

Pentecost Sunday, May 31, 2020

Greeting: God is good **all the time**. All the time **God is good**.

Question of the Day:

How many people do you know whose native language is not English?

Hymn “The Same Power”

Call to Worship

The peace of God be with you today.

Receive with joy the gift of the Holy Spirit.

We feel the winds of God blowing among us.

We sense the tongues of fire empowering us.

How amazing is the power God gives us.

How manifold are the works of our Creator.

The breath of God fills us with confidence.

The Spirit creates new life within and among us.

God calls us to be dreamers and prophets.

God gives us a vision for a world of peace.

May the glory of God endure forever.

We will sing praise to God as long as we live.

Prayer of Invocation

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.

Acts 2:1-21 *The Message*

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

There were many Jews staying in Jerusalem just then, devout pilgrims from all over the world. When they heard the sound, they came on the run. Then when they heard, one after another, their own mother tongues being spoken, they were thunderstruck. They couldn't for the life of them figure out what was going on, and kept saying, “Aren't these all Galileans? How come we're hearing them talk in our various mother tongues? Parthians, Medes, and Elamites; visitors from Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the part of Libya belonging to Cyrene; immigrants from Rome, both Jews and proselytes; even Cretans and Arabs! They're speaking our languages, describing God's mighty works!”

Their heads were spinning; they couldn't make head or tail of any of it. They talked back and forth, confused: “What's going on here?”

Others joked, “They're drunk on cheap wine.”

That's when Peter stood up and, backed by the other eleven, spoke out with bold urgency: “Fellow Jews, all of you who are visiting Jerusalem, listen carefully and get this story straight. These people aren't drunk as some of you suspect. They haven't had time to get drunk – it's only nine o'clock in the morning. This is what the prophet Joel announced would happen:

“In the Last Days,” God says, “I will pour out my Spirit on every kind of people: your sons will prophesy, also your daughters; your young men will see visions,

your old men dream dreams. When the time comes, I'll pour out my Spirit on those who serve me, men and women both, and they'll prophesy. I'll set wonders in the sky above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billowing smoke, the sun turning black and the moon blood-red, before the Day of the Lord arrives, the Day tremendous and marvelous; and whoever calls out for help to me, God, will be saved."

Response: *The Word of God, for the people of God! Thanks be to God!*

Time of Prayer

How Is It With Your Soul?

Unison Prayer

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.

(Time of silent prayer.)

Sisters and brothers, accept God's grace and abundant life as we pray with Jesus the Christ:

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Answer to the Question of the Day:

How many people do you know whose native language is not English?

Time of Offering *Thank you to everyone for your faithful generosity.*

Offering Prayer

Thank you, God, for filling our lives with good things. The abundance of your gifts to us is beyond our counting. Bless all that offer to you for the work of ministry among us and beyond us. Let your Spirit enliven our caring and add effectiveness to all our doing. Make us one in Christ Jesus our Savior, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Message "Pentecost Days" Rev. Joyce Rich

Commission and Blessing

May the empowerment of Pentecost continue with us.

May the Spirit lead and guide us every day.

May God help us to use our many gifts for the common good.

We are one body with many members.

When we work together, much good is accomplished.

We commit ourselves as people of vision and action.

The peace of God equips us to serve.

Amen. **And Amen.**

Hymn "The River Is Here"

Announcements; Reading For Next Week: Genesis 1:1—2:4a