



"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

June 5, 2022

9:30 a.m.

Pentecost Sunday



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

TODAY'S WORSHIP
Pentecost Sunday

Preparing to Worship...



“Gifts of the Holy Spirit: Invitation and Initiation”

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✧ **Prelude: Zo Trembley**

✧ **Welcome and community news**

✧ **Readying Ourselves for Worship**

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

✧ **A Prayer to Center Ourselves in this Moment** *This Grace That Scorches Us*  
**A Blessing for Pentecost Day**

Here's one thing  
you must understand  
about this blessing:  
it is not  
for you alone.

It is stubborn  
about this.

Do not even try  
to lay hold of it  
if you are by yourself,  
thinking you can carry it  
on your own.

To bear this blessing,  
you must first take yourself  
to a place where everyone  
does not look like you  
or think like you,  
a place where they do not  
believe precisely as you believe,  
where their thoughts  
and ideas and gestures  
are not exact echoes  
of your own.

Bring your sorrow.  
Bring your grief.  
Bring your fear.  
Bring your weariness,  
your pain,  
your disgust at how broken  
the world is,  
how fractured,  
how fragmented  
by its fighting,  
its wars,  
its hungers,  
its penchant for power,  
its ceaseless repetition  
of the history it refuses  
to rise above.

I will not tell you  
this blessing will fix all that.

But in the place  
where you have gathered,  
wait.  
Watch.  
Listen.  
Lay aside your inability  
to be surprised,  
your resistance to what you  
do not understand.

See then whether this blessing  
turns to flame on your tongue,  
sets you to speaking  
what you cannot fathom

or opens your ear  
to a language  
beyond your imagining  
that comes as a knowing  
in your bones,  
a clarity  
in your heart  
that tells you

this is the reason  
we were made:  
for this ache  
that finally opens us,

for this struggle,  
this grace  
that scorches us  
toward one another  
and into  
the blazing day.

—Jan Richardson, from *Circle of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Season*



✧ **Becoming Present to God and Each Other...Our Check-in:**  
How Are You as You Arrive...how is it with your spirit?

~ **The Joy of Passing the Peace** ~



✧ **And the Children Will Lead the Way: Kids' Time**



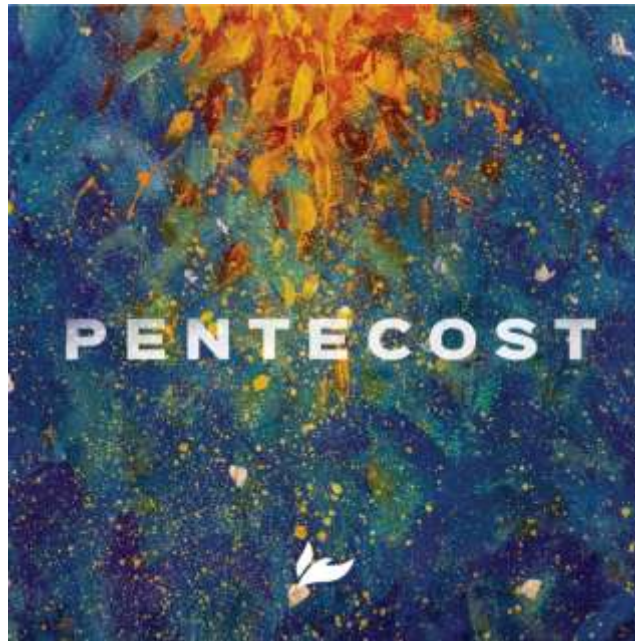
✧ **Gathering as God's People: Pentecost**

On Pentecost, we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles. Throughout this past year navigating new pandemic territory, facing transitions, and grieving losses, we, like the disciples on that first Pentecost, have been waiting for the Holy Spirit to renew the face of the earth. Amid daily reports of gun violence and mass shootings across our country, we are weighed down with despair.

We welcome the Holy Spirit into our hearts and lives to give hope to our hearts, just as the disciples experienced. At the beginning of creation, God breathed life into us, and because of this divine indwelling we have the power to forgive and strive to continue the work of Jesus here on earth. We are the incarnation of the risen Lord in our world today. We are re-created by the Holy Spirit. The sign of this re-creation is forgiveness.

The Feast of Pentecost reminds us that there is an important connection between the gifts of peace and forgiveness and the action of the Holy Spirit. We are provided the possibility of understanding one another amid our differences. The Church is called to be God's reconciling presence in the world. This reconciling presence is also to be a way of life for Christians. In situations of conflict, we are to be agents of peace and harmony among all people.

As we celebrate this great feast of the Church's fifty days after the resurrection of Jesus, how have we been a sign of reconciliation in our families, in our world, and among people of faith everywhere? Have we been an instrument of God's peace to everyone we meet? Let us welcome the Spirit to fall afresh upon us.



✧ **Gathering Hymn 288 Spirit of the Living God**

✧ **Opening Ourselves to God's Grace**

(Adapted from "Pentecost Prayer" by Joan Chittister, OSB)

**ALL: May the Gifts of the Holy Spirit bring fire to the earth  
so that the presence of God may be seen  
in a new light, in new places, in new ways.**

**May our own hearts burst into flame  
so that no obstacle, no matter how great,  
ever obstructs the message of the God within each of us.**

**May we come to trust the Word of God in our heart,  
to speak it with courage, to follow it faithfully  
and to fan it to flame in others.**

**May the Holy Spirit  
fill the world and the church with new respect  
for life and witness to our shared humanity.**

**Give us, Great God, a sense of the Breath of Spirit  
within us. Guide us in caring for one another, whether we are neighbors  
or strangers, embracing our similarities as well as our differences.  
Amen.**

**✧Sharing our Innermost Lives with God**

On this day of Pentecost, the church is born and re-born.  
The Holy Spirit is poured out  
and sends us out together, aflame with new life.  
God, we pray that your Spirit would set us free  
from the prisons of pettiness, jealousy, and greed.  
Set us free to be Your church.  
We are freed to free others.  
We are forgiven to forgive others.  
We are loved to love others.  
You call us to be the church,  
and you send us to feed the hungry,  
clothe the naked, heal the sick,  
and to be alleluias even when there is no music.  
Fill us with your Spirit,  
make us again into your body for the world. Amen.



Let us enter into a few minutes of quiet. Our gathered community enables us to become even more aware of the Divine presence. Enter the sacred awareness of God's accompaniment as you seek understanding and connection.

**✧Short period of silent reflection**

Holy Spirit, may we hear your precious word for us today. May we grow in wisdom, strength, and love as we open our ears, our minds, and our hearts to the transformative message you have in store for each of us. Amen.

## ✧Bible Wisdom Teaching

**Acts 2:1-8, 11-21**

### ✧Reflection Questions

How do you experience God breathing through you? How do you open yourself to the work of the Spirit in you and in those around you? What have you learned about yourself and others? (Questions adapted from the work of Jan Richardson)

One: May we hear anew the origin stories of our faith and draw from the roots of our tradition.

All: Thanks be to our God.

### ✧Message

***“Gifts of the Holy Spirit: Invitation and Initiation”***

Rev. Trish Eckert



✧Hymn: 286 Breathe on Me, Breath of God

✧Sharing Our Wisdom

✧ **Affirming Our Faith with Intention...Our Prayer**

**ALL: We believe in a loving God,  
who is life's breath for all of earth's creatures,  
who is the ground in which our lives flourish,  
who is the mystery toward which we are drawn.**

**We believe in the risen Christ,  
whose life is the way we see God made real,  
whose death bears witness to the power of love,  
whose presence nourishes our spirits each day.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
who flows as a refreshing spring of life,  
who comes as divine fire to energize the faithful,  
who creates communities of joy and justice.**

Words (c) 2014 Mark Lloyd Richardson

✧ **A Moment of Quiet for Everyone**





## ✧ **Community Prayers and the Pastoral Prayer**

Holy One,

The wind blows and we hear the sound of it, but we do not know where it comes from. We try to explain it away, but even our own breath speaks of new things we cannot understand.

We may be together in one place, but we do not speak with one voice, we do not listen with one heart.

We hear, and dismiss, your deeds of power, your call to love those who are different, your insistence that the whole world be included.

You pour out your Spirit, and we squash the vision—it is too big, too unrealistic, too uncertain, too unruly.

You send visions of a future with hope, and we look back instead.

You light the way, and we look for a fire extinguisher, trying to keep ourselves (and you!) safe.

Forgive us, O God. We long for your new life, but we do not know how to live it.

*~silence~*

Rush into this place again and fill every nook and cranny with dreams and visions of possibility.

Turn our hushed whispers into proclamations of your grace, in every language of the world.

Lead us out into your future.

Amen. (by Reverend Teri Peterson)

## ✧ **Words of Invitation and the Breaking of the Bread Communion of the People**



## Welcome

During Lent our beloved community rediscovered Jesus as we reflected on the many ways Jesus shows up in our lives, ranging from Friend to Way to Presence. During this Eastertide we have considered the scope of our experiences beyond dualistic thinking, embracing the approach of “both/and” in our lives. Today we celebrate the Lord’s Supper on this Day of Pentecost, rejoicing in the gift of the Holy Spirit whose breath of life transforms our world, filling us up when we feel adrift and apathetic, and awakening us to the truth that we are all one.

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God!  
They will come from east and west,  
and from north and south,  
and sit at table in the kingdom of God.

In these days we have followed Jesus’ journey through the Gospel of John, and we are stirred from our sadness and rise from our hopelessness. Let us turn our attention to the presence of the Spirit of Life and may we revive our visions and animate the dreams that have only been alive in our minds.

## Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right and good that together we lift up Your name as holy, O God. Your abiding presence is with each of us as we discern the path we walk, grateful for your guidance and accompaniment. You claim us as Your very own in this life and all time to come. You make a way where there is no way, through your beloved Son.

Lord Jesus, we are grateful that you walked among us to show us the way toward wholeness. Through your life, ministry, death, resurrection, and ascension, you manifest the love poured out for us and the love that we are called to share with the world.

Holy Spirit, you touch us as a rush of wind, a breeze that refreshes, the oxygen that gives us life. Within and around us, you reveal to us our oneness. Through your powerful love and steadfast presence, draw us into Christ’s presence, and may we also be present to one another as we share in this holy meal of bread and cup.

Gracious God,  
pour out your Holy Spirit upon us  
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine,  
that the bread we break  
and the cup we bless  
may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.  
By your Spirit make us one with Christ,  
that we may be one with all who share this feast,  
united in ministry in every place.  
As this bread is Christ's body for us,  
send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

We join our voices as one, praying as Jesus taught us:

**Our Father, who is in heaven,  
Hallowed be Thy name.  
Thy kingdom come  
Thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Words of Invitation and the Breaking of the Bread

Come to this table  
Where bread and cup are transformed by the Spirit of God  
Into a meal of love and grace  
A supper of visions and dreams  
A table where all souls are welcome.  
Just as they were all together in one place on the day of Pentecost, we in this beloved community are gathered, remembering that Christ offers sustenance and new life.

We, followers of Jesus, gather around this table just as Jesus sat with his followers around the table so long ago, when he took bread, blessed it, and broke it. Then he gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my body broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

He then took up the cup, blessed the juice of the vine and gave it to the disciples, saying, "Drink of the cup of life, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Pastor: Let's share in the feast of new and everlasting life!

**All: We are ready. The Table is set. And we remember. Your Spirit is life. Through this faithful act of communing, You join us more deeply to Yourself, to Your people here and to all Your people. In deepest gratitude, we imbibe grace!**

*All are invited to come forward to celebrate in the Lord's Supper. The bread is gluten free. You will receive the bread and then steep it in the juice that is offered, to receive the two elements together.*

### Communion of the People

#### Prayer after Communion

Holy One,  
may we who have received this sacrament  
live in the unity of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may show forth your gifts to all the world.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Adapted from the Book of Occasional Services, 217-226)

#### ✧ **Benediction**

May the God who breathed life into creation be your delight.  
May Christ Jesus give hope to your dreaming,  
and may the Holy Spirit, your advocate and supporter,  
set your hearts ablaze with a passion for peace.

*Now that the worship has ended, may the service truly begin.*

✧ **Our Response...Holy One, now we your servants go in peace. Your word lives on in us.**

Postlude: Zo Trembley

*Hear this service presented on TippeTalk podcast,  
link on our website & Facebook.*

<http://www.tippechurch.org>

