



TO BE HIS LIGHT THAT TRANSFORMS LIVES

Pentecost Sunday
May 23, 2021

Thought for the Day before Worship

We find ourselves in constant need of renewal and reformation.

The Holy Spirit is God's constant offering of new possibilities.

By the power of the Spirit, we can be aroused from conditions of fatigue, lostness, and sin and awakened to the possibilities of new life.

Welcome

Prelude *“God Moves in a Mysterious Way” (Gordon Young)*

Introit

Tower Bell

***Call to Worship**

L: The Spirit comes on the rush of a mighty wind,

M: **bringing a breathless anticipation of new dreams and amazing visions.**

L: The Spirit spreads like fire,

M: **bringing energy for witnessing to the love of God.**

L: The Spirit descends like a dove,

M: **bringing peace to unite the world as a just and caring community.**

L: the Spirit comes like a breath,

M: **whispering, healing and proclaiming promises of new life.**

L: The Spirit comes! In countless forms, across all times and places, to all of God's people.

M: **Come to us, Spirit of the living God. Come to us and transform our lives by your power.**

***Prayer of Adoration and Confession**

God of wind and fire, we confess that sometimes we fear your Spirit. In those moments when the Spirit gushes, pushes, and challenges us toward the unknown, we would often rather cling to comfort, to what is familiar.

Forgive our hesitations, God, and renew the ability in us to entrust our lives to you.

Move us again beyond the boundaries of language and nationality, into your endless compassion and extravagant love. In this world, so in need of forgiveness, peace, and healing, may we be among those who overcome fear, offer messages of hope, and practice your infinite graciousness. We pray in the name of your son, Jesus. Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon**

P: People of God, let the winds of forgiveness blow through your soul. Know deep in your bones that God loves you beyond all measure. Believe with one heart that the Spirit of God will never desert you. Rise up, forgiven, into newness of life this day. Dearly Beloved, believe the Good News!

M: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, now and forever. Amen.

***Gloria Patri**

(Creatorex)

**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.**

Scripture Lesson

From the Major Prophets: Ezekiel 37:1-14

37 The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³ He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵ Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath^[a] to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath^[b] in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

⁷ So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸ I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath:^[c] Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath,^[d] and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹ Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' ¹² Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

Anthem

“Celebrate the Joy” (Joseph M. Martin)

Celebrate the joy of the Lord with glad singing
Magnify the Lord on high
Celebrate the joy of the Lord with glad music.
Lift up your voice to the sky. Lift praises on high.
Let ev’ry alleluia be raised. Give to the Lord the honor and praise.
Shout to the world His glorious name,
for great are the works of the Lord, our God.
Gloria, Gloria, Deo. Alleluia
Praise God from Whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heav’nly hosts.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Let ev’ry alleluia you sing glorify God and honor the King.
This is the day for praises to ring,
for great are the works of the Lord, our God.

Scripture Lesson

From the Letters of Paul: Romans 8:22-27

²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in^[a] hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes^[b] for what is seen? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes^[c] with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷ And God,^[d] who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit^[e] intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.^[f]

Pastoral Prayer

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 and ever. Amen.

Offertory Invitation

God has fed us, and we have not noticed. God fills our lives with good things, and we take the credit. God's gifts are so numerous we cannot count them. Now is the time to declare by our giving that we are grateful. Now is the time to claim the mission God entrusts to us as we express our thanks.

Offertory

"Bread of Life"

(Raney)

At this table, Lord, we lay our burdens down;
at your feet we humbly kneel to pray.
At the foot of the cross, we contemplate the cost
as we share this feast today.

Lord, break your bread of life for me;
feed my hunger, set my spirit free;
pour out your grace on me.

Lord, fill my cup from the fountain of your love,
Open my eyes that I might see;
Break your bread of life, Lord, for me.

Lord, we renew our strength;
from this cup we drink of boundless grace.
Teach us, Lord, how to share the bounty
of your care when we leave this holy place.

We worship you, Lord of might and majesty.
We pray for your guidance from above.
We remember the sacrifice on Calvary,
We thank you for your never ending love.

Scripture Lesson From the History of the New Testament: Acts 2:1-21

2 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. **2** 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. **3** Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. **4** All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

5 Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. **6** And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. **7** Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" **8** And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? **9** Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, **10** Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, **11** Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." **12** All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" **13** But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

14 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. **15** Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. **16** No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

17 '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.

18 Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;

and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹ And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

²⁰ The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

²¹ Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Sermon

“All of Them” Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

Celebrating God's Word in Sacrament

Communion is Open to ALL: saint and sinner, lost and found, believer and seeker.

We partake of the bread together to symbolize our unity & community as God's people.

We shall partake of the cup individually to symbolize our solitariness

as we each stand alone before our God

***Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord: who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, 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 on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the one holy universal Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Invitation

Eucharistic Prayer

P: The Lord be with you.

M: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

M: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

M: **It is meet and right so to do.**

P: It is meet right and our bounden duty that we should at all times and in all places, to give thanks to you Almighty God.

Consecration of the Elements

Partaking of the Lord's Supper

As is our tradition, the Elements of Communion are held and partake at the direction of the Pastor.

Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison)

O God, we thank you for uniting us by baptism in the body of Christ and by this meal filling us with joy and hope. Grant that in the days ahead:

- Our lips which have sung your praises may speak the truth;**
- our eyes which have seen your love may look with compassion on the needs of the world;**

Let Every Christian Pray

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1 Let ev - ery Chris - tian pray, this day and ev - ery
 2 The Spir - it brought to birth the church of Christ on
 3 On - ly the Spir - it's power can fit us for this

day, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come! Was
 earth to seek and save the lost: God
 hour: Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come! In -

not the church we love com - mis - sioned from a -
 nev - er has with - drawn, since that tre - men - dous
 struct, in - spire, u - nite, and help us see your

bove? Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come!
 dawn, the gifts at Pen - te - cost.
 light: Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come!

WORDS: Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)
 MUSIC: Joseph Barnby (1838-1896)

LAUDES DOMINI
 6.6.6.D.