



Pentecost
Sunday, May 20th, 2018
The Spirit comes ...
GATHERING

Announcements

Greeting

In the name of God our Father and Mother;
in the name of the Son, Jesus, who calls us to follow;
in the name of the Spirit, God with us, in us and among us.
The Lord be with you:
and also with you.

Call to Worship

Come and be touched by the flame of the Spirit,
Come and receive the breath of peace.

***We gather today from many places,
We come to receive the gifts of God.***

Listen now for the rushing wind;
For in the wind we will be caught up
In the Spirit's work in the world.

***We come to be inspired,
We come to be filled with God's love.***

Come then, together as one

We come together to worship God.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Spirit of God,
swirling like the wind,
blazing like fire,
whispering to us a gentle word of peace:

Come into our time of worship,
blow away our fears
and set our hearts ablaze with love.
Stir us with your presence,
give us fresh dreams
and visions of a world of freedom and justice.
Though we are many, we are one body in Christ.
Send your Spirit here, O God,
And make us one. Amen

HYMN 407 Breathe on me, breath of God

Prayer of Reflection

God of all peoples,
for far too long, we have ignored your Pentecost story.
We have believed that our language and culture is best,
We have set out to impose our ways on others
and to rule and oppress.
We have tried to obliterate other languages,
and extinguish other cultures,
calling them primitive and heathen.
Forgive us and help us to forgive each other for this past.
(silent reflection)

God of all nations,
the pain of domination is not only in the past.
We confess that we continue to exclude
and put up barriers to those who are different,
to deny their dignity and worth.

God of all creation,
We confess that we continue to damage planet earth
For our own profit and pleasure
As though the world and all its treasures
Is for our exploitation.

Forgive us and help us to forgive each other for present pain.
(silent reflection)

Eternal God,
We know of your dream for a brighter future;
your dream of a Pentecost people,
who know no barriers and live in unity.
We confess that we have believed
that dream to be unattainable.

Forgive us and free us to embrace the future with you.
(silent reflection)

Spirit of God, Gift of Pentecost,
fall afresh on us,
reminding us of who we are,
all members of your one body,
each one with gifts to share
and with a part to play,
so that together,
***we might be the body of Christ in this place,
witnessing to your love and grace. Amen***

ASSURANCE

God's Spirit knows no bounds! God has no official language and the Spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words. We are a forgiven people. Let us walk in freedom into the future with God!

Thanks be to God!

PASS THE PEACE

Peace of the Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The children leave for SMG.

HEARING THE WORD

Acts 2:1-21 New Revised Standard Version Jenny Huckson

2 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ² 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. ³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵ Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶ And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷ Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹² All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³ But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

¹⁴ But 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. ¹⁵ Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ "In 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.

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

¹⁹ And I will show portents in the heaven above

and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.
²⁰ The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.
²¹ Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

Video Clip "NASA Smiling face to deep space"

Reflection Seng Eng Low

HYMN 418 She sits like a bird brooding on the waters

John 15:26 – 16:15 New International Version John Huckson

²⁶ "When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father—he will testify about me. ²⁷ And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning.

16 "All this I have told you so that you will not fall away. ² They will put you out of the synagogue; in fact, the time is coming when anyone who kills you will think they are offering a service to God. ³ They will do such things because they have not known the Father or me. ⁴ I have told you this, so that when their time comes you will remember that I warned you about them. I did not tell you this from the beginning because I was with you, ⁵ but now I am going to him who sent me. None of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' ⁶ Rather, you are filled with grief because I have said these things. ⁷ But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸ When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹ about sin, because people do not believe in me; ¹⁰ about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; ¹¹ and about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.

¹² "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. ¹³ But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me

because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. ¹⁵ All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you.”

Reflection Colin Bradford

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Let's Give: Our Offerings

Doxology

***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.***

Prayer of Dedication

As we receive the gift of loving kindness
through the presence of your Holy Spirit,
may these gifts we bring
become an expression of your love in our lives
touching the world around us.
Amen.

Prayers of the people

Seng Eng Low

Living God,
at the beginning of time,
your spirit brooded over the earth
and breathed life into your creatures;
we pray for all creation,
for the well-being of this beautiful, endangered planet.
Wind of God; blow through your creation
and renew the face of the earth.
Holy Spirit, come, and in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

On the day of Pentecost you sent your Spirit
on the peoples of many nations:
we pray for the peoples of the world,
for all whose lives are destroyed
by poverty, war, disaster and disease.
Fire of God, come; warm our cold hearts
that we may burn with a passion for justice.
Holy Spirit, come, and in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Your Spirit overshadowed a young Jewish girl,
And Mary bore your love to the world:
We pray for those with whom we share our lives,
our families and friends,
those with whom we learn and work.
Breath of God, come; breathe on us
that we may be filled with your love
and bring your reconciling love to others.
Holy Spirit, come, and in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

By your Spirit, you empowered your disciples
to proclaim your gospel: we pray for your church,
and especially for our own ministers Geoff and Jeremy
and all who worship in this place.
Power of God, come; strengthen us to do your will
and confirm our desire to be your witnesses in the world.
Holy Spirit, come, and in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

By your Spirit, you inspired your disciples to go out
and bring healing and hope to your people;
we pray for all those who need your consolation,
for all who are destitute, lonely, bereaved or in pain,
And all those who care for them.

Comfort of God, come; soothe our pains and calm our fears,
that we may find our peace in you.
Holy Spirit, come, and in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Pentecost God,
visit us again this day;
speak to us in the language of our hearts
and pour out your Spirit upon us
that we may understand your word,
proclaim your works
and live forever in your presence
Holy Spirit, come, and in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
your kingdom come.
Your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

SENDING OUT

Hymn: 416 Great God, your Spirit like the wind

Blessing

May the Spirit of Truth so dwell in our hearts,
that strangers are welcomed,
enemies become friends,
and unity grows from loving kindness
shown to one another;
and the blessing of God who is love
is for you and with you,
now and forever;
in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Blessing Song: 781 Father bless us as we go

Musical Postlude

Pianist:

Rosemary Osborne