A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

The Day of Pentecost

May 28, 2023

*All who are able may stand.

Bold type spoken by the congregation

GATHERING . . .

The Prelude

Mary’s Mountain

William Oplinger, oboe   Ginger Oplinger, violin   John Oplinger, viola

The Welcome and Announcements

This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The Introit

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

The Call To Worship

How manifold are the works of God!
The earth is full of God’s creatures, living things both great and small.

All that lives looks to God. When God’s hands open,
they are full of good things.

May the glory of the Lord endure forever.

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live.
I will sing praise to God while I have being.

The Prayer of Adoration

Praise and glory to you, Creator God. We give thanks for the power of the Holy Spirit to heal and make whole, to inspire and to send. May we respond in grateful joy and deeds of service, offering all praise and thanks to you. Send us out upon the wind of the Spirit, to tell others the good news of salvation we have received in Jesus Christ! Amen.

*The Hymn 280

Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us

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.

We would raise our alleluias for the grace of yesteryears.
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.

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 hosanas now and through eternity.

*The Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples creating bold tongues, open ears, and a new community of faith. We confess we hold back the force of your Spirit among us. We do not heed your call to courageous discipleship. We do not share extravagantly enough your gift of love with others. We do not live as those who are made one in Christ. Have mercy on us, O God, and renew us. Transform our timid witness into a burning desire to be your faithful people for the sake of the world...silent prayer...Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

God’s Spirit comes upon us, declaring that we are the children of God!

By the grace of Christ, who rules over sin and death, we are forgiven and empowered to share the good news. Thanks be to God!
*The Gloria Patri

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

*The Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you!**

(Please stand to greet one another in the name of Christ. For those worshiping at home, please share Christ’s peace with someone outside Your home this week.)

VBS Announcement

**HEARING THE WORD OF GOD**

Brittany Harvey

The Prayer for Illumination—

**Spirit of the Living God**

Hymn 288

The Psalter Lesson: *Psalm 104:24-34, 35b*

The Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

The Anthem

**Come, Christians, Join to Sing**

Randall Kempton

*Ginger Oplinger, violin  John Oplinger, viola  Evelyn Oplinger, drum*

Come, Christians, join to sing, Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King; Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice, before His throne rejoice;
praise is His gracious choice; Alleluia! Amen!
Come, lift your hearts on high; Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen!
He is our Guide and Friend; to us He’ll condescend;
His love shall never end, Alleluia! Amen!
Praise yet our Christ again; Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain; Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven’s blissful shore His goodness we’ll adore,
singing forevermore! Alleluia! Amen!

The Gospel Lesson: *John 7:37-39*

A Moment with the Children

*The Hymn 693

**Though I May Speak**

Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire,
and have not love, my words are vain, as sounding brass and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess,
but not be given by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come Spirit, come, our hearts control; our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.


The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon

**The Miracle That Makes a Church**

Kim Clayton

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

*Affirmation of Faith

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the church. The same Spirit who inspired the
prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Holy Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!” With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Prayers of the People
The 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.

Tithes and Offerings Presented

*The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Doxology, Hymn 606
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

GOING FORTH AND SERVE IN GOD’S NAME

*The Hymn 309

Come Great God of All the Ages

Come, great God of all the ages; make your earthly mission known; speak through every deed and person; let your way and will be shown. Guide the church to true commitment; give direction now, we ask; fit us for the work of building; dedicate us to the task.

Come, Christ Jesus, flesh and spirit, sure foundation, cornerstone; help us form the church eternal; may your vision be our own. Send a message to each follower; lead all people to your way; urge us to strong faith and action as we build the church today.

Come, great Spirit, in and with us, tune our ears to hear your call; through the moving of your presence, let redeeming love recall ministry in dedication, love embodied in our deeds; challenge us to do your bidding, see your purpose, fill all needs.

Come, O come, in celebration, household of the one true God; in commitment and rejoicing let us go where Christ has trod; as we act in faith and reverence, let us, Lord, the future see; place us in the church triumphant, now and for eternity.

*The Charge and Benediction

Postlude

A Thousand Tongues

arr. William A McNair

The Pentecost decorations hanging in the sanctuary are designed to show the movement of the Holy Spirit. The children in the Three-Year Olds through 5th Grade LIFT classes dyed, painted, and stamped the fabric for the decorations. The project was coordinated by the Children’s LIFT Art Teacher, Mary Lou Cramer.

Today’s Worship Leaders:

Preacher: Kim Clayton
Liturgists: William Oplinge, Jen Rowe
Choirmasters: Mary Ann and Larry Casey
Organist: Amy Shirk