



**May 28, 2023**  
**Pentecost Sunday**

## **GATHERING AND PRAISE**

### **Welcome**

#### **Prelude**

*Spirit Song*

Wimber

*The prelude signals the beginning of our sacred time together. During the prelude, you are invited to prepare your heart for worship by focusing your attention upon God.*

#### **\*Call to Worship for Pentecost**

Dan Ensor

Come, Holy Spirit,

**The wind of God, the breath of Life.**

Come, Holy Spirit,

**Our Advocate, our Counselor.**

Come, Holy Spirit,

**Teacher of Wisdom, Reminder of Christ.**

Come, Holy Spirit,

**Granter of forgiveness, giver of peace.**

Come, Holy Spirit.

**May we feel God breathing through our worship.**

**May we receive the Holy Spirit in this place. Amen.**

#### **\*Pentecost Prayer**

Dan Ensor

Amazing God, you call us today, just as you called the disciples on the Day of Pentecost. You challenge and support us, revealing the brokenness of our communities; giving us the peace that our world needs. You point us to the pain of the cross, and then remind us of the joy of the resurrection. Transform us, O God, through the power of your Holy Spirit. Help us breathe deeply of the Breath of Life. Blow through our worship and change our lives forever. Amen.

#### **\*Hymn**

*Spirit of God*

FWS 2117

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### **\*Passing the Peace of Christ**

Dan Ensor

When Jesus left his disciples, he did not leave them alone. He promised that the Holy Spirit would be present in their lives, and he gave them an amazing gift: his peace, the peace of Christ. Through the Spirit, this gift lives still, and it is ours to share with others. Please turn to those around you and greet them with the peace of Christ by saying...

Peace be with you. **And also with you.**

### **Children's Time**

Quinn Hetherington

### **Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance**

God of amazing love and unexpected grace, open our eyes that we may see You especially in those times when we feel abandoned by You; Forgive us that we so easily allow circumstance to blind us to Your Presence. Touch our lives that we may know You especially in those times when we feel unable to cope; Forgive us that we too frequently mistrust Your power. Fill our hearts that we may become like You especially when Your message needs to be heard; Forgive us that we forget who we are: children of God with Your Spirit in us.

On this Pentecost Sunday, O Lord – help us to let down our barriers to your Spirit; guide us to live with joy, abandon, and faithfulness; and create in us new hearts to be new people who worship only You.

### *Silent Prayers of Confession*

Those who are in Christ are a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God with whom we have been reconciled through Christ. (2 Cor. 5:17-18) Thanks be to God!

### **Ministry of Music**

*Holy Spirit, Come*

Choir

## **PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

### **Prayer for Understanding**

*All Praying*

Dan Ensor

**Come Holy Spirit! Come with the power of a great wind, to clear out the cobwebs of our hearts, or come stealthily, as close as our own breathing, to whisper your truth into the silence of our lives. However you come, come with the power to change us that we might truly become the body of Christ in the world. Amen**

### **Unity and Diversity in the Body**

*1 Corinthians 12:3-13*

Dan Ensor

3 Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

4 There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. 5 There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. 6 There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.

7 Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. 8 To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, 10 to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues,[a] and to still another the interpretation of tongues.[b] 11 All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.

12 Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For we were all baptized by[c] one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

### **The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost**

*Acts 2:1-21*

Dan Ensor

2 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

5 Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. 6 When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. 7 Utterly amazed, they asked: “Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? 9 Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome 11 (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!” 12 Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this mean?”

13 Some, however, made fun of them and said, “They have had too much wine.”

### **Peter Addresses the Crowd**

14 Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. 15 These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It’s only nine in the morning! 16 No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

17 “In the last days, God says,  
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.  
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,  
your young men will see visions,  
your old men will dream dreams.  
18 Even on my servants, both men and women,  
I will pour out my Spirit in those days,  
and they will prophesy.  
19 I will show wonders in the heavens above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood and fire and billows of smoke.  
20 The sun will be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood  
before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.  
21 And everyone who calls  
on the name of the Lord will be saved.’

### **RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

### **Sermon**

*Empowered at Pentecost*

Pastor Debra

### **The Apostles’ Creed**

*UMH 881*

Dan Ensor

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 Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;\*  
the third day he rose from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at 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.

## **Pastoral Prayer**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Pastor Debra

### **Offertory Invitation**

Dan Ensor

Pentecost people! We have received gifts too numerous to count. Now we have a chance to give in thanks and joy. Your offering will enable this church to be a Pentecost presence in this community and the world— to reach out in passionate commitment and bring the wind and fire of the Spirit to a people and a world that so desperately need it.

### **Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings**

*Offertory*

*Spirit of Life*

Smith

*\*Doxology*

*\*Prayer of Dedication*

Dan Ensor

**For all you have given, for all we have received, we give you thanks. We bring before you our gifts of substance and the gift of our lives. We bring our passion and joy and surprise, our visions and dreams. May they refresh and enliven our church and community, as the wind of your Spirit did long ago. Amen.**

## **GOING FORTH TO SERVE**

**\*Hymn**

*The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve*

FWS 2241

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### **Benediction**

Pastor Debra

Go forth from this place knowing that God has filled you with the Holy Spirit. Rejoice in the power of the Spirit within and among you, and tell the Good News everywhere you go, trusting that God will translate where needed. Amen.

### **Choral Benediction**

*Go, Ye, Go Ye Into the World*

*Go ye, go ye into the world,*

*And tell the story to all believers.*

*Go ye make disciples of all the nations.*

*Go ye, go ye now, and I will be with you there!*

### **Postlude**

*See How Great a Flame Arises*

Welsh Melody

## **SPIRIT OF GOD**

*Spirit of God, bright Wind,  
Breath that bids life begin,  
Blow as you always do;  
Create us anew.  
Give us the breath to sing,  
Lifted on soaring wing,*

***Refrain:***  
***Held in your hands,  
Borne on your wings,  
Come, Spirit, come!***

*Spirit of God, bright Dove,  
Grant us your peace and love,  
Healing upon your wings  
for all living things.  
For when we live your peace,  
captives will find release,*

***Refrain:***  
***Held in your hands,  
Borne on your wings,  
Come, Spirit, come!***

*Spirit of God, bright Hands,  
even in far off lands  
You hold all the human race  
In one warm embrace.  
No matter where we go,  
You hold us together so,*

***Refrain:***  
***Held in your hands,  
Borne on your wings,  
Come, Spirit, come!***

*Spirit of God, bright Flame,  
Send us in your holy name,  
The power to hear,*

*To share your love every where.  
We cannot fail or fall,  
Or know defeat at all,*

***Refrain:***  
***Held in your hands,  
Borne on your wings,  
Come, Spirit, come!***

*Spirit of God in all,  
We gladly hear your call,  
The life in our hands that sings,  
The power of your wings.  
Born of your grace we rise,  
Love shining in our eyes,*

***Refrain:***  
***Held in your hands,  
Borne on your wings,  
Come, Spirit, come!***

## THE SPIRIT SENDS US FORTH TO SERVE

*The Spirit sends us forth to serve;  
We go in Jesus' name.  
To bring glad tidings to the poor,  
God's favor to proclaim.*

*We go to comfort those who mourn  
And set the burdened free;  
Where hope is dim, to share a dream.  
And help the blind to see.*

*We go to be the hands of Christ,  
To scatter joy like seed  
And, all our days, to cherish life,  
To do the loving deed.*

*Then let us go to serve in peace,  
The gospel to proclaim.  
God's Spirit has empowered us;  
We go in Jesus' name.*