

Welcome All
to
Sunday Worship Service



MAY 28, 2023

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

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church
May 28, 2023, 10:30 a.m.
Day of Pentecost

Prelude: The Pentecostal Flame

E.J. Lorenz, 1948

Welcome and Announcements

***Passing of the Peace**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you!**

Introit: Spirit of the Living God

Daniel Iverson, 1935

Call to Worship

One: Come to Jesus, you who are thirsty.

All: **Alleluia!**

One: Drink deeply of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Alleluia!**

One: Let your heart overflow with the living water
that renews the face of the earth.

All: **Alleluia! Thanks be to God.**

Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

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 awaken us for prophetic witness,
that we may join with them
to proclaim to the world your mighty deeds of power
in Jesus Christ. 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 speak your words of peace
and proclaim Jesus as Lord. **Amen.**

***Opening Hymn:** “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

***Invitation to Confession**

God has promised
that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.
Therefore, let us call upon the Lord, confessing our sins.

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

**God of new creation,
we confess that we have failed to trust
your bountiful goodness.
By the power of the Holy Spirit
you brought forth the earth and its
creatures in abundance.
Yet, we hoard earth's resources
and refuse to share your gifts.
We dishonor your generosity by withholding
our charity to those in need.
We betray your kindness by dealing harshly
with our enemies.
We disregard your compassion by severely judging
the sins of others.
Forgive us.
By the power of your Spirit
renew our hearts and free us from sin
that we may enjoy the fullness of your
blessing upon all creation. Amen.**

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

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

***Assurance of Pardon**

Sisters and brothers,
God offers forgiveness of our sin and
the grace of repentance.
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

Almighty God,
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
speak to us in the language of our hearts,
that we may hear your Word with understanding
and answer your call with confidence. Amen.

First Scripture Reading: John 7:37-39

P. 100 in the New Testament

On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, ‘Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water.’” Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Choir Anthem: Spirit of God

Steve Garnaas-Holmes, 1989

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.
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 Birth of Christ’s Church

Rev. Jim DeMent

Acts 2:4: All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Silence and stillness

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

No. 316

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: Come Down, O Love Divine

-.Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

***Doxology** (*unison*)

***Prayer of Thanksgiving** (*unison*)

**Almighty God,
we have opened our hands to you,
and our hands have been filled with good things.
Receive the gifts we bring in gratitude for your care for us,
and help us to bless you with dedication of our lives;
through Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit. 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: “Open My Eyes That I May See”

No. 324

Charge

Benediction

***Congregational Response** (*unison*)

-Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880/William G Tomer, 1880

**God be with you until we meet again;
By His counsels guide, uphold you,
With his sheep securely fold you;
God be with you ‘till we meet again**

**‘Till we meet, ‘till we meet
‘Till we meet at Jesus’ feet;
‘Till we meet, till we meet
God be with you ‘till we meet again.**

Postlude: Come O Spirit, Dwell Among Us

Thomas John Williams, 1890

We have reproduced below the lyrics of the hymns selected for this morning’s worship service. All the hymns below are either in the public domain or have been reproduced under license from *The Presbyterian Hymnal* (Westminster/John Knox Press, Louisville: 1990) or from Christian Copywrite Licensing International (*ccli.com*). If you are worshipping with us from home, we encourage you to sing along. Follow the verses in this order:

Verse 1
Verse 2

Verse 3
Verse 4

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

O for a thousand tongues to sing
My dear Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of God’s grace!

Christ breaks the power of reigning sin,
And sets the prisoner free;
Christ’s blood can make the sinful clean;
Christ’s blood availed for me.

Jesus, the name that charms our fears,
That bids our sorrows cease;
’Tis music in the sinner's ears,
’Tis life, and health, and peace.

My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad
The honors of Thy name.

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,
Till I am wholly Thine,
Until this earthly part of me
Glow with Thy fire divine.

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

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

Open My Eyes That I May See

Open my eyes, that I may see
Glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key
That shall unclasp and set me free.
Refrain

Open my mouth, and let me bear
Gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart, and let me prepare
Love with Thy children thus to share.
Refrain

Open my ears. that I may hear
Voices of truth thou sendest clear;
And while the wave notes fall on my ear,
Everything false will disappear.
Refrain

Refrain:
Silently now I wait for thee,
Ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, ears, heart,
Illuminate me, Spirit divine!

Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests

Gloria Aouelle

Bette Austin

Joey Farrell

Nathan Galvan
(Son of Leila Galvan)

Maria Pezeski
(Mother of Leila Galvan)

Ginny & Wilson Rogers
(Daughter of Bob & Gayla Whitaker;
Son of Bruce & Elizabeth Rogers)

Mikey Ruddock

Carol Wisdom
(Daughter of Lea Lenz)

For caregiving concerns—please contact:
Lynn McAuley (979.248.6238)

FPC Opportunities for Worship & Service

Monday, May 29

The office will be closed for Memorial Day

Sunday, June 4

9:30 AM “Prayer and Poetry”
Nellie Hudson Adult Sunday School Class

9:30 AM Kingdom Kids – Sunday School for
children ages 5-12

10:30 AM Sunday Worship Service
Congregational Meeting and Luncheon to receive
Report from Mission Study Task Force
The Lord’s Supper

**FPC Victoria Servant Leadership
Session Members**

Jim DeMent, Moderator

Class of 2023

John Horadam, Building & Grounds
Lynn McAuley, Ass’t Clerk, Caregiving & Fellowship
Bonnie Wilkinson, Clerk of Session, Membership

Class of 2024

Frances Byrne, Caregiving & Fellowship, Personnel
Patrick Patterson, Building & Grounds, Finance
Becky Richter, Christian Education, Mission & Outreach

Class of 2025

Donald Anderson, Mission & Outreach
Leila Galvan, Christian Education
Camille Miller, Worship

Other

Dawn Neel, Treasurer
Melissa Samudio, Presbyterian Day School
Jim Stokes, Assistant Treasurer

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 where 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.

As exciting as the Day of Pentecost is, however, the logical question that follows is, “What are we, to do now that Jesus’ promise has been fulfilled (“... you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses ... to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8). Clearly, we must witness the good news of Christ’s salvation! On the Day of Pentecost, the day of the birth of Christ’s church, we were given the power of its Holy Spirit. After that day, we must never lose the will to call upon that power to spread the good news of Jesus Christ to the ends of the earth.

Clergy, Music, and Administration

Rev. Jim DeMent, Interim Pastor
Robert Wyatt, Organist/Choirmaster
Erica Colding, Office Administrator

Office Hours

Monday — Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
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