



"A Community Of Many Faithing Communities Where All Belong!"

Living Waters Contemplative Life Center | Divine Intervention Ministry to the Homeless  
Tippecanoe just.good.food Garden | Food Justice Site PCUSA  
Arts and Science Literacy Camps for Children

# Welcome To Worship

May 31, 2020

9:30 a.m.

*Pentecost:*

*"An Empowered Community of Belonging"*



*Welcome to this time of being with God and each other.*

Preparing To Worship...



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**WELCOME TO THIS CELEBRATION  
OF THE LORD'S DAY**

*Pentecost:  
"An Empowered Community of Belonging"*



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✧ **Welcome and Community News**

✧ **Readying Ourselves for Worship**

**Surely God is in this place, Holy Ground!  
Surely God is in this place,  
Holy Ground!**

✧ **Becoming Present to God and Each Other...Our Check-in:**

*What are some of the new understandings you are discovering  
that are lighting a fire within you?*

## ✧Opening Ourselves to God's Grace

### ✧Sharing Our Inner Most Lives With God

God of my life, You know, I feel a bit uncomfortable with Pentecost's fire and spirit. I confess I feel more comfortable with the symbols and outcomes of Christmas and Easter...which point more to You and not so much to me.

Maybe that's it. It seems Pentecost is more about us...me!...and that feels unsettling. The idea of wind and fire coming from You and dramatically changing me is...discomforting. You see, I often try to put out fires and resist the wind. Yet, You ask me to start fires and add to the wind.

Holiness, it's hard to capture the passion of those early followers. It's hard to understand what's going on within me, let alone understand others. It's hard to risk appearing foolish or out of control.

On this Birth Day of the church, help me feel You breathing new life into me...help me consider this newness and lack of familiarity, and even this uncomfortableness... just might be You!

Help me open my eyes and make new promises. Give me courage. Deeply I feel Your call to belong to a powerful new humanity. Empower me! Lord, You hear my prayer.

## ✧Bible's Wisdom Teachings

### **Acts 2:1-21**

### ✧Prompting

*"Open Your Eyes, Make A New Promise: You Are Empowered By Community!"*

*Inspirations of David Whyte's Poems: "The Opening of Eyes" and "To Break A Promise"*

*Rev. Karen Hagen*

### ✧A Moment of Personal Reflection...And Shared Reflections!



## ✧Special Music Video: "We Are" by Sweet Honey and the Rock

## ❖ **Affirming Our Faith *With Intention***

On the Day of Pentecost, the barriers between Jews and Gentiles and Greeks , slaves and free, women and men...all people came tumbling down. Holy One, we feel You helping us move closer to those of whom we have been suspicious or afraid.

On the Day of Pentecost, the disciples found new understanding and gained self-confidence. Holiness, You help each of us see our long hidden gifts and find courage to use them.

On the Day of Pentecost, a spirit of generosity filled the church that opened eyes and broke old promises to make way for new ones. We move beyond self-imposed limits to share ourselves more freely for others. On fire with truth and resistance, the Holy Spirit frees us. Holiness, we believe!

## ❖ **Community Prayers: Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer**

### ❖ **To Deepen Our Reflection: To Break A Promise, excerpts, David Whyte**

Make a place of prayer,  
no fuss,  
just lean into the white brilliance  
and say what you needed to say all along,  
nothing too much,  
words simple and yours.

Let your new words join one to another  
the way stone nestles on stone,  
the way water just leaves and goes to the sea.  
Your new promise breathes as your old promise  
belongs with every other promise the world has ever made.

Now, leave them to go on,  
let your words carry their own life,  
let the promise go with the river.

Have faith. Walk away. ...

## ❖ **Benediction...*Becoming a Living Blessing***

*What do your eyes now see?*

*What old promise are you called to break or a new promise you trust yourself to make?*

