

# BROADCASTER

May 2023



WORSHIP ANEW  
PROGRAM SCHEDULE

THE HOLY SPIRIT

A SNEAK PEEK  
INTO HOPE-FULL LIVING

SINGING HYMNS OF  
THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE



**WorshipAnew.org**





# Singing Hymns of Thankfulness and Praise



*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*

## **Colossians 3:16**

Recently my family was traveling during Holy Week and found a “temporary” church home for worship. While it wasn’t exactly like our church in Fort Wayne, Indiana, it was comforting to sing many of the same hymns we would have sung with our home congregation. One of the tremendous gifts we enjoy in the church is sharing in the singing of hymns that we know and love throughout our lifetime.

Since the early days of the Reformation, hymns have played a crucial role in sharing the faith. In 1523, Martin Luther traveled to the town of Eisleben to preach and teach. He quickly realized that the town's residents were illiterate and would not be able to read the pamphlets and tracts he had brought with him. Undaunted, Luther turned to the power of music. He composed a hymn that summarized the key teachings of the Reformation and taught it to the people of Eisleben.

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," was written by Luther and, based on Psalm 46, expresses God's protection and provision. Today, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" remains a beloved hymn that is sung in churches around the world.

In many churches, hymns are selected based on the season of the church year. From Advent to Pentecost, each season has its own unique themes and messages that are reflected in the music we sing. I've heard many older adults say that hymns based on the season of the church year provides them with comfort, hope, and a sense of community.

For example, during Advent, we sing hymns that anticipate the coming of Christ, such as "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" and "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus." During Christmas, we sing hymns that celebrate the birth of Christ, such as "Joy to the World" and "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing." During Lent, we sing hymns that focus on repentance and reflection, such as "Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed" and "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded." And during Easter, we sing hymns that proclaim the resurrection of Christ, such as "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" and "Thine Is the Glory."

As we age and face a variety of challenges such as health issues, loss of loved ones, and other significant life changes, singing these familiar hymns provides comfort and reassurance of God's provision for us. Selecting hymns based on the season of the church year also helps to foster a sense of community and connection with others.

Singing hymns together is a powerful way to unite us in worship and strengthen our bonds with one another.

Hymns have and continue to remain an important part of the Worship Anew weekly broadcast. We often feature The Hymn of the Day on the program which was developed by the Lutheran church and is selected to connect to the theme of a specific Sunday and season of the church year. Many other church bodies have now adopted The Hymn of the Day for use in their churches. In most churches, this hymn is sung just before or after the sermon.

Hymns are also an important means of transmitting the faith from one generation to the next. We love seeing children singing on Worship Anew. As our parochial schools strive to teach hymns to children and youth, this encourages intergenerational singing and participation in worship. As we sing these much loved hymns, they are also reinforcing key theological concepts for children and youth.



Much of this work and the ministry's ability to help people live an abundant life in Christ is through your support. Please prayerfully consider making a gift today that will ensure our mission is carried out.

For us as Christians, hymns that we know and love are a vital part of worship and help us to be to be more connected through God's love. Whether you feel that you are living your best life or facing difficult challenges, know that Worship Anew is here to share the peace and assurance we have through our loving Savior Jesus Christ.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Matthew F. Leighty'.

**Matthew F. Leighty**  
Executive Director



# The Holy Spirit

by Rev. Richard Koehneke



**T**he Holy Spirit, the third Person of the Holy Trinity, is overlooked by some Christians and misunderstood by others. As we prepare to celebrate the Day of Pentecost, let's look into God's Word to gain a clearer understanding of some aspects of the Person and work of the Holy Spirit.

**The Holy Spirit is GIVEN IN BAPTISM.** Speaking of Holy Baptism, the apostle Paul wrote to Titus, "God saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit." (Titus 3:8) Look at Peter's words in Acts 2:38: "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

**The Holy Spirit ENABLES US TO BELIEVE.** "No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit" (1 Corinthians 12:3). Faith says, "This man Jesus is God." It takes supernatural power to say that and believe it. The sinful nature in each one of us says, "I am the lord of my life!" It takes spiritual transformation to say and mean the statement, "Jesus is the Lord of my life!" This transformation is the work of the Holy Spirit.



### **The Holy Spirit GIVES SPIRITUAL GIFTS**

to believers in Christ, as described in Romans chapter 12 and 1 Corinthians chapter 12. The purpose of spiritual gifts is to glorify God, serve others, and build up the church, so that the body of Christ can be strengthened for the work our Lord is calling us to do in this world. Spiritual gifts are not to be used to draw attention to oneself. They must be used in conjunction with the fruit of the Spirit, which brings us to the next point.

**The Holy Spirit PRODUCES FRUIT** in His people: Christ-like attitudes and character traits.

The fruit of the Holy Spirit enables us to use the gifts of the Spirit in ways that are God-honoring and God-pleasing. What is the fruit of the Spirit? The answer is found in Galatians 5:22-23: "Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." When the gifts of the Holy Spirit are employed with such Christ-like attitudes, the church is strengthened for God's mission and ministry.

### **The Holy Spirit TEACHES GOD'S WORD**

to God's people. Jesus says in John 14:26, "The Holy Spirit will teach you all things and will remind you of everything that I have said to you." Whenever you open your Bible and read it . . . read a devotion based on Holy Scripture . . . hear or see a message from God's Word, such as this one right now, the Holy Spirit is teaching you. Whenever you remember a Scripture passage to share with someone . . . whenever you use God's Word to overcome doubts and fears . . . whenever God's Word helps you to resist temptation and defeat it, that is the Holy Spirit reminding you of everything the Lord has said to you.

### **The Holy Spirit PRAYS FOR GOD'S PEOPLE.**

This a profound and mysterious truth, not able to be comprehended by our small minds. It's revealed in Romans 8:26: "The Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Holy Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express." When you don't know how to pray . . . when you're not sure what you ought to pray for . . . when the words of prayer will not come – simply pray, "Holy Spirit, pray for me!" You can be certain that the Spirit's prayer is heard and answered perfectly and completely, because "the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with God's will." (Romans 8:27)

### **Through the Holy Spirit, God WILL RAISE OUR BODIES from the dead on the Last Day.**

Romans 8:11 says, "If the Spirit of God who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, God, who raised Christ from the dead, will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit, who lives in you." The Apostles' Creed speaks of the resurrection of the body under the Third Article, the article on the Holy Spirit. "I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting."

Much, much more could be said about the person and work of the Holy Spirit. All praise to the one true and living God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Rev. Richard Koehneke** retired as senior pastor of Holy Cross, Fort Wayne in 2009.

He served as one of the five regular preachers on "Worship for Shut-Ins". He and his wife Mary joined St. Peter's, Fort Wayne in 2010.



# Worship Anew in May

Year 2023 | Series A



**May 7, 2023 – Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**Psalm 146; 1 Peter 2:1-10; John 14:1-14**

**“Box Checked or Baked In?” – Sermon Text: John 14:13-14**

**Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer**

Jesus promises to answer “Whatever you ask,” commanding us to “ask me anything” . . . with one condition! He wants requests to be made “in Jesus’ name.” This condition, far from limiting us, opens up amazing possibilities for faith, love, hope, and life!



**May 14, 2023 – Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**Psalm 66:16-20; 1 Peter 3:13-17; John 14:15-23**

**“Truly Loving Jesus” – Sermon Text: John 14:23**

**Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III**

In John 14:23 Jesus speaks about loving him. What does he really mean when he talks about such love? Jesus also tells us that there is a wonderful blessing associated with our truly loving him.



**May 21, 2023 – The Ascension of Our Lord Observed**

**Psalm 47; Acts 1:1-11; Luke 24:44-53**

**“Witnessing While We Wait” – Sermon Text: Luke 24:52-53**

**Rev. Thomas Eggold**

For those who are in Christ Jesus, waiting does not mean fear. And waiting does not mean worry. In our Baptism, we have been given the power of the Holy Spirit, and the purpose of that power is that we may believe the promise of life that will come with Christ’s return, and that we may witness while we wait.



**May 28, 2023 – The Day of Pentecost**

**Psalm 25:1-15; Acts 2:1-21; John 7:37-39**

**“The Holy Spirit” – Sermon Text: John 7:37-38**

**Rev. Shayne Jonker**

Today is Pentecost, the day the Church celebrates the outpouring of the Holy Spirit as Jesus breathes on His Church from the right hand of God and gives His Church breath and life to proclaim the Good News of His saving death and resurrection. Thus, it is a day full of grace and gladness, a day of promises fulfilled.





# HOPE-FULL *A Look Inside* LIVING

SUNDAY, MAY 14, 2023

## The Heart of Motherhood

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

*Genesis 1:27*

God chooses our mother in his plan for our lives. In my life, I couldn't have chosen a better mother. However, for some, he chooses another pathway in life. We have all encountered those who never married or became biological mothers, whether by choice or other circumstances.

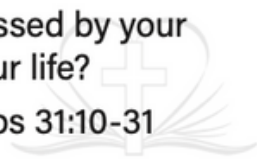
Throughout my life, I was blessed to meet some women who cared, guided, and nurtured, just as biological mothers. These women become mothers in heart. They attend your church, live next door, and are in your neighborhood. God places everyone into your life for a reason. This Mother's Day, celebrate all the women throughout your life!

*Betsy Becker Niedringhaus  
Ballwin, MO*

**Heavenly Father,** thank you for the gift of women and mothers. Amen.

**Reflect:** How have you been blessed by your mother and mother figures in your life?

**Read:** Genesis 1:1-31 and Proverbs 31:10-31



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# *We Thank God for Mothers!*

*"I'm reminded of your authentic faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice. I'm sure that this faith is also inside you."*

**2 Timothy 1:5**

What a blessing Timothy was given. Not only did he have an amazing Christian mentor and partner in ministry in the Apostle Paul, he also was blessed to be a part of a family of faith.

We thank God for mothers, grandmothers, great grandmothers, and all the women who have treated faith as a gift to be modeled and shared. Know that God will continue to use you to encourage, train, equip, and comfort younger generations in the faith. As Jesus promised before He ascended into heaven - He will be with you every step of the way.

May God bless you this Mother's Day and every day as He uses you to bless others with love and grace.



**Our mission is to engage and equip aging adults with resources to live a full and abundant life in Jesus Christ.**

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