

Service of Holy Communion
Day of Pentecost
May 23, 2021
10:00 a.m.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father and of the Son + of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to turn away from you is to fall, to turn toward you is to rise, and to stand before you is to live forever. Give us at this moment your mercy, that we may confess our sin and receive your forgiveness, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ God gives the power to become the children of God, and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *stanzas 1 and 2*

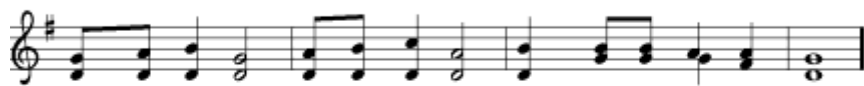
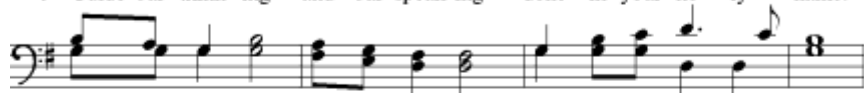
Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading

Njoo kwetu, Roho mwema



Njo - o kwe - tu, Ro - ho mwe - ma, M - fa - ri - ji we - tu.

- 1 Gra - cious Spir - it, heed our plead - ing, fash - ion us all a - new.
- 2 Come to teach us, come to nour - ish those who be - lieve in Christ.
- 3 Guide our think - ing and our speak - ing done in your ho - ly name.



Tu - fu - ndi - she ya mbi - ngu - ni, tu - we wa - tu wa - pya.

It's your lead - ing that we're need - ing, help us to fol - low you.
Bless the faith - ful, may they flour - ish, strength - ened by grace un - priced.
Mo - ti - vate all in their seek - ing, free - ing from guilt and shame.



Refrain



Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.
Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.



Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.
Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.



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GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

After the children's sermon, kids are invited to follow Ms. Sharon for children's church.

THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 2:1-21

Originally Pentecost was a Jewish thanksgiving-type festival celebrated seven weeks after Passover. On this particular Pentecost, however, the Holy Spirit is poured out upon the entire community of believers just as Jesus had promised and the scriptures had prophesied. Empowered by the Spirit, the entire community bears witness to God's activity in multiple languages.

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] 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."

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.

¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' "

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 104:24-34, 35b *read responsively*

²⁴How manifold are your works, O LORD!

In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

²⁵**Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number,**

living things both small and great.

²⁶There go the ships to and fro,
and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.

²⁷**All of them look to you
to give them their food in due season.**

²⁸You give it to them; they gather it;
you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

**²⁹When you hide your face, they are terrified;
when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.**
³⁰You send forth your Spirit, and they are created;
and so you renew the face of the earth.
³¹**May the glory of the LORD endure forever;
O LORD, rejoice in all your works.**
³²You look at the earth and it trembles;
you touch the mountains and they smoke.
³³**I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;
I will praise my God while I have my being.**
³⁴May these words of mine please God.
I will rejoice in the LORD.
^{35b}**Bless the LORD, O my soul.
Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING Romans 8:22-27

By pouring the Holy Spirit into our hearts, God gives us the promised first fruit of eternal life so that we await God's future in hope. In the meantime, the Spirit also intercedes for us by carrying the prayers of our weak human hearts to God.

²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The congregation may stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “We Are One in the Spirit” *stanzas 1 and 2*

1. We are one in the Spirit,
We are one in the Lord.
We are one in the Spirit,
We are one in the Lord.
And we pray that all unity
May one day be restored.

Chorus:

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

2. We will walk with each other,
We will walk hand in hand.
We will walk with each other,
We will walk hand in hand.
And together we'll spread the news
That God is in our land.

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

GOSPEL **John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15**

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John, the fifteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

While speaking to his disciples before his death, Jesus refers to the Holy Spirit as “the Helper” and describes the difference the Spirit will make in their lives and in the world.

[Jesus said,] ²⁶“When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. ²⁷You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

^{16:4b}“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ ⁶But because I have said these things to you,

sorrow has filled your hearts. ⁷Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; ¹¹about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

¹²“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

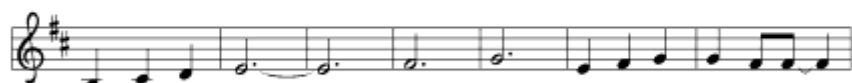
HYMN OF THE DAY *stanzas 1 and 4*

Spirit of Gentleness

Refrain



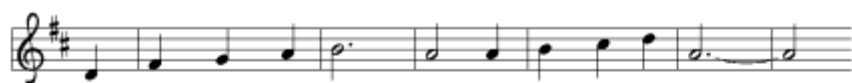
Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness



call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,



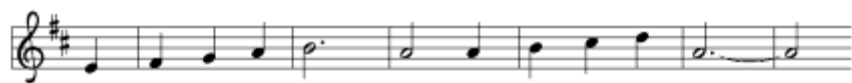
stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.



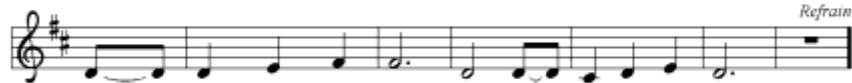
- 1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
- 2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
- 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
- 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;
From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;



and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing;
and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,
and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,
our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.



"A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings."
then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.
when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.
With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.

Text: James K. Manley, b. 1940

Music: SPIRIT, James K. Manley

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APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

On this Day of Pentecost, let us join in prayer for all of God's creation, using the words, "Your mercy is great" as a response.

God of tempest and whirlwind, your Spirit speaks your word to us and stirs up our faith. Increase our trust in the Spirit's presence and give us the ability to wait for it amidst uncertainty and doubt. Hear us, O God:
Your mercy is great.

By your Spirit's leading, help our congregation through this next phase of the pandemic, that our love for You and for one another may always be bigger than our fears and frustrations. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

By your Spirit's blessing, end cycles of violence in the land called holy and wherever else there is war, that all people may discover their connectedness to one another and so live in peace. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

By your Spirit's healing, give hope and resilience to those who are ill or who have been stressed beyond their ability to cope, that all may know your wholeness. Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

By your Spirit's stirring, raise up advocates for all who are vulnerable to abuse and injustice because of barriers of age, or language, or physical ability, that the worth of all persons be defended. Hear us, O God: **Your mercy is great.**

By your Spirit's comforting, let those who are grieving and those who are dying feel your love even in the midst of their sorrow, and in time, enflame all our hearts with the joy of resurrection life. Hear us, O God: **Your mercy is great.**

By your Spirit, O God, we are able to pray, and where our words have fallen short, intercede for us with sighs too deep for words. Accept all that we have said and all that we have sighed in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

CHOIR ANTHEM

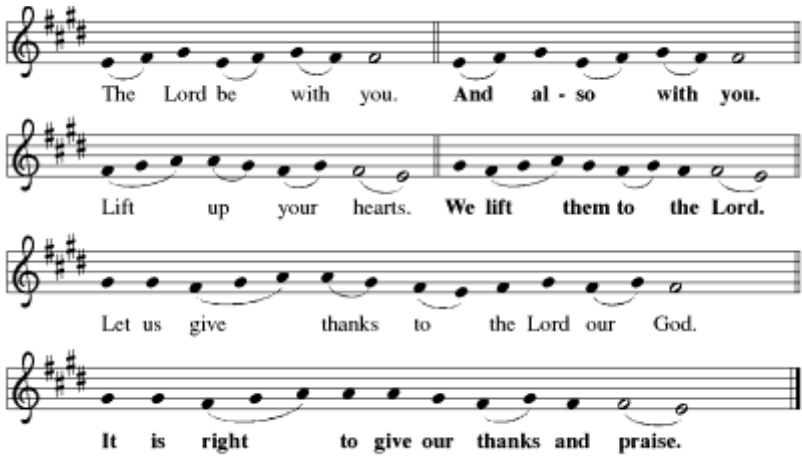
"Listen Now for the Gospel" - Zimbabwean traditional
(Jim Cunningham, *trumpeter*)

MEAL

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 indeed right, our duty, and our joy...*(the presiding minister continues giving thanks)*...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father...*(the presiding minister continues giving thanks)*...For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast. **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Finally, as Jesus has taught us, we are bold to pray:

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The gifts of God for the people of God. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

The congregation may be seated.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

Ushers will invite the congregation forward for communion. Please keep six feet of distance between you and the next group of communicants! Please cup your hands to receive the bread. You may reverence the cup of wine with a bow or with folded hands upon hearing the words, "the blood of Christ, shed for you."

The congregation may stand.

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you have given the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

THE SENDING

BLESSING

May God, who has made from the dust of the earth, and who has redeemed you from the power of the evil one, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN *all stanzas*

Loving Spirit

1 Lov - ing Spir - it, lov - ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—
 2 Like a moth - er you en - fold me, hold my life with - in your own,
 3 Like a fa - ther you pro - tect me, teach me the dis - cern - ing eye,
 4 Friend and lov - er, in your close - ness I am known and held and blessed:
 5 Lov - ing Spir - it, lov - ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—

you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.
 feed me with your ver - y bod - y, form me of your flesh and bone.
 hoist me up up - on your shoul - der, let me see the world from high.
 in your prom - ise is my com - fort, in your pres - ence I may rest.
 you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931
 Music: RESTORATION, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. hymnal version
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor Kimberly van Driel	Presiding Minister
Linda Mathias	Assisting Minister
Jeanne Graff	Reader
Kevin Mathias	Organist
Harry Cunningham	Senior Choir Director
Roxanne Glagola	Altar Guild
Dan Morrow and Stan Graff	Ushers

Bob and Karen Domanski	Counters
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THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Monday, 5/24	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting
Wednesday, 5/26	7:00 PM	AA Meeting (Social Hall)
Thursday, 5/27	7:30 PM	NA Meeting
	7:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, 5/29	12:00 PM	NA Meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you to Sue Morrow and Judy Wadding for coordinating today's Pentecost picnic lunch. Thanks also to Holly Schubert and Dan Morrow for preparing the worship space in the Dogwood Shelter.

We look forward to hearing your voice, your instrument, and musical talent as an important part of our worship! A Summer Music Schedule is posted in the Social Hall. Please consider signing your name on the schedule for one of the Sundays in June, July or August. We look forward to hearing you at the church on your chosen Sunday. However, if you have concerns about attending in-person during the pandemic, please let us know if you would prefer to pre-record your selection of music in advance. Thank you for sharing your time and talent!

PRAYERS

Rita, Judy O. and family, Graham Cannon, Anne Ferguson, Claudia, Karen, Sandy, Anita, Joyce Hall, Kitty Walker, Nancy Hoehn, Tad & Shirley Sellers, Aryl Bashline, Jenna, Tom Olson, Pam Patterson

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Isaiah 6:1-8

Isaiah's vision and call

Psalm 29

Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness. (Ps. 29:2)

Romans 8:12-17

Living by the Spirit

John 3:1-17

Entering the reign of God through water and the Spirit