

**Order of Worship:  
May 31, 2020  
Pentecost Sunday**

Today is Pentecost Sunday. This is the day that we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit into the life of the church. The Spirit came like the sound of a rushing wind and settled on the people like tongues of fire. The world has not been the same since. As a result of the coming of the Spirit upon the Church, each of us has been gifted by God in certain ways for the common good.

**PRELUDE**

Music by Judy Brist

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING CHORUS**

*Take, O take me as I am.  
Summon out what I shall be.  
Set your seal upon my heart,  
and live in me.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We come to worship in spirit and truth.

**All: God is with us. God lives.**

One: We come to share the Good News.

**All: The Spirit of God is moving among and calling us. The Spirit of God is leading and strengthening us.**

One: We come to confirm the activity of the Spirit of God.

**All: God is at work, among and within, in our world and the next, in us and those around us, to make all things new and to recreate life in all the people of God.**

**HYMN**

**“Come, O Spirit Dwell Among Us”**

**Verse 1**

**Come, O Spirit, dwell among us, Come with Pentecostal power;  
Give the church a stronger vision, Help us face each crucial hour.  
Built upon a firm foundation, Jesus Christ, the Cornerstone,  
Still the church is called to mission That God’s love shall be made known.**

### Verse 2

We would raise our alleluias For the grace of yester years;  
For tomorrow's unknown pathway, Hear, O Lord, our humble prayers.  
In the church's pilgrim journey You have led us all the way,  
Still in presence move before us, Fire by night and cloud by day.

### Verse 3

Come, O Spirit, dwell among us; Give us words of fire and flame.  
Help our feeble lips to praise You, Glorify Your holy name.  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Three in one: what mystery!  
We would sing our loud hosannas Now and through eternity.

### INVITATION TO CONFESSION:

One: Let us draw near to God with sincerity of heart and full assurance of faith,  
our guilty hearts sprinkled clean, our bodies washed with pure water.  
Let us confess our sin before God and one another.

**All: With new life all about us, O God, we still cling to old ways. In spite of your promises we seek self-assurance. You send the Holy Spirit to enliven our existence. The darkness of doubt dispels the new light the Spirit brings. We are afraid to admit what it might mean if we surrendered ourselves. So we continue to pursue our flights of fancy, and pretend that we can go it alone. AMEN.**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

One: God has mercy upon us and hears our confession. In Christ we have the assurance that we dwell not alone. All who approach God with a desire for wholeness will be filled with living waters, which the Spirit gives. Be refreshed in your quest to do what is faithful, and be alive with the promise of God's guidance and care.... Friends hear and believe the Good News.

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

### SPECIAL MUSIC

Judy Brist

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Lord of all, we are unable to gather in one place. We grieve our inability to sit beside one another, sing together and pass the peace in person. Even as we lament what is lost when we cannot be in the same physical space, we rejoice that nothing separates us from the love of Jesus Christ and there is no barrier that can prevent the Holy Spirit's coming to us. United in Christ, bound by the Spirit, our community is real and strong, no matter where we are.

Confident in your promise to never leave us alone, to hear us when we knock and give to us when we ask, we are bold to pray for those on our hearts and minds. Send the Spirit's winds of your comfort to surround those who mourn. Stay close to those unable to be near to those they love. Grant rest to the weary and give hope to those on the brink of despair. Kindle the Spirit's flame of reconciliation between those long estranged and peoples who call each other enemies. Bring healing to the sick and relief to those who suffer. Unleash the Spirit's power to bring justice to the oppressed. Possess us with your Spirit so that we cannot abide the exploitation of the weak or the neglect of the vulnerable. Let your Spirit loose in your church so that we can be bearers of your love in the world.

On this day of Pentecost when multiple languages resound through the universe and all kinds of people proclaim your mighty deeds, open the eyes of our hearts to take in all the glorious sounds, relish the beautiful sights, and rejoice in the precious diversity of creation. Your works and your words are too wonderful for us and yet you enlist us to participate in your divine endeavor of salvation. We are astounded, perplexed and bewildered, but eager through the gift of the Spirit to serve you with energy, intelligence, imagination and love.

Come, Holy Spirit, engulf this frightening season with the live-giving, mercy-granting, joy-completing, justice-rolling deeds of our God. Open our mouths so that our lips may proclaim God's praise. Direct our actions so the world will know we are Christ's followers by our love. Make us one so we can be ambassadors of reconciliation. Show us your vision and empower us to make your divine dreams our earthly reality. We make our prayer in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, who taught us to say when we 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 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

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**SCRIPTURE:****Psalm 104: 24-34**

O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. Yonder is the sea, great and wide, creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great. There go the ships, and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it. These all look to you to give them their food in due season; when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things. When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground. May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in his works—who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke. I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being. May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the Lord.

**GOSPEL READING****Acts 2: 1-12****The Coming of the Holy Spirit**

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?"

Let us pray: God, I thank you for your Word which offers encouragement and challenges. May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable in your sight our rock and our redeemer. AMEN

**SERMON:**

**“Hearing the Cry of the Oppressed”**

**Rev. Ken Ribe**

**CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION:**

Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. The Lord bless and keep you. The Lord be kind and gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. AMEN.