

**SERVICE OF WORSHIP
PENTECOST SUNDAY
SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION
MAY 23, 2021**

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

A PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Holy One, you hovered over the face of the waters before creation was given its form. In your wisdom, everything was created. Your works are many, and Earth is full of your creatures. From those who swim in the depths of the sea to those who scurry along the dry grounds. You made them all and sustain them even now. You renew the face of the ground with your breath of life. We all have our being in you and through you alone. Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME

SENTENCES OF ADORATION

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Pastor: We worship God who came among us. Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed!**

Pastor: Christ has sent us the Spirit of truth to dwell with us always.

People: **We receive the Holy Spirit.**

Pastor: We have an advocate who intercedes on behalf of all the saints.

People: **We receive the Holy Spirit.**

Pastor: The Spirit comes upon the mighty and the lowly the same.

People: **We receive the Holy Spirit.**

Pastor: The Spirit helps us in our weakness and translates our groanings when our words fail.

People: **We receive the Holy Spirit.**

Pastor: The Spirit breathes life into the dry bones of our faith.

People: **Alleluia! We receive the Holy Spirit.**

Pastor: Come, let us worship.

REJOICING IN GOD'S GRACE

***CALL TO AND CONFESSION OF SIN:**

God, there are times when we are overcome by distractions, consumerism, selfishness, and arrogance. There are times when we insist that we don't need you, but what do we know? Unanimated and scattered, we wait for you to extend your hand to us. We move and speak, but we are like dry bones in your presence. When hope has dried up, and we find ourselves cut off from you. We ask: Can these bones live? Will you restore life to your creation?

Once the commotion dies down, we are filled with a thirst for living water. Parched, we look for you. Restore hope, we pray and give new life. Infuse us with a desire for righteousness and your will. Amen

***ASSURANCE**

***THE GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Creator, and to the Christ and to the Holy Spirit, Three in One; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen. Amen.

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE - Based on St. Patrick, facing each other:**

Unison: Christ's peace be with you,
Christ's peace within you,
Christ's peace behind you,
Christ's peace before you,
Christ's peace beside you,
Christ's peace to win you,
Christ's peace to comfort you and restore you. Christ's peace be with you.

SPECIAL MUSIC: *Morning Has Broken*

Conner Licairac, Harp

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON:

Old Testament: Ezekiel 37:1 – 14

New Testament: Acts 2:1 – 21

Gospel: John 16:12 – 18

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON: *The Holy Spirit is a _____!*

DEDICATING OURSELVES TO GOD'S WILL AND WORK

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:**

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.

SPECIAL MUSIC: GO LIGHT YOUR WORLD – Chris Rice - Darin Jellison
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor: Spirit of truth and life, we search for you in this aching world. A world that was created by you and through you. May our eyes see how you delight in your beautiful and diverse creation. Help us to remember that you find joy in diversity and make things new through differences. Grant us the capacity to respect the beliefs, opinions, and traditions of others. Grant us the tools to build bonds of common understanding that will bridge the divide of hatred. Renew our ignorance for enlightenment. Grant us new insight. Replace our lack of understanding with empathy. Infuse us with a sense of curiosity, instead of fear, when we are met with things we have not experienced ourselves. Heal the wounds that misunderstanding, discrimination, and racism have created. Bless us with your breath of life to awaken our sleeping hearts. May we find our voice to speak up in the face of injustice. May we be united in our common humanity, knowing that we were each made in the image of God.

Pause for private intercessions

Gracious God, as you have promised, may it come to pass.
We pray in Christ's name and offer the prayer He offered;

Unison: Our Father, who art 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.

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

**THE FELLOWSHIP OF SHARING
HYMN: SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER**

505

1 Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer! that calls me from a world of care, and bids me at my Maker's throne make all my needs and wants be known. In seasons of distress and grief, my soul has often found relief, and oft escaped the tempter's snare by your return, sweet hour of prayer!

2 Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer! the joys I feel, the bliss I share of those whose anxious spirits burn with strong desires for your return! With them I hasten to the place where I would know my Savior's face, and gladly take my station there, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!

3 Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer! whose wings shall my petition bear to One whose truth and faithfulness engage the waiting soul to bless.

*And since I'm bid to seek God's face, believe God's word, and trust God's grace,
I'll cast away my every care, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!*

***THE DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

We praise God for Creation that is uniquely and wonderfully made. We praise God, the sustainer of life, who provides us with all that we need. We offer up our praises with our whole being. Creating and sustaining God, may our meditations be fixed on only what is pleasing to you. May we produce the first fruits of the Spirit in which you delight. May the glory of God endure forever. Amen.

COMMUNION LITURGY

Welcome

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Unison: God, who led Israel with a pillar of cloud by day and of fire by night, you lead us in ways of righteousness. You have taught us that wandering does not mean that we are lost. You have taught us that the journey is just as important as the destination. We give thanks that you call us your people.

Jesus, giver of the peace that surpasses all understanding, your peace has settled on this gathering today. We have come because you first came to us. We gather to hear your word just as the disciples gathered in Jerusalem. We have both heard your word of eternal life and your word that sends us out. We give thanks that you trust us with your name.

Holy Spirit, who prays on our behalf when we have no words, you are both our counsel and might. You convict us with truth when we forget your word. You lead us with wisdom when we do not know where to go. You comfort us when we feel we are without hope. We give thanks that you are in us and around us and ever-present with us.

Now, as people gathered in your name, we pray that you would make your presence known to us. Holy Spirit, as you have done before, breathe your breath of life through this place making this simple loaf and cup communion with you. May God, Jesus, and Holy Spirit abide with us as we share this meal. May this meal bind us to you and to one another. Amen.

Words of Institution

This morning Lily Maginn and Sadie Shaffer, who along with their mothers, have been studying the meaning of the Sacrament of Holy Communion, will receive their First Communion.

COMMUNION HYMN: THIS IS THE DAY OF NEW BEGINNINGS 417

*1 This is a day of new beginnings Time to remember and move on
Time to believe what love is bringing Laying to rest the pain that's gone*

*2 For by the life and death of Jesus Love's mighty Spirit now as then
Can make for us a world of difference As faith and hope are born again*

*3 Then let us with the Spirit's daring Step from the past and leave behind
Our disappointment guilt and grieving Seeking new paths and sure to find*

*4 Christ is alive and goes before us To show and share what love can do
This is a day of new beginnings Our God is making all things new*

*5 In faith we'll gather 'round the table To taste and share what love can do
This is a day of new beginnings Our God is making all things new*

Prayer After Communion

Unison: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, may we overflow with thanksgiving for who you are, all you have done, and all you have yet to do. May we remember the taste of this meal in our mouths – how nourishing and sweet it is – in both good and difficult times. With your breath in our lungs, you have prepared us to be your witnesses in this world. To you be the glory, amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

***CLOSING HYMN: SPIRIT, SPIRIT OF GENTLENESS 286**

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.*

*1 You moved on 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]*

*2 You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand, and you goaded your people with a law and a land; when they were confounded by their idols and lies,
then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes. [Refrain]*

3 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]

4 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]

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**