

May 23, 2021

Pentecost Sunday



Divinity Library, Pentecost, 2019

We are filled with joy at your presence and hope you experience God's Spirit as you worship and meet with those around you. If you would like more information about RPC, please talk with any Session member or the Pastor.

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Bold Letters -- Indicate congregational response

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Remember the Promise of the Lord

God will pour out the spirit on all flesh

The Spirit of God renews the earth

Bless the name of the Lord!

Gathering Hymn

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

#66

Refrain:

**Every time I feel the Spirit
moving in my heart I will pray.**

**Yes, every time I feel the Spirit
moving in my heart I will pray.**

**1 Upon the mountain, when my Lord spoke,
out of God's mouth came fire and smoke.**

**Looked all around me, it looked so fine,
till I asked my Lord if all was mine.**

(Refrain)

**2 Jordan River, chilly and cold,
it chills the body but not the soul.**

**There is but one train upon this track.
It runs to heaven and then right back.**

(Refrain)

Opening Prayer

God our creator,
earth has many languages,
but your gospel proclaims your love
to all nations in one heavenly tongue.
Make us messengers of the good news

that, through the power of your Spirit,
all the world may unite in one song of praise;
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Call to Confession

Jesus says: Let anyone who is thirsty come to me. Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin, together saying:

Prayer of Confession

**Almighty God,
you poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples
creating bold tongues, open ears,
and a new community of faith.
We confess that we hold back the force of your Spirit among us.
We do not listen for your word of grace,
speak the good news of your love,
or live as a people made one in Christ.
Have mercy on us, O God.
Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit,
and fill us with a flaming desire to be your faithful people,
doing your will for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Silence is Kept for personal confession

Assurance of Pardon

Through Christ, God has poured out the Holy Spirit upon us for the forgiveness of sins. In the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

Amen.

Response in Praise

Spirit of the Living God

#288

**Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God,**

fall afresh on me.
Melt me; mold me;
fill me; use me.
Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.

THE WORD

A Time with the Children

Gospel

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Lay Leader: Mary Ann Eull

²⁶"When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. ²⁷You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

^{16:4b}"I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' ⁶But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. ⁷Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; ¹¹about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

¹²"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Acts 2:1-21

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes ¹¹Cretans and Arabs — in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

¹⁴But 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. ¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ '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.
¹⁸ Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.
¹⁹ And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.
²⁰ The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.
²¹ Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'"
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Renewal and Restoration

Unity Hymn

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

#286

**1 Breathe on me, Breath of God;
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.**

**2 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until with thee I will one will,
to do and to endure.**

**3 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
till I am wholly thine,
until this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.**

**4 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.**

Together, We Confess Our Faith

The Apostle's Creed (Traditional)

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in
Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead,
and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the
dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the
Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick 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.**

RESPONDING

Invitation to Present Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Doxology

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

#606

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of all might and power,
we praise you that
you forged your church in the fire of the Spirit,
and breathed life into your people
that we might be the body of Christ.
We rejoice that our Lord came to rescue us from sin

and to deliver us beyond the grave
to a rebirth and newness of life.
By your Spirit,
refine our hearts with your flame of faith,
fill us with the breath of zeal,
inspire us with the witness of martyrs and saints,
and send us forth into your world
to live Christ's life in power and compassion.
Take us, O God,
and shape us according to your will,
in the service of Jesus Christ,
our Lord and Savior,
now and forever
Amen.

Prayers of the People

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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not
into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the
power and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

SENDING

Opportunities for Service and Fellowship

Sending Hymn

We Will Go Out with Joy

#539

We will go out with joy in the Spirit;
we will go out with God.

**We will go out with joy in the Spirit;
we will go out with God.**

Refrain:

**Alleluia! We will go out with joy.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Now anyone who's born of the Spirit,
sing a new song of joy.

**Now anyone who's born of the Spirit,
sing a new song of joy. (*Refrain*)**

We will go out with joy in the Spirit;
we will go out with God.

**We will go out with joy in the Spirit;
we will go out with God. (*Refrain*)**

Blessing and Charge

May the steadfast love of the Lord be yours,
this day and forever. Alleluia!

Christ is risen! Do not be afraid.
Go and tell this good news to all.

**Thanks be to God,
Amen.**

Response ***Be Still and Know That I Am God***

#414

**Be still and know that I am God.
Be still and know that I am God.**

Postlude