

Toll free call in number! (844) 855-4444, access code 654132#



COF Worship, Sunday May 31, 10:30 am

Pentecost

Opening Music

Greeting *Please feel free to offer the peace to each other through texting or through the comment box. Those on the conference call may wish each other the peace as well.*

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Approaching Our God

Exuberant Spirit of God by Jan Berry

Exuberant Spirit of God, bursting with brightness of flame into the coldness of our lives

To warm us with a passion for justice and beauty – **We praise you.**

Exuberant Spirit of God, sweeping us out of the dusty corners of our apathy

To breathe vitality into our struggles for change – **We praise you.**

Exuberant Spirit of God, speaking words that leap over barriers of mistrust

To convey messages of truth and new understanding – **We praise you.**

Exuberant Spirit of God,

Flame, wind, speech

Burn, breathe, speak in us – **fill your world with justice and with joy.**

Jan Berry, in *Bread for Tomorrow: Praying with the World's Poor*, ed. Jan Morley, 1992, p.145

Let us pray: **Come Holy Spirit, as you came to the desert fathers and mothers; as you came to the prophets who led your people; as you came to Mary, mother of Jesus, as you came to the disciples on the day of Pentecost. Stir us anew that we might be filled with the language of grace for all of the world. Now, as the body of Christ let us pray the prayer that Christ 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.***

Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 343). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

Scripture Psalm 104: 24-30 ²⁴O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. ²⁵Yonder is the sea, great and wide, creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great. ²⁶There go the ships, and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.

²⁷These all look to you to give them their food in due season; ²⁸when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things. ²⁹When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. ³⁰When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground.

Song *Spirit*

Refrain

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free,

Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

*You moved through the waters, you called to the deep,
Then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep
And over the eons you called to each thing,
Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings.*

Refrain

*You swept through the deserts, you stung with the sand,
And you gifted your people with a law and a land,
And when they were blinded with their idols and lies,
Then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes.*

Refrain

*You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,
Then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still,
And down in the city you called once again
When you blew through your people on the rush of the wind*

Refrain

*You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes,
From the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams
Our women see visions, our men clear their eyes,
With bold new decisions your people arise.*

Refrain

Call to Confession

When we pass through deep waters or go through times of fiery trial, the Lord our God is with us. With confidence in God, our creator and redeemer, let us admit our brokenness.

Prayer of Confession

Spirit of God, breath of life, advocate and voice, we confess that we block you from working in ourselves, our hearts and our lives. We take credit for inspiration that you have provided and turn our backs to the gusts that threaten to move us to action. Forgive us for our resistance to your movement within us; open us to the ways in which you might change us in order to change the world. (moment of silence)

As God hears our confessions,
may we hear God say in return:

*I forgive you,
I love you always,
And I am with you.*

Thanks be to God. **Amen.**

Scripture Numbers 11:24-30 ²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the LORD came

down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again. ²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." ²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" ²⁹But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!" ³⁰And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

Response of Praise *Spirit of God (refrain)*

Al-le-lu-ia, come spirit come! Al-le-lu-ia, come spirit, come! (2x)

Special Music *Canticle of the Turning*

Prayer for Illumination

Listen to the Word

Listen to the word that God has spoken

Listen to the one who is close at hand

Listen to the voice that began creation

Listen even if you don't understand

Scripture **John 20:19-23** ¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Hymn *On Pentecost They Gathered*

*On Pentecost they gathered quite early in the day,
A band of Christ's disciples to worship sing and pray
A mighty wind came blowing, filled all the swirling air,
And tongues of fire a-glowing inspired each person there*

*The people all around them were startled and amazed
To understand their language, as Christ the Lord they praised
What universal message, what great good news was here?
That Christ, once dead, is risen to vanquish all our fear*

*God pours the Holy Spirit on all who would believe,
On women, men and children who would God's grace receive
That Spirit knows no limit, bestowing life and power,
The church, formed and reforming, responds in every hour.*

*O Spirit sent from heaven on that day long ago,
Rekindle faith among us in all life's ebb and flow.
O give us ears to listen and tongues aflame with praise,*

So folk of every nation glad songs of joy shall raise.

Repeat vs. 1

Scripture Acts 2:1-13 When 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."

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith—Apostles' 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 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 Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering

Joys and Concerns—*please type into the comments box on the lower right hand side of the screen, or speak them out loud if you're on the conference call.*

Song: The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve

The spirit sends us forth to serve, we go in Jesus' name, to bring good 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.

Charge and Benediction