

Sunday Worship- May 31, 2020



The Heart of the Matter: Pentecost

First Presbyterian Church of Mount Vernon, Iowa

*“Striving to live as Jesus lived –
confronting injustice with love, compassion, service.”*

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: God of surprising power, we gather on this day of wind and fire.

**P: Just as your movement shakes our foundations,
so too your wisdom inspires us beyond all we can imagine.**

L: Gather us, release us from our fears,
stir new hope in our hearts,
and send us into the world.

**P: May our lives be lifted by your breath
and our service set ablaze by your love.**

~Diane Zaerr Brennemen, *Words for Worship 2*, #231, Pentecost Sunday

***HYMN** #292 As the Wind Song

*As the wind song through the trees,
as the stirring of the breeze,
so it is with the Spirit of God,
as the heart made strangely warm,
as the voice within the storm,
so it is with the Spirit of God.
Never seen, ever known
where this wind has blown
bringing life, bringing power to the world,
as the dancing tongues of fire,
as the soul's most deep desire,
so it is with the Spirit of God.*

*As the rainbow after rain,
as the hope that's born again,
so it is with the Spirit of God,
as the green in the spring,
as a kite on a string,
so it is with the Spirit of God,
making worlds that are new,
making peace come true,
bringing gifts, bringing love to the world,
as the rising of the yeast,
as the wine at the feast,
so it is with the Spirit of God.*

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Come, Holy Spirit, come.

**Renew your whole creation, nature and grace,
soul and body, and all manner of matter.**

**Move in and around us and fill us
with your creative energy and extravagant light.**

**May our hearts be open,
may our hearts be stirred,
for the work of love to which you call us
and the hope of the world for which we labor.
In Jesus' name. Amen.**

Time of Silence

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

L: God is ever faithful, patiently offering us mercy, forgiveness, love in every moment of our lives. Through the Holy Spirit, God offers us companionship and wisdom, and gifts to share.

P: Thanks be to God, who makes all things new! Amen.

***RESPONSE** #286 Breathe on Me, Breath of God (verse 1)

*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.*

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

L: The Spirit of God moves among us, within us, and through us.

P: We open ourselves to the Spirit of God made known to us in Jesus Christ.

L: The peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

SCRIPTURE

L: In the beginning was the Word.

P: And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

L: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

John 20:19-23 (Common English Bible) *Jesus Appears to the Disciples*

Narrator: It was still the first day of the week. That evening, while the disciples were behind closed doors because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them. He said,

Jesus: "Peace be with you."

Narrator: After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they were filled with joy. Jesus said to them again,

Jesus: "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you." Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven; if you don't forgive them, they aren't forgiven."

L: For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us,

P: Thanks be to God.

DISCOVERY TIME The Story of the First Pentecost

REFLECTION

Refrain:
I am the church!
You are the church!
We are the church together!
All who follow Jesus, all around the world!
Yes, we're the church together!

*1: The church is not a building,
 the church is not a steeple,
 the church is not a resting place,
 the church is a people.*

Refrain

*2: We're many kinds of people,
 with many kinds of faces,
 all colors and all ages, too,
 from all times and places.*

Refrain

*3: Sometimes the church is marching,
 sometimes it's bravely burning,
 sometimes it's riding,
 sometimes hiding,
 always it's learning.*

Refrain

*4: And when the people gather,
 there's singing and there's praying,
 there's laughing and there's crying
 sometimes,
 all of it saying:*

Refrain

*5: At Pentecost some people
 received the Holy Spirit
 and told the Good News through the world
 to all who would hear it.*

Refrain

SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS AND 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.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

L: God has shown us the meaning of generosity
 in the beautiful diversity of creation,
 in the overflowing love of Jesus Christ,
 in the never-ending gift of the Holy Spirit.
 God has abundantly blessed us and called us
 to be a community that honors each other,
 to serve others with joy,
 to share our love and material possessions.
 Let us rejoice in what we have been given
 and in what is ours to give.

OFFERTORY DANCE PARTY!!!!

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

L: Let us pray our thanks together.

Blow the dust off our fears, Generous Spirit, so we might be more giving people. Blow the dust off our material gifts we think are so paltry, so we might realize how they can bring hope and life to others. Blow the dust off our mistaken views of others, so we might see them as our sisters and brothers, ready to grace us, even as we may bless them with these offerings. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

~Thom Shuman, Lectionary Liturgies.blogspot.com

CLOSING HYMN #291 Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

Refrain:

*Spirit, spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness,
calling and free,
Spirit, spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness,
wind, wind on the sea.*

*1: You moved on the waters,
you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains
from the valleys of sleep;
and over the eons
you called to each thing;
"Awake from your slumbers
and rise on your wings."*

Refrain

*2: You swept through the desert,
you stung with the sand
and you goaded your people
with a law and a land;
and when they were blinded
with idols and lies,
then you spoke through your prophets
to open their eyes.*

Refrain

*3: You sang in a stable,
you cried from a hill,
then you whispered in silence
when the whole world was still;
and down in the city
you called once again,
when you blew through your people
on the rush of the wind.*

Refrain

*4: You call from tomorrow,
you break ancient schemes.
From the bondage of sorrow
all the captives dream dreams;
our women see visions,
our men clear their eyes.
With bold new decisions your people arise.*

Refrain

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE