

The background image is a soft-focus photograph of a sunlit meadow. In the foreground, there are numerous small white flowers with yellow centers scattered across a green lawn. To the right, the thick, textured trunk of a large tree is visible. The sun is shining from the upper left, creating a bright lens flare and illuminating the scene with a warm, golden light.

OLYMPIA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
May 30, 2021 • 1st Sunday after Pentacost

GATHERING

Pronouncement

Because the Spirit has been unleashed and flourishes...
Grace, mercy, and peace are yours...
Accept these gifts with joy as we worship God this day!

Prelude

Dr. Jonathan Spatola-Knoll

Welcome, Virtual Check-In & Announcements

Call-to-Worship Visual

Call-to-Worship Responsive

Servant: Let us worship the eternal God, the Source of Love and life, who creates us.

People: Let us worship Jesus Christ, the Risen One, who lives among us.

Servant: Let us worship the Spirit, the Holy Fire, who renews us.

Unison: To the one true God be praised in all times and places, through the grace of Jesus Christ!

Hymn

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

#71

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heav'n, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art.
Visit us with thy salvation; enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast.
Let us all in thee inherit, let us find the promised rest
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be.
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

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Hymn (continued)

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

#71

Come, Almighty, to deliver, let us all thy life receive.
Suddenly return, and never, nevermore they temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation; true and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee.
Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love and praise.

Invocation

O God, there is a dark and lonesome gulf in worship, a cavern of the awesome into which we rarely go. We prefer catchy tunes, bright vestments, and holiday prayers. We would rather exchange fellowship than touch holiness. Enable us in this precious time to venture into the depths of worship which can never be found totally in individual spirituality but which open slowly before the shared pain, struggle and love of the communion of the saints. Amen.

The Written Word

Isaiah 6 :1–8

NSRV

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of the robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: *“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of God’s glory.”*

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!” Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!”

Mission Moment

Send Me

Tithes & Offerings

Response

Tune: Praise God for Whom all Blessings Flow

From all who dwell beneath the skies, let the Creator’s praise arise!
Let the Redeemer’s name be sung; through every land, by every tongue!

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Song

Canticle of the Turning/My Soul Cries Out

Choir

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest, could the world be about to turn?

My hearts shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the work is about to turn.

Though I am small, my God, my all, your work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame, and those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn.

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.

From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not stone will be left on the stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;
There are tables spread, every mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn.

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.

Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing Grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,
Till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around.

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.

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ENTERING GOD'S STORY

The Written Word

Romans 8: 12–17

NRSV

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh – for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

The Spoken Word

Family Ties!

Rev. Mark Rambo

RESPONDING TO GOD'S STORY

Song

Blest Be the Ties that Bind

#138

Blest be the ties that binds our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.
We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear;
And often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.
Blest be the ties that binds our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

The Written Word

Psalm 29

The Message

Bravo, God, bravo! gods and all angels shout, “Encore!” In awe before the glory, in awe before God's visible power. Stand at attention! Dress your best to honor God! God thunders across the waters, Brilliant, the voice and the face, streaming brightness—God, across the flood waters. God's thunder tympanic, God's thunder symphonic. God's thunder smashes cedars, God topples the northern cedars. The mountain ranges skip like spring colts, the high ridges jump like wild kid goats. God's thunder spits fire. God thunders, the wilderness quakes; God makes the desert of Kadesh shake. God's thunder sets the oak trees dancing a wild dance, whirling; the pelting rain strips their branches. We fall to our knees—we call out, “Glory!” Above the floodwaters is God's throne from which God's power flows, from which God rules the world. God makes the people strong. God gives all God's people peace.

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The Prayers of the People

Rev. Mark Rambo

Friends in Christ, God invites us to hold the needs of our sisters and brothers as dear to us as our own needs. Loving our neighbors as ourselves, we offer our thanksgivings and our petitions on behalf of the church and the world. Let us pray... Let us gather our breath as we gather our hearts and open them to you in prayer, O God. We confess that all too often, we feel depleted; we run out of energy, out of time, out of patience, out of love -- out of breath. That is when, as now, we need to be still, and know that you are God. Come to us in this time of silent quietude. Give us the courage to breathe out the petty grievances we know we need to let go of, the resentments that linger and the hurts that have found a place to live. And let us breathe in the breath of new life, new love, new chances, new opportunities to be changed, repurposed and transformed.

Holy God, the promise of Pentecost is the promise of power – the power to be peacemakers in a world torn by violence; the power to forgive our own guilt and the guilt of others; the power to be courageous in the face of danger; the power to offer hope and joy in the midst of pain and suffering. Embolden us, we pray, to testify to your presence in the world, to exemplify your love for all humanity and to open our hearts to being radically changed by your Spirit.

Amen.

Hymn

More Love to Thee

#428, v. 1, 2 4

More love to Thee, O Christ, more love to Thee! Hear thou the prayer I make on bended knee;
This is my earnest plea, more love, O Christ, to Thee
More love to Thee, more love to Thee!

Once earthly joy I craved, sought peace and rest; Now, thee, alone I seek, give what is best;
This all my prayer shall be: More love, O Christ, to Thee,
More love to Thee, more love to Thee

Then shall my latest breath whisper Thy praise; This be the parting cry my heart shall raise;
This still its prayer shall be: More love, O Christ, to Thee
More love to Thee, more love to Thee

Weekly Challenge

Postlude

Dr. Jonathan Spatola-Knoll

Benediction

The Power of God which created the world is the power of Love.
The power in Jesus which rescues the world is the power of Love.
The power in us, through the Spirit, which changes the world is the power of Love.
Therefore, go in the name of Love.
Walking Humbly, Loving Completely, Living Differently!