



Sharing Christ's Love, Growing God's Family

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Welcome to Community of Joy! Please know that whoever you are and from wherever you have come, you are welcome in God's house! We are happy you are joining us!

We invite you to take a moment to **silence** your **cell phones**. Thank you!

Children are members of the church and we want them to be a part of worship. If you feel the need to step away for a moment, we have a nursery that is available for children aged 5 and younger.

Pentecost Sunday celebrates the dramatic arrival of the Holy Spirit, which Jesus described as his abiding presence of love that abides in all who love him. Through this Pentecost event, God's nearness is expanded from an individual presence (Jesus) to a universal presence (Spirit). The early church soon discovers that like following Jesus, life in the Spirit is a wild ride. It offers hope and belonging, and yet it also calls them to expand the circle of God's grace beyond the boundaries we so often like to create. Yet every time they allow the Spirit to call them outward, they discover that Jesus's presence has somehow grown rather than diminished. Let us also welcome this Spirit who abides within and calls us beyond.

Visit Our Welcome Table: Find everything you need at the Welcome Table outside the sanctuary doors, including bulletins, masks, and an offering basket. Receive communion at the altar during the service or find prepackaged communion servings with wine or grape juice options on the welcome table. Ask an usher if you need assistance in any way.

Pentecost Sunday

May 19th, 2024

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME CARDS

MINISTRY MOMENT- SOLAR PROJECT UPDATE with Bill Kostel

GATHERING SONG

"Build Your Kingdom Here"

Verse 1

Come, set Your rule and reign,
in our hearts again,
increase in us we pray,
unveil why we're made.
Come, set our hearts ablaze with hope,
like wildfire in our very souls,
Holy Spirit come invade us now.
We are Your church,
we need Your pow'r in us.

Verse 2

We seek Your kingdom first,
we hunger and we thirst,
refuse to waste our lives
for You're our joy and prize.
To see the captives' hearts released,
the hurt, the sick, the poor at peace;
we lay down our lives for heaven's cause,
we are Your church,
we pray: 'revive this earth.'

Refrain

Build Your kingdom here,
let the darkness fear;
show Your mighty hand,
heal our streets and land.
Set Your church on fire,
win this nation back;
change the atmosphere,
build Your Kingdom here we pray.

Verse 3

Unleash Your kingdoms pow'r,
reaching the near and far,
no force of hell can stop,
Your beauty changing hearts.
You made us for much more than this,
awake the kingdom seed in us,
fill us with the strength and love of Christ.
We are Your church,
we are the hope on earth.

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Come, let us gather on this day of Pentecost in the one unifying Spirit,

All: Let us join our lives with Christ's Spirit, moving in the church and throughout the world.

P: For there is one body and one Spirit. One Lord, one faith, and one baptism.

All: One God and Father of all, who is above all, through all, and in all.

P: We praise you Spirit of Life! Come to us, as we worship you today!

All: Make a home in us, Abiding Spirit, and let your presence form us in the mystery of God's unconditional love. Amen.

PRAISE SONG

"Spirit of the Living God"

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

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. *(repeat)*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Let us seek healing as we confess our sins in the presence of God and one another. God, Breath of Life,

All: On this beautiful day you have made, we give you thanks for your Spirit, which created all things in the beginning, which came to life in Jesus, and which gave birth to the church on that first Pentecost. Today we confess that we have heard your voice calling us to life, and yet we have often chosen to close our ears. You have called us to be brothers and sisters with all people, yet we have built up barriers of division. You have embodied the way of mercy and welcomed the outsider, but we have held grudges and ignored the cries of the vulnerable. You have given us a world of abundant life, yet we have mistreated your creation and damaged our shared home. Heal us, Spirit of Renewal, and hear us as we confess our sins to you.

A time of silence is kept for confession and self-reflection.

P: Through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven! Let us live in God's light and celebrate our oneness in God's Spirit.

All: Thanks be to God!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you.

P: I invite you to turn towards the camera and greet those worshipping with us online! ... And please also share signs of peace with one another.

WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

READINGS

Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they 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 people 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, “Fellow Jews 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.’

Reader: Word of God – Word of Life

All: Thanks be to God!

John 16:4-15

But I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them.

“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me, yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless, 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. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, and you will see me no longer; about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When 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. He will glorify me because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“The Divine Push”

Pr. Paul Schick

SONG of the DAY

“They Will Know We are Christians By Our Love”

Verse 1

We are one in the Spirit,
We are one in the Lord;
We are one in the Spirit,
We are one in the Lord.
And we pray that all unity
may one day be restored.

Verse 2

We will walk with each other,
we will walk hand in hand;
We will walk with each other,
we will walk hand in hand.
And together we’ll spread the news
that God is in our land.

Refrain

And they’ll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love,
Yes, they’ll know we are Christians
by our love.

Verse 3

We will work with each other,
We will work side by side;
We will work with each other,
We will work side by side.
And we’ll guard each man’s dignity,
And save each other’s pride.

A PRAYER FOR BLESSING OF OUR GRADUATES

P: Let us join together in offering this blessing for our graduates.

All: Lord God, we ask for your almighty hand to be upon all those who are graduating this school year. Thank you for who they are and who you created them to be. Bless them and help them to strive for dreams that will enrich their lives and the world. And guide them to use their gifts wisely, that they might walk into the future with faith, hope, and great love. Amen.

RESPONSE AND PRAYERS

APOSTLES' CREED REVISITED

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

All: We believe in God, our Creator, who provides for our every need, who delights in bringing life and healing to all things, who has a vision for our world and an answer to our deepest longings.

We believe in Jesus Christ, our Crucified Savior and Brother, who stands by our side when light turns to darkness, who suffers our pain and teaches us to transform it, who loves all people and shows us the way to eternal life.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, our Breath of Life, who brings God's presence near to all things, who sustains us when our spirits are dried up, who is always calling us into wider communion and deeper purpose.

We believe in God, whose love now and always turns death into resurrection, and who will someday call us home to eternal oneness and life. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

Intercessory Prayer

Lord, listen to your children praying. Lord, send your spirit in this place.

Lord, listen to your children praying. Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

P: As we anticipate the fullness of the presence of Christ, let us join with the church throughout the world, praying for all who are in need.

For God's Spirit alive in the church, for this congregation and for the body of Christ everywhere, for ministers, teachers, church leaders, and all who worship and serve in the Lord's name, for mature faith, young faith, and those who struggle with faith; that our expressions of community and faith might be a mirror of the love we have received in you, let us pray, [*Silence...*] Spirit of Fire and New Life,

All: hear our prayer.

P: For God's Spirit alive in relationships, for family and dear friends, for parents and children, and for those who find companionship within and beyond family connections, for joy-filled relationships as well as wounded ones, for those who grieve losses, that in all our relationships we might practice grace and abide in your love, let us pray, [*Silence...*] Spirit of Fire and New Life,

All: hear our prayer.

P: For God's Spirit at work in our vocations, for workplaces and colleagues, for jobs that bring purpose and occupations that are not easy, for students and retirees, for caregiving vocations that often go overlooked, for those who seek work, and for the blessing of livelihoods, that in our vocations we might find purpose, serve others, and embody your love, let us pray, [*Silence...*] Spirit of Fire and New Life,

All: hear our prayer.

P: For God's Spirit in solidarity with all who suffer, for the poor and the neglected, the hungry and the unhoused, for orphans and widows and the vulnerable everywhere, for those living in places of war and for people whose homelives lack peace, that your Spirit of resurrection might bring hope to the hopeless and inspire help among your people, let us pray, [*Silence...*] Spirit of Fire and New Life,

All: hear our prayer.

P: For your Spirit reflected in the creation you have called good, for renewing rains and lifegiving waters, for stunning mountains and peaceful fields, for mighty cottonwoods and tiny minnows, for songbirds that praise your name and all manner of life everywhere, that we who are your stewards might treasure and preserve this beautiful world you have given us, let us pray, [*Silence...*] Spirit of Fire and New Life,

All: hear our prayer.

P: Hear us also as we bring these names before you:

All: Liz Ball, Daneille Baltz & family; Joyce Wolf family; family of Bernie Macmillan, Lynn Sampson, Steve Gamrath, Dawn Flynn, Margy Barol, Mary Kay Crown; Teresa Maser, Jackie & Paul Anderson.

P: And finally we pray for all those persons and situations which we now name silently or aloud.

A time for individual prayers.

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your goodness and healing power in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

All: Amen.

PRESENTATION of the GIFTS

"Doxology"

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, Ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Giving Spirit,

All: We give thanks for all we have, for it all comes from you. With gratitude we offer ourselves and our gifts back to you. Bless and multiply these gifts, that they might bring our hearts closer to you, and your kingdom closer to this world. Amen.

THE MEAL

*This is the Lord's Table and all persons who wish to receive are welcome.
Parents may decide if and when their children will partake. If you or your child wish to instead receive a blessing, please cross your arms or let your communion server know.*

P: The Spirit of God is here, let us be filled with God's presence! The Spirit of God brings unity, let us be united with Christ and one another at God's table!

All: We welcome God's Spirit and one another to this meal of grace, for it is Christ's deep desire that we might become one in this Sacrament.

P: Ever-giving God, pour out your Holy Spirit on us and these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast and grace our table with your presence.

All: We give you thanks and praise, O God, for your desire to bring us together into one family. Fill us with your presence and bind us together, as we remember the story of salvation.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: For as often as we eat this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again.

All: Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

P: As we gather at your table, Lord, fill us with your presence, renew us with your grace, and show us your Kingdom.

All: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Let us pray as Jesus taught us:

All: 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, forever and ever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION SONG

"Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)"

Verse 1

You call me out upon the waters,
The great unknown where feet may fail.
And there I find You in the mystery,
In oceans deep,
My faith will stand.

Verse 2

Your grace abounds in deepest waters,
Your sovereign hand
Will be my guide.
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me,
You've never failed and You won't start now.

Refrain

And I will call upon Your name
And keep my eyes above the waves.
When oceans rise,
My soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine.

Bridge

Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders,
Let me walk upon the waters
Wherever You would call me.
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander
And my faith will be made stronger
In the presence of my Saviour. *(repeat)*

SENDING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. God of All,

All: You have filled us with your loving presence and given a message of life to share. Send us forth by your Spirit, that we might expand the circle of your grace by being your hands of mercy and voice of love. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

P: And now may the Spirit of God's love burn brightly in your hearts and enlighten all your days.

All: In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen!

SENDING SONG

"Be Not Afraid"

ELW 388

Be not afraid, sing out for joy!
Christ is risen, alleluia!
(repeat)

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

All: Thanks be to God!

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