

Welcome All  
to  
Sunday Worship Service



MAY 23, 2021

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | 2408 N. NAVARRO ST. | VICTORIA, TEXAS 77901

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**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**First Presbyterian Church**  
**May 23, 2021, 10:30 a.m.**  
**Day of Pentecost**

*Facemasks are optional for those who have been fully vaccinated, but you are always welcome to wear your mask and you will always be respected. Social distancing is still maintained. If you wish to sing aloud, please sit in the front half of the Sanctuary.*

**Prelude:** A Hymn of Praise

*- Jean Pasquet, 1972*

**Welcome and Announcements**

**\* Passing of the Peace**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.  
All: **And also with you!**

**Opening Sentences**

One: The Spirit of God renews the earth.  
All: **Bless the name of the Lord.**

**Call to Worship**

One: God declares: "I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh.  
All: **Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy.**  
One: The young shall see visions.  
All: **The elders shall dream dreams.**  
One: Both men and women shall prophesy.  
All: **And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."**

**Prayer of the Day** (*unison*)

**Gracious God, you come among your people as One who fashioned all things, who, face-to-face, revealed your knowledge of our lives, and whose presence brings assurance and hope. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love so that in hearing and seeing the gifts of this life, we may know the way to live in thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

*\*Please stand in body or spirit.*

## Litany for Pentecost

Holy Spirit, Creator,  
in the beginning you moved over the waters.  
From your breath all creation drew life.  
Without you, life turns to dust.

**Come, Holy Spirit!**

Holy Spirit, Counselor,  
by your inspiration, the prophets spoke and acted in faith.  
You clothed them in power to be bearers of your Word.

**Come, Holy Spirit!**

Holy Spirit, Power,  
you came as fire to Jesus' disciples;  
you gave them voice before the rulers of this world.

**Come, Holy Spirit!**

Holy Spirit, Sanctifier,  
you created us children of God;  
you make us the living temple of your presence;  
you intercede within us with sighs too deep for words.

**Come, Holy Spirit!**

Holy Spirit, Giver of life,  
you guide and make holy the church you create;  
you give gifts—

the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and fortitude,  
the spirit of knowledge and piety,  
the spirit of the fear of the Lord,  
that the whole creation may be transformed.

**Come, Holy Spirit!**

True and only Light,  
from whom comes every good gift:  
Send your Spirit into our lives  
with the power of a mighty wind.  
Open the horizons of our minds  
by the flame of your wisdom.  
Loosen our tongues to show your praise,  
for only in your Spirit can we voice your words of peace  
and acclaim Jesus as Lord. **Amen.**

\* **Opening Hymn:** “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

No. 260

\* **Invitation to Confession**

Let us call on the name of the One who invites us  
to speak the truth about ourselves and our relationships  
and promises to show us mercy.

\* **Prayer of Confession** (*unison*)

**Holy and Merciful God,  
we do not know how to pray as we ought,  
and we know too well our constant failures  
to do as you have commanded  
and to hold fast to your word.  
Forgive us for the divisions we nurture,  
guide us to your way,  
keep us in your care, and  
lead us into faith.  
We trust your word that the Spirit of truth  
will show us all things  
and grant us courage and peace. Amen.**

\* **Kyrie Eleison** (*unison*)

**Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

\* **Assurance of Pardon**

People of God, body of Christ, sisters and brothers,  
the Spirit of God's truth has come upon creation and upon you,  
to interpret the mysteries of eternal time.  
Through the power of the Holy Spirit,  
in the name of Christ Jesus, our Savior,  
and by the authority of the church,  
I declare to you the complete forgiveness of your sin.  
Be at peace with one another because of God's mercy.

Believe in God, Friends!  
Believe the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

\* **Gloria Patri** (*unison*)

**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, amen.**

**Prayer for Illumination**

Holy Spirit, come again.  
As long ago you inspired, astonished, and confused the people,  
come to us now to  
fill our ears with the sound of your breath,  
fill our eyes with the brilliance of your presence in each other,  
fill our hearts with your good Word. **Amen.**

**First Scripture Reading:** Joel 2:28-32a

P. 848 in the New Testament

Then afterward

I will pour out my spirit on all flesh;  
your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
your old men shall dream dreams,  
and your young men shall see visions.

Even on the male and female slaves,  
in those days, I will pour out my spirit.

I will show portents in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of the LORD comes.

Then everyone who calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved; . . .

**Organ Anthem:** Holy Spirit, Faithful Guide

- *Marcus M. Wells, 1815-1895*  
*arr.—Stewart Landon, 1970*

**Second Scripture Reading:** Acts 2:1-21

P. 119 in the New Testament

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?” But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

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

‘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.

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

*(continued on next page)*

**Second Scripture Reading** *(continued)*

And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.  
The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.  
Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

**Sermon:** The Red Fire of Pentecost

Rev. Jim DeMent

Acts 2:3: Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.

*Silence and stillness*

\* **Congregational Hymn:** “Breathe On Me, Breath of God”

No. 316

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory:** Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove

*.-John Bacchus Dykes, 1866*

\* **Doxology** *(unison)*

\* **Prayer of Dedication** *(unison)*

**God of mercy, we give you thanks for all that your bounty creates.  
The gifts we bring today acknowledge our debt to you  
and our intent to relieve others of their burdens.  
Bless what we offer and bless those who will be shown  
deeds of power through them;  
in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

\* **Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles’ Creed)**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;  
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer**

**Closing Hymn** *(unison):* “There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit”

No. 398

**Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude:** Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us

*- Thomas John Williams, 1890*

## A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God,  
A bulwark never failing;  
Our helper He amid the flood  
Of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe  
Doth seek to work us woe;  
His craft and power are great,  
And, armed with cruel hate,  
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide,  
Our striving would be losing;  
Were not the right Man on our side,  
The Man of God's own choosing.  
Dost ask who that may be?  
Christ Jesus, it is He,  
Lord Sabaoth His name,  
From age to age the same,  
And He must win the battle.

## Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
Fill me with life anew,  
That I may love what Thou dost love,  
And do what Thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
Until my heart is pure,  
Until with Thee I will one will,  
To do and to endure.

## There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,  
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;  
There are sweet expressions on each face,  
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

### Refrain:

Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet heavenly Dove,  
Stay right here with us, filling us with Your love;  
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise,  
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived  
When we shall leave this place.

And though this world, with devils filled,  
Should threaten to undo us,  
We will not fear, for God hath willed  
His truth to triumph through us.  
The prince of darkness grim,  
We tremble not for him;  
His rage we can endure,  
For lo! his doom is sure,  
One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers,  
No thanks to them abideth;  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours  
Through Him who with us sideth;  
Let goods and kindred go,  
This mortal life also;  
The body they may kill,  
God's truth abideth still,  
His kingdom is forever.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
Till I am wholly Thine,  
Until this earthly part of me  
Glows with Thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
So shall I never die,  
But live with Thee the perfect life  
Of Thine eternity.

There are blessings you cannot receive  
Till you know Him in His fullness and believe;  
You're the one to profit when you say,  
"I am going to walk with Jesus all the way."

## Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests

Kathryn Amsler

Gloria Aouelle

Leonard "Mac" McCameron

Kathleen McCameron

Roland Merrill

Sarah Waldrop

Nathan Galvan  
(Son of Leila Galvan)

John & Jere Swoboda  
(Prior FPC Members)

Carol Wisdom  
(Daughter of Lea Lenz)

For caregiving concerns—please contact:  
Jack Kleinecke (361. 212.3229); or Gayla Whitaker (361. 935.0950)

### FPC Opportunities for Worship & Service

#### Tuesday, May 25

12:00 PM Bible Study in Fellowship Hall

#### Sunday, May 30

10:30 AM Worship Service

*A copy of our  
"COVID-19 Pandemic  
Public Health and Safety Protocols  
for In-Person Gatherings  
at the Church  
Updated on the Day of Pentecost  
May 23, 2021"  
can be obtained as you enter the church  
or at our website:  
[www.fpcofvictoria.org](http://www.fpcofvictoria.org).*

### FPC Victoria Servant Leadership

#### Session Members

Jim DeMent, Moderator  
Jack Kleinecke, Clerk of Session  
John Horadam, Worship  
Billy Leske, Building & Grounds  
Lynn McAuley, Caregiving & Fellowship  
Dawn Neel, Christian Education  
Susan Salinas, Worship  
Jim Stokes, Treasurer, Finance  
Gayla Whitaker, Caregiving & Fellowship  
Bonnie Wilkinson, Asst. Clerk, Mission & Outreach

#### Other

Paula Leske, Presbyterian Women  
Melissa Samudio, Presbyterian Day School  
Shelley Hartman, Dawn Neel, and Helen Resendez,  
Kids for Christ, Vacation Bible School  
Henry Hauschild, Historian

### Pastor's Notes

Both Jews and Christians celebrate a holy day known as "Pentecost" (from the Greek "*pentekoste*," meaning "fiftieth"). The events recorded in Acts 2:1-21 occurred while Jews from near and far were in Jerusalem to celebrate one of the three major pilgrimage festivals specified in Exodus 34:22. For them, this was the Festival of Weeks, originally a harvest festival which eventually came to commemorate the giving of the law by God to Moses at Mount Sinai. The Jewish Pentecost begins 50 days after the festival of Passover.

Christians celebrate Pentecost, widely considered to be the birth of Christ's church through the power of the Holy Spirit, on the 50th day following Easter Sunday. Indeed, the Sunday on which we celebrate Pentecost marks the end of Eastertide, the Easter Season. In Germany, Pentecost is called "Pfungsten;" in the United Kingdom, it is known as "Whit Sunday."

### Clergy, Music, and Administration

Rev. Jim DeMent, Interim Pastor  
Robert Wyatt, Organist/Choirmaster  
Tasha Wolf, Office Administrator

### Office Hours

Monday — Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
361.575.2441  
[info@fpcofvictoria.org](mailto:info@fpcofvictoria.org)