



## Day of Pentecost

You make Your messengers like the winds;  
the breeze whispers Your words,  
Your servants are like the fire and flame.

*Psalm 104:4*

St. John's Church  
May 28, 2023

# Welcome

Pentecost is a feast day on which we commemorate the coming of the Holy Spirit on the early followers of Jesus. Before the events of the first Pentecost, which came a few weeks after Jesus' death and resurrection, there were followers of Jesus, but no movement that could be meaningfully called "the church."

The English word "Pentecost" is a transliteration of the Greek word *pentekostos*, which means "fifty." It comes from the ancient Christian expression *pentekoste hemera*, which means "fiftieth day."

But Christians did not invent the phrase "fiftieth day." Rather, they borrowed it from Greek-speaking Jews who used the phrase to refer to a Jewish holiday. This holiday was known as the Festival of Weeks, or, more simply, Weeks (*Shavuot* in Hebrew).

On Pentecost, the Holy Spirit descended on individual followers of Jesus as they were gathered together in Jerusalem. New believers in Jesus were baptized as they joined this church. They, along with the first followers of Jesus, shared life together, focusing on **teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread, and prayer**. **They shared their belongings so that no one was hungry or needy**. Thus we speak of Pentecost as the birthday of the church.

Many Christians, especially those of us who have been influenced by the individualism of American culture, live as if the church is useful but unnecessary. They believe that as long as they have a personal relationship with God, everything else is secondary. But Pentecost is a vivid illustration of the truth that is found throughout Scripture: **the community of God's people is central to God's work in the world**.

Thus, Pentecost invites us to consider our own participation in the fellowship, worship, and mission of the church. It is a time to renew our commitment to live as an essential member of the body of Christ, using our gifts to build the church and share the love and justice of Christ with the world.

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/markdroberts/>

# Ministers

Sound	Steve Nickles
Greeter	Kathy Riley
Worship Leader	Diana Anderson
Reader	Scott Larsen
Preacher	Rob Koelling
Intercessor	Tim Glatzer
Presider	Megan Nickles
Communion Server	Barb Morales
Communion Server	Jim Morales
Communion Bread	Barb Morales
Coffee Hour	Scott & Justine Larsen

# prayer concerns

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Extra-Provincial Churches  
Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. James, Kemmerer

We believe that lifting up the names of the suffering brings healing and health regardless of our knowledge of their needs.

Jane & Family; Lee & Kelly; Alice Ann & Carra; Hunter & Charlotte; Shirley & Deb; Richard & Jennifer; Tim & Lynnae; Robin & Mark; Charlie & Jane; Margie & Josey; Bobbi & Bentley; Bob & Charlotte; Ann & Martha; Nelson, Tammy, Rob K., Bobby B., Larry, Alex, Irene, Nancy, Alan, Katy, Marlynn, Sue, Kahli, Ron, and Marge	Justin, Jacob, Patrick, Reece, Coleman and Bryce who are serving in the military.  Bennett who is living and studying in Japan.  Josephine and Don who reside in care centers.
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# celebrations

Birthday: Jen Litterer-Trevino—28<sup>th</sup>, Augusta Larsen—31<sup>st</sup>, Donovan Riley—June 1<sup>st</sup>

# Prelude

“Like Tongues of Fire,” Harold Chaplin (feat. Christopher Bucknall).

# Hymn

1. O Spir - it of the liv - ing God,  
2. Blow, wind of God! With wis - dom blow  
3. Teach us to ut - ter liv - ing words  
4. So shall we know the power of Christ

thou light and fire di - vine, de - scend up - on thy  
un - til our minds are free from mists of er - ror,  
of truth which all may hear, the lan - guage all may  
who came this world to save; so shall we rise with

6  
church once more, and make it tru - ly  
clouds of doubt, which blind our eyes to  
un - der - stand when love speaks loud and  
him to life which soars be - yond the

United Methodist Hymnal 530  
WORDS: Henry H. Tweedy, 1935 (Arts 2)  
MUSIC (FOREST GREEN, C.M.D.): Trad. English melody; arr. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

*Continued*

8

thine. Fill it with love and joy and power,  
 thee. Burn, wing - ed fire! In - spire our lips  
 clear; till ev - ery age and race and clime  
 grave; and earth shall win true ho - li - ness,

with righ - teous - ness and peace; till Christ shall dwell in  
 with flam - ing love and zeal, to preach to all thy  
 shall blend their creeds in one, and earth shall form one  
 which makes thy chil - dren whole; till, per - fect - ed by

14

hu - man hearts, and sin and sor - row cease.  
 great good news, God's glor - ious com - mon - weal.  
 fam - i - ly by whom thy will is done.  
 thee, we reach cre - a - tion's glo - rious goal!

## Gathering

Come to Jesus, you who are thirsty.

**Alleluia!**

Drink deeply of the Holy Spirit.

**Alleluia!**

Let your heart overflow with the living water  
 that renews the face of the earth.

**Alleluia! Thanks be to God.**

# Prayer of the Day

The Lord is with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

**Holy God,**

like a rushing wind your Spirit moved upon  
the first disciples on the day of Pentecost,  
and like a purifying fire your Spirit seared  
their hearts and minds with the message of salvation.

Send your Spirit upon your church in this time and place,  
stir up our courage, and rouse us for prophetic witness,  
that we may join with them  
to proclaim to the world your mighty deeds of power  
in Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

# Prayer before Scripture

Alleluia, alleluia.

There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit;  
by the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.

**Alleluia.**

A reading from \_\_\_\_.

*After the Reading*

Word of God, word of the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

# Sermon

# Litany for the Day of Pentecost

God is the giver of many gifts; God is the Creator of the one body.

Let us pray.

We pray for all who are dried up by disappointment, by bitterness, by guilt.

We pray for all whose spirit is drained by grief, by hunger, by despair.

**Come from the four winds, O breath of God,  
and breathe upon us that we may live.**

God of hope we bring before you those whose hope is lost:

**Come from the four winds, O breath of God,  
and breathe upon us that we may live.**

We pray for people persecuted, violated, left for dead.

We pray for people bewildered, disillusioned, apathetic.

**Come from the four winds, O breath of God,  
and breathe upon us that we may live.**

We pray for those cut off by age, by disability, by thoughtlessness.

We pray for those cut off from family, from neighbors, from God.

**Come from the four winds, O breath of God,  
and breathe upon us that we may live.**

God is the giver of many gifts. God is the Creator of the one body.

God of hope, we thank you for the promise of restoration, of a new day and a new life:

**In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.**

Help us to recognize the gifts we have to share, and the gifts we need to accept.

Open our lives to humility to know every gift has a place in your kingdom.

**In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.**

God you call us to work, to live, to love together as parts of one body. Deepen our understanding of each part, that however minute or grand, we remain together in your presence.

**In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.**

God of a thousand tongues, give us the ability to speak not in languages of hate or greed, complacency or discontent, but in love and peace, mercy and kindness; in generosity and benevolence, in humility and patience, and in truthful words of encouragement.

**In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.**

# Prayers of the People

Let us unite our hearts and minds in prayer for our world.

For the church throughout the world: Almighty God, **hear our prayer.**

Inspire the sons and daughters of your church  
for prophetic witness to your truth,  
and upon old and young give clarity of vision  
to acknowledge your saving power in the world.

We pray for \_\_\_\_\_.

For nations of the world and its leaders: Almighty God, **hear our prayer.**

Overcome the babble of misunderstanding among the nations,  
and let all people hear in their own language and  
recognize in their own culture your unifying message of love.

We pray for \_\_\_\_\_.

For planet Earth, our home: Almighty God, **hear our prayer.**

By your Spirit, renew the earth, make us good stewards of its resources,  
and teach us to enjoy its abundance rightly.

We pray for \_\_\_\_\_.

For those in need of healing: Almighty God, **hear our prayer.**

Send your healing Spirit upon those who are sick in body or mind,  
restore them to health, and restore to them the joy of salvation.

We pray for \_\_\_\_\_.

For our neighbors and members of our civic community:

Almighty God, **hear our prayer.**

Teach us to be good neighbors, to live in peace with one another,  
and in friendship share the joys and burdens of daily life.

We pray for \_\_\_\_\_.

For our children: Almighty God, **hear our prayer.**

Bless our children, protect them from danger,  
and help parents and caregivers nurture them  
so that they may mature in wisdom and grow in grace.

We pray for \_\_\_\_\_.

For our enemies: Almighty God, **hear our prayer.**

Bless our enemies and show us how we may do good to them  
for the sake of Jesus Christ.

In your mercy, Almighty God, receive our prayers  
and, according to your wisdom, provide all that we need;  
through Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**



# THE LORD'S PRAYER

Because you are one with us, O Christ, make us one with you  
as we pray the prayer you taught us:

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory  
are yours, now and forever.

Amen.

## The Peace

May the peace of Christ be always with you.  
And also with you.

*We greet each other in the name of God.*

## Announcements

## Offer tory

Living Breath of God, move among us.  
Receive the gifts of our lives and use them,  
so that all may know the fullness of your love  
flowing through our world.

## Music

“Falla: El amor brujo - Ritual Fire Dance,” Radio-Symphonie-Orchester Berlin & Lorin  
Maazel.

# Great Thanksgiving

God is here.

**God's Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to offer thanks and praise.**

In the beginning, God of creation, your wind swept the darkness,  
stirring up life from the heights to the depths.

Your spirit raised us from dust and formed us to be like you,  
children with one common breath.

We couldn't see where the wind had come from  
we couldn't tell where the wind would go.

Divided, we hid behind walls turning away from the breath of life.  
But you blew through the prophets, you gave visions to slaves,  
you spoke in the whirlwind, and promised salvation.

You breathed on Mary, your listening servant,  
making your Word alive in her flesh.

You gave us Jesus, who shared our same breath  
receiving your Spirit in the river Jordan.

He proclaimed freedom to captives, good news to the poor  
he gave hope to the suffering, and life to the dead.

And so we gladly thank you, with Angels and Archangels,  
and all the company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending praise.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

God of comfort and strength, we look to your Holy Spirit to be with us in sorrow and in contentment, in crisis and in abiding stillness, remembering that at supper with his disciples, Jesus took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying, "Take, eat: this is my Body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Drink this, all of you: this is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

God of dreams and prophecy, send down upon us your gifts of wisdom, knowledge, and faith, of healing, discernment, and interpretation, that your Church may be built up in the likeness of your Son.

Pour out your Spirit once more to make this bread and wine the body and blood of Christ, that we might blow through the world with his love: healing, forgiving, and reconciling like Jesus until the heights and depths are filled with your children from every tribe and language and people and nation.

Sanctify your groaning creation, that your universe may breathe your breath and be filled with your life anew, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, ever one God.

**AMEN.**

## Breaking Bread

*The Leader breaks the bread.*

Christ's body was broken for us on the cross.

**Christ is the bread of life.**

*The Leader lifts the cup.*

His blood was shed for our forgiveness.

**Christ is risen from the dead.**

Come, God's people, come to receive Christ's heavenly food.

# Communion

*Please come to the table, whether you are single, married or divorced, drinking, using or sober, abled, disabled, or ill, gay, straight, or discovering, wealthy, getting by or in debt. Christ meets us all.*

*We approach the altar beginning with those sitting in the last rows; they shall be first. Approach the rail from the left aisle and take a cup; used cups go on the tray on the right. You may receive only bread, only wine, or both. Our Eucharistic bread is handmade and robust. If you prefer a wafer, please tell your server.*

*Receiving the bread and wine is the central act of worship in the Episcopal Church.*

# Music

“Flame Of God's Love,” Sergey Achkasov.

“Chariots of Fire,” Lady Grande.

# Prayer of Thanksgiving

*We stand.*

**Praise and glory to you, Creator Spirit of God;**

**you make our bread Christ's body to heal and reconcile  
and to make us the body of Christ.**

**You make our wine Christ's living sacrificial blood to redeem the world.**

**You are truth. You come like the wind of heaven, unseen, unbidden.**

**Like the dawn you illuminate the world around us;**

**you grant us a new beginning every day.**

**You warm and comfort us.**

**You give us courage and fire**

**and strength beyond our everyday resources.**

**Be with us Holy Spirit, in all we say or think,**

**in all we do this and every day.**

**Amen.**

# Hymn



1. God, whose pur - pose is to kin - dle: Now ig - nite us  
2. God, who in your ho - ly gos - pel Wills that all should  
3. God, who still a sword de - liv - ers Rath - er than a



with your fire; While the earth a - waits your burn - ing,  
tru - ly live, Make us sense our share of fail - ure,  
plac - id peace, With your sharp - ened word dis - turb us,



With your pas - sion us in - spire, O - ver - come our  
Our tran - quil - li - ty for - give, Teach us cour - age  
From com - pla - cen - cy re - lease! Save us now from



sin - ful calm - ness, Stir us with your sav - ing name;  
as we strug - gle In all lib - er - at - ing strife;  
sat - is - fac - tion, When we pri - vate - ly are free,



Bap - tize with your fi - ery Spir - it,  
Lift the small - ness of our vi - sion  
Yet are un - dis - turbed in spir - it



Crown our lives with tongues of flame,  
By your own a - bun - dant life.  
By our neigh - bor's mis - er - y.

Text: Luke 12:49; David E. Trueblood, 1900-1994, © 1967, David Elton Trueblood  
Tune: HYMN TO JOY, 8 7 8 7 D; arr. from Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827, by Edward Hodges, 1796-1867

# Sending

Hear what God declares:

The Holy Spirit is poured into you.

Filled, go in peace to love and serve.

**Thanks be to God. Amen. Alleluia!**

# Postlude

“Soul on Fire,” Third Day.

# Prayer Texts

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