter 2, so I pray that my words and music might evoke a vision of true community, nourished by God's unrelenting love, to sustain our hope in Christ and our faith in each other, even in our unjust and unpeaceful world.

Paul Heatley, Hut Avenue Grace Lutheran Church - February 2024
Cover design by Olivia Taviano