



"Pentecost", JESUS MAFA, 1973



THE DAY OF PENTECOST
A Service of the Word

May 31, 2020 ✦ 10:00 a.m.

The Day of Pentecost

“The Holy Spirit is a very political bird—one which doesn’t stop for border guards. The authoritative lines are crossed. Indeed in Pentecost those lines are blown right off the spiritual map.”

— Bill Wylie Kellerman

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit gathers us in unity on the first day, the day of Christ’s resurrection

Prelude — "Choral and 3 Variations on VENI CREATOR SPIRITUS" by Duruflé *Dr. Patricia Snyder*

Welcome

Acclamation & Greeting

One: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Many: **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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

Many: **And also with you.**

Call to Worship: An Affirmation

One: We believe in the Spirit who blows through our lives:

Many: **unsettling us
stirring us up,
propelling us forward.**

One: We believe in the Spirit who comes as a fire:

Many: **warming us,
empowering us,
re-making us.**

One: We believe in the Spirit who frees our tongues:

Many: **for talking of God,
for prayer,
for advocacy.**

One: We believe in the Spirit:

Many: **the Counsellor,
the Helper,
the Breath of God.**

Hymn — “Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us”

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Prayer of the Day

One: Let us pray.

Many: Holy God,

like a rushing wind your Spirit moved upon the first disciples

on the day of Pentecost,

and like a purifying fire your Spirit seared their hearts and minds

with the message of salvation.

Send your Spirit upon your church in this time and place,

stir up our courage, and rouse us for prophetic witness,

that we may join with them

to proclaim to the world your mighty deeds of power in Jesus Christ.

Amen.

News from our Life Together

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

Refrain — “Spirit of the Living God”

IVERSON

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a-fresh on me; Spir - it of the

liv - ing God, fall a-fresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me,

rall. use me. *a tempo* Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a-fresh on me.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading — 1st Corinthians 12:3_b-13

Paul is helping the Corinthians understand the relationship between our God-given unity and Spirit-created diversity. The Spirit creates the unity of faith and gives all Christians diverse gifts for the common benefit of all. We need one another's diverse spiritual gifts because the same Spirit has given them to each person for the common good.

Scripture Reading — Acts 2:1-12

Pentecost was a Jewish harvest festival that marked the fiftieth day after Passover. Luke portrays the Holy Spirit being poured out upon the disciples before the gathered and astonished people assembled in Jerusalem for the festival. Filled with the Spirit, the disciples were able to witness to the power of Christ's resurrection.

The Early Word (Children's Message) & The Lord's Prayer

Many: 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 glory forever. Amen.

The *refrain* ("Spirit of the Living God" – music above) is repeated.

Sermon — "Together in the Spirit"

The Rev. Matthew Emery

RESPONSE

We begin our lives of responding to the gospel in prayer and offering

Responding with our Gifts

During the offertory music, while reflecting on the gifts we have to offer, those participating via Zoom are welcome to submit prayer petitions—joys and concerns—via the "Chat" feature in Zoom. These petitions will be collected together and transmitted to Pastor Matt for inclusion during the time for prayers of the people.

An Offering Thought

For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. — 1st Corinthians 12:13

A "new normal" emerging from the COVID-19 crisis might resemble the early Church. Imagine one unified body, all people welcome and affirmed, with the Holy Spirit activating our faith and equipping us to be better stewards of all God's gifts.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Cooper Clark and Elaine Chague, soloists

“Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me” by K. Lee Scott

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would gracious be;
Help me now thy grace to see, I would be like thee;
And, with words that help and heal, thy life would mine reveal;
And, with actions bold and meek, for Christ, my Savior, speak.

Truthful Spirit, dwell with me, I would truthful be;
Help me now thy truth to see, I would be like thee;
And, with wisdom kind and clear, thy life in mine appear;
And, with actions brotherly, speak Christ’s sincerity.

Holy Spirit dwell with me, I would holy be;
Show thy mercy tenderly, make me more like thee;
Separate us from sin, I would cherish all things good,
And whatever I can be give him who gave me thee.

Mighty Spirit, dwell with me, I would mighty be;
Help me now thy power to see, I would be like thee;
‘Gainst all weapons hell can wield, be thou my strength and shield;
Let thy word my weapon be, Lord, thine the victory.
Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would be like thee!

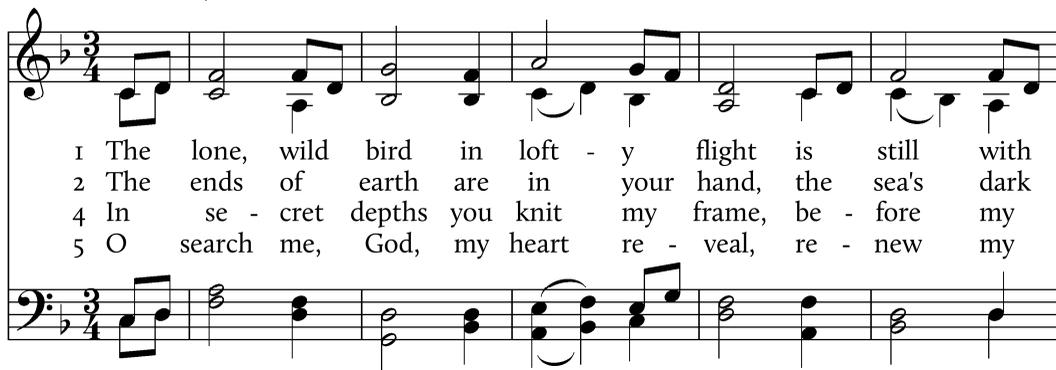
The Prayers of the People: Praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need...

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us forth in mission for the world

Hymn — “The Lone, Wild Bird”

PROSPECT



1 The lone, wild bird in loft - y flight is still with
2 The ends of earth are in your hand, the sea's dark
4 In se - cret depths you knit my frame, be - fore my
5 O search me, God, my heart re - veal, re - new my



you, nor leaves your sight. And I am yours! I
deep and far - off land. And I am yours! I
birth you spoke my name; with - in my soul, as
life, my spir - it heal; for I am yours, I



rest in you, Great Spir - it, come, rest in me too.
rest in you, Great Spir - it, come, rest in me too.
close as breath, so near to me, in life, in death.
rest in you, Great Spir - it, come, rest in me too.

Commission

One: For fifty days we have celebrated the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ over the powers of sin and death. We have proclaimed God's mighty acts and we have prayed that the power that was at work when God raised Jesus from the dead might be at work in us.

As part of God's Church here in Storrs, elsewhere throughout northeastern Connecticut, and all around the world, I call upon you to live out what you proclaim.

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, will you dare to walk into God's future, trusting God to be your guide?

***Many:* By the Spirit's power, we will.**

One: Will you dare to embrace each other and grow together in love?

***Many:* We will.**

One: Will you dare to share your riches in common and minister to each other in need?

***Many:* We will.**

One: Will you dare to pray for each other until your hearts beat with the longings of God?

***Many:* We will.**

One: Will you dare to carry the light of Christ into the world's shadows?

***Many:* We will.**

* Benediction

One: (*ending with the Dismissal:*)

... Filled with the Spirit's power,
go in the light and peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

***Many:* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude — "Fantasia on KOMM, HEILIGER GEIST" (*excerpt*), BWV 651a, by Bach *Dr. Patricia Snyder*

Following the postlude, the Zoom Meeting will remain open for those who wish to connect and chat—a bring-your-own-coffee "coffee hour"! Depending on the number of participants, we may break people into smaller groups using the "breakout room" functionality. We look forward to connecting with you!

“Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us”

EBENEZER

1 Come, O Spir - it, dwell a - mong us; come with
2 We would raise our al - le - lu - ias for the
3 Come, O Spir - it, dwell a - mong us; give us

Pen - te - cos - tal power; give the church a
grace of yes - ter - years; for to - mor - row's
words of fire and flame. Help our fee - ble

strong - er vi - sion; help us face each cru - cial hour.
un - known path - way, hear, O Lord, our hum - ble prayers.
lips to praise you, glo - ri - fy your ho - ly name.

Built up - on a firm foun - da - tion, Je - sus Christ, the
In the church - 's pil - grim jour - ney you have led us
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Three in One: what

Cor - ner - stone, still the church is called to
all the way; still in pres - ence move be -
mys - ter - y! We would sing our loud ho -

mis - sion that God's love shall be made known.
-fore us, fire by night and cloud by day.
-san - nas now and through e - ter - ni - ty.

Notes and Acknowledgements

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