

# Pentecost Sunday

May 23, 2021

9:30 a.m.

*Welcome friends in Christ! We are glad you have come to worship today and to celebrate the love of God in Jesus Christ. We extend a warm greeting of Christian Fellowship to you.*

## Our Approach to God

Prelude *The Table* Tomlin, Cash, Jolley  
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The Call to Worship **Acts 2:17a**

God declares: "I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh."  
Do you hear it, **the sound of rushing wind beginning to fill this house?**  
Do you see it? **The glowing pillars of fire reflecting in every pair of eyes?**  
Do you feel it, **God moving in this place, calling us to worship?**  
The spirit has come! The church is born! **Let us worship God with thanksgiving!**

The Hymn of Praise *Holy Spirit, Come to Us*  
(Sing the Faith Hymnal)

The Call to Confession  
Let us call on the name of the One who invites us to speak the truth about ourselves and our relationships and promises to show us mercy.

The Prayer of Confession  
O God, as your Spirit filled the church on the first Pentecost day, so fill this house of worship with your presence, and fill us with your passion. You are doing a new thing, actively moving in the world. Forgive us when we act as if your stories have all been written. You hear the prayers of every language and call us to hear each other. Forgive us when we act as if your Spirit only spoke our native tongue.  
Hear us O God, as we bring our individual intentions before you in the silence of our hearts. (Silence)  
Wash us in your grace, O God, and illumine us with your fire. Send us out to follow your Spirit and teach us to hear the prayers of all your people.

The Assurance of Pardon  
People of God, body of Christ, sisters and brothers, the Spirit of God's truth has come upon creation and upon you, to interpret the mysteries of eternal time. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, in the name of Christ Jesus, our Savior, and by the authority of the church, we are forgiven. Let us be at peace with one another because of God's mercy. **Amen!**

The Response 579  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

The Special Music *Greater is He That is In Me* Wolfe  
License: CCLI #6962

## The Word of God

The Time with the Children

The New Testament Reading Romans 8:22-27

The Gospel Reading Acts 2:1-21

The Sermon "The Wind of Fire, blowing in the Church" Pastor Philomena

## Our Response to Serve

The Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles Creed)  
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living 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.

The Hymn *Every Time I Feel the Spirit*  
(verses 1 & 2)



## Romans 8:22-27

### Good News Translation

<sup>22</sup> For we know that up to the present time all of creation groans with pain, like the pain of childbirth. <sup>23</sup> But it is not just creation alone which groans; we who have the Spirit as the first of God's gifts also groan within ourselves as we wait for God to make us his children and <sup>(a)</sup> set our whole being free. <sup>24</sup> For it was by hope that we were saved; but if we see what we hope for, then it is not really hope. For who of us hopes for something we see? <sup>25</sup> But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

<sup>26</sup> In the same way the Spirit also comes to help us, weak as we are. For we do not know how we ought to pray; the Spirit himself pleads with God for us in groans that words cannot express. <sup>27</sup> And God, who sees into our hearts, knows what the thought of the Spirit is; because the Spirit pleads with God on behalf of his people and in accordance with his will.

## Acts 2:1-21

### Good News Translation

#### **The Coming of the Holy Spirit**

**2** When the day of Pentecost came, all the believers were gathered together in one place. <sup>2</sup> Suddenly there was a noise from the sky which sounded like a strong wind blowing, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> Then they saw what looked like tongues of fire which spread out and touched each person there. <sup>4</sup> They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to talk in other languages, as the Spirit enabled them to speak.

<sup>5</sup> There were Jews living in Jerusalem, religious people who had come from every country in the world. <sup>6</sup> When they heard this noise, a large crowd gathered. They were all excited, because all of them heard the believers talking in their own languages. <sup>7</sup> In amazement and wonder they exclaimed, "These people who are talking like this are Galileans! <sup>8</sup> How is it, then, that all of us hear them speaking in our own native languages? <sup>9</sup> We are from Parthia, Media, and Elam; from Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia; from Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup> from Phrygia and Pamphylia, from Egypt and the regions of Libya near Cyrene. Some of us are from

Rome, <sup>11</sup> both Jews and Gentiles converted to Judaism, and some of us are from Crete and Arabia—yet all of us hear them speaking in our own languages about the great things that God has done!" <sup>12</sup> Amazed and confused, they kept asking each other, "What does this mean?"

<sup>13</sup> But others made fun of the believers, saying, "These people are drunk!"

#### **Peter's Message**

<sup>14</sup> Then Peter stood up with the other eleven apostles and in a loud voice began to speak to the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, listen to me and let me tell you what this means. <sup>15</sup> These people are not drunk, as you suppose; it is only nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup> Instead, this is what the prophet Joel spoke about:

<sup>17</sup> 'This is what I will do in the last days, God says:

I will pour out my Spirit on everyone.

Your sons and daughters will proclaim my message;

your young men will see visions,

and your old men will have dreams.

<sup>18</sup> Yes, even on my servants, both men and women,

I will pour out my Spirit in those days,

and they will proclaim my message.

<sup>19</sup> I will perform miracles in the sky above

and wonders on the earth below.

There will be blood, fire, and thick smoke;

<sup>20</sup> the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will turn red as blood,

before the great and glorious Day of the Lord comes.

<sup>21</sup> And then, whoever calls out to the Lord for help will be saved.'