

Sunday Worship - May 19, 2024

Pentecost & Senior Recognition



Narrative Lectionary Year 2 Week 37

Pentecost Sunday

1 Corinthians 15:1-26, 51-58

First Presbyterian Church of Mount Vernon, Iowa

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

Welcome to Worship

*Please stand if you are able

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: “When the Feast of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.

ALL: Without warning there was a sound like a strong wind, gale force—no one could tell where it came from. It filled the whole building.

Leader: Then, like a wildfire, the Holy Spirit spread through their ranks, and they started speaking in a number of different languages as the Spirit prompted them.”

~Acts 2:1-4 (*The Message*)

*OPENING PRAYER

Leader: Your Spirit arrives and the world responds —
wind blows, flames dance, creation moves.

Move us, too, by the power of your Spirit:

out of our hiding places and into relationships,

into collaboration, into barrier-crossing conversation that reveals your love

reaching into every life, every culture, every language, every community

through the name of Jesus. Amen.

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*HYMN #292 As the Wind Song

1. *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.*
2. *As the rainbow after the 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.*

*CALL TO CONFESSION & PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

Leader: Let us pray:

You move among us, breathing life into our bodies and gifts into your Body the Church.

By your Spirit you equip us for your work in the world.

We confess that we sometimes assume others have gifts, but we don't.

ALL: Forgive us when we fail to recognize what you have given us.

Leader: We confess that we compare gifts and find some lacking — looking down on those who don't have gifts we have or admire, looking with envy on the gifts other churches seem to have.

ALL: Forgive us when we fail to recognize the value of what you have given.

Leader: We confess that we hold our gifts back, waiting to be asked before we volunteer...
and we confess that we don't always ask for or welcome the gifts of others.

**ALL: Forgive us when we fail to allow your Spirit to work fully among us,
and so impoverish your Body and leave your kingdom work incomplete.**

Renew us in your one Spirit today, and empower us to faithful living that reveals your glory.

~©Teri Peterson for BibleWorm

Time of silent prayer

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: The Holy Spirit comes to us, offering us life, healing, power and peace.

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

*RESPONSE HYMN #288 Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: May the gifts of God's Spirit be kindled within you.

ALL: And also within you.

DISCOVERY TIME Noisy Offering for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

SCRIPTURE READING

Leader: In the beginning was the Word.

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

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

1 Corinthians 12:1-13 (The Message) – Spiritual Gifts

Reader 1: ¹⁻³ What I want to talk about now is the various ways God's Spirit gets worked into our lives. This is complex and often misunderstood, but I want you to be informed and knowledgeable. Remember how you were when you didn't know God, led from one phony god to another, never knowing what you were doing, just doing it because everybody else did it? It's different in this life. God wants us to use our intelligence, to seek to understand as well as we can. For instance, by using your heads, you know perfectly well that the Spirit of God would never prompt anyone to say "Jesus be damned!" Nor would anyone be inclined to say "Jesus is Master!" without the insight of the Holy Spirit.

Reader 2: ⁴⁻¹¹ God's various gifts are handed out everywhere; but they all originate in God's Spirit. God's various ministries are carried out everywhere; but they all originate in God's Spirit. God's various expressions of power are in action everywhere; but [God's own self] is behind it all. Each person is given something to do that shows who God is: Everyone gets in on it, everyone benefits.

All kinds of things are handed out by the Spirit, and to all kinds of people! The variety is wonderful:

wise counsel
clear understanding
simple trust
healing the sick
miraculous acts
proclamation
distinguishing between spirits
tongues
interpretation of tongues.

All these gifts have a common origin, but are handed out one by one by the one Spirit of God. [God] decides who gets what, and when.

Reader 1: ¹²⁻¹³ You can easily enough see how this kind of thing works by looking no further than your own body. Your body has many parts—limbs, organs, cells—but no matter how many parts you can name, you're still one body. It's exactly the same with Christ. By means of [the] one Spirit, we all said good-bye to our partial and piecemeal lives. We each used to independently call our own shots, but then we entered into a large and integrated life in which he has the final say in everything. (This is what we proclaimed in word and action when we were baptized.) Each of us is now a part of his resurrection body, refreshed and sustained at one fountain—his Spirit—where we all come to drink. The old labels we once used to identify ourselves—labels like Jew or Greek, slave or free—are no longer useful. We need something larger, more comprehensive.

Leader: For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us,
ALL: Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION

Rev. Lori Wunder

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. When they were confounded 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 the captives dream dreams. Our women see visions; our men clear their eyes. With bold new decisions your people arise.
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

Leader: As recipients of abundant life in Christ, we offer our gifts to God.

GATHERING OF THE GIFTS

OFFERTORY

~ Offerings may be placed in the basket located at the back of church or given online at www.firstpresmv.com

*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING #70 What Does the Lord Require of You?

What does the Lord require of you? What does the Lord require of you?

Justice, kindness, walk humbly with your God.

To seek justice and love kindness and walk humbly with your God.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ALL: Lord, receive from us what we have to give.

**Not just in terms of the monetary offering we make today or at other times,
but also the skills and talents that each of us possess.**

Take all of this now, and mix it up together with the cohesive powers of your Spirit.

Use what we bring and offer for the good of your world, each and every day.

We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

SENIOR RECOGNITION

Uwen Boettcher, Andrew Heck, Jayce Pendergrass

*BLESSING THE SENIORS

**ALL: It has been our privilege to watch you grow,
gaining skills and understanding.**

We see you now ready to face new challenges.

**As you enter young adulthood,
our love goes with you.**

May God bless you on your journeys.

Wherever you go, remember that you always have a home here.

Remember also that you are precious. You are beloved upon this earth.

Amen and be blessed.

*HYMN #549 May the Love of the Lord

May the love of the Lord rest upon your soul.

May God's love dwell in you, throughout every day.

May God's countenance shine upon you and be gracious to you.

May God's Spirit be upon you as you leave this place.

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Thank you to the following people for helping with our service this morning:

Pat Hogan, Accompanist

Gerald Gerber and Scott Larson, AV

Jennifer Lengwin, Liturgist

Penny Gerber, Fellowship Host

First Pres Mount Vernon Staff:

Lori Wunder, Pastor

Kristi Karwal-Clark, Interim Director of Christian Education

Position Vacant, Music Director

Donna Warhover, Office Manager

Jonathan Walsh, Treasurer

Trent Bowman, Custodian