



October 8, 2023
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Welcome

Pastor Larry

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

Meghan Walker

"Please stand as we call ourselves to worship."

Leader: It is you, God, who have created us and set us free from all that oppresses.

All: We sing your praise!

Leader: It is you, gentle Christ, who have transformed our lives with God's love.

All: We declare our thanks!

Leader: It is you, Holy Spirit, who give us a new way to live.

All: We give to you our whole being.

Leader: May we worship you in all we do!

All: We give to you our whole being.

May we worship you in all we do!

*Opening Prayer

Meghan Walker

We have come into this place to worship you, the one only God. May the Holy Spirit tune our hearts so that we may be aware of your presence. And may that same Holy Spirit create in us a pure heart and renew a right spirit within us. Amen.

*** Hymn**

Spirit of God

TFWS 2117

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***Passing the Peace of Christ**

Meghan Walker

Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love.

Children's Time

Pastor Larry

Ministry of Music

Gentle Spirit, Dwell with Me

Choir

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Understanding

All Praying

Meghan Walker

God of all wisdom, give us your Word and send us your Spirit so that we may know Christ. Amen

Acts 2:1-13

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^[a] 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,^[b] 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."

Acts 2:36-47

³⁶ "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah."

³⁷ When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

³⁸ Peter replied, “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. ³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

⁴⁰ With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹ Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

The Fellowship of the Believers

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

Hymn

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

UMH 334

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Sermon

“I Believe in The Holy Spirit”

Pastor Larry

The Apostle’s Creed

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

Morning Prayer

Pastor Larry

Offertory Invitation

Meghan Walker

Without Christ, all that we have is nothing. With Christ all that we have is everything. Let us offer all that we have to the Lord.

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

His Holy Presence

Sergisson

**Doxology*

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Prayer of Dedication*

Meghan Walker

Gracious God, we thank you for the mystery that you give yourself to us. We give you our lives, symbolized in our gifts. Receive them with love, bless them with grace and use them according to your will. Uphold us by your Spirit in your Covenant of Grace, that we may be your faithful people, formed by your Word and given in steadfast love for the sake of the healing of the world, in the name of Christ. Amen.

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

*** Closing Hymn**

O Spirit of the Living God

UMH 539

Benediction

Pastor Larry

Choral Benediction

Benediction Hymn

**Now may the Lord bless you and keep you
and make his face to shine upon you;
and may God lift his countenance upon you
and give you blessed peace for now and evermore.**

Postlude

Spirit of God

Holmes

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,*

*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,*

*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,*

*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 everywhere.
We cannot fail or fall,
Or know defeat at all,*

*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,*

*Held in your hands, borne on your wings.
Come, Spirit, come!*

SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT

*There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;
There are sweet expressions on each face,
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.*

*Sweet Holy Spirit,
Sweet heavenly Dove,
Stay right here with us,
Filling us with your love;
And for these blessings
We lift our hearts in praise;
Without a doubt we'll know
That we have been revived
When we shall leave this place.*

O SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD

*O Spirit of the living God,
thou light and fire divine,
descend upon thy church once more,
and make it truly thine.
Fill it with love and joy and power,
with righteousness and peace;
till Christ shall dwell in human hearts,
and sin and sorrow cease.*

*2 Blow, wind of God! With wisdom blow
until our minds are free
from mists of error, clouds of doubt,
which blind our eyes to thee.
Burn, winged fire! Inspire our lips
with flaming love and zeal,
to preach to all thy great good news,
God's glorious commonweal.*

*3 Teach us to utter living words
of truth which all may hear,
the language all may understand
when love speaks loud and clear;
till every age and race and clime
shall blend their creeds in one,
and earth shall form one family
by whom thy will is done.*

*4 So shall we know the power of Christ
who came this world to save;
so shall we rise with him to life
which soars beyond the grave;
and earth shall win true holiness,
which makes thy children whole;
till, perfected by thee, we reach
creation's glorious goal!*