



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Day of Pentecost
31 May 2020 + 10:00 a.m.

Ringing of the Bell

Opening Voluntary

Largo

Francesco Veraccini

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

Call to Worship

A mighty wind has blown,
and tongues of fire have danced!
The presence of the Spirit is with us,
just as Jesus the Christ promised.
The Spirit moves and gathers us into community.
Let us worship with reverence and joy.

Hymn 280

Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us

Ebenezer

Come, O Spirit, dwell among us; come with Pentecostal power;
give the church a stronger vision; help us face each crucial hour.
Built upon a firm foundation, Jesus Christ, the Cornerstone,
still the church is called to mission that God's love shall be made known.

We would raise our alleluias for the grace of yesteryears;
for tomorrow's unknown pathway, hear, O Lord, our humble prayers.
In the church's pilgrim journey you have led us all the way;
still in presence move before us, fire by night and cloud by day.

Come, O Spirit, dwell among us; give us words of fire and flame.
Help our feeble lips to praise you, glorify your holy name.
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One: what mystery!
We would sing our loud hosannas now and through eternity.

Invitation to Confession

Rev. Trajan I. McGill

Prayer of Confession

Holy and loving God, we confess that we have failed to open our hearts to the power of your Spirit. Too often we continue the divisions of Babel, speaking in tongues that confound rather than clarify, hurt rather than heal, divide rather than unite. Forgive us, and breathe into our lives your healing and liberating grace. Enable us to lift our voices and to grow into a deeper understanding of your nature. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

Declaration of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.
and those with whom we worship.
Thanks be to God. Amen

Children's Sermon

Rev. Christian K Choi

Scripture Reading Acts 2:1-8, 12-18

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. (pause)

Members of the congregation speak vs. 17-18 in the languages of Spanish (Beth Allen), German (Bob Blythe), Korean (Sophia Choi), Mandarin (Haofang Chuang), and French (Peter Kieffer).

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? 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. Amen

Music Allegro Arcangelo Corelli

Sermon Lift Every Voice Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Text: "All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability." Acts 2:4

Hymn 285 Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song *Bridegroom*

Like the murmur of the dove's song, like the challenge of her flight,
like the vigor of the wind's rush, like the new flame's eager might:
Come, Holy Spirit, come.

To the members of Christ's body, to the branches of the Vine,
to the church in faith as assembled, to our midst as gift and sign:
Come, Holy Spirit, come.

With the healing of division, with the ceaseless voice of prayer,
with the power to love and witness, with the peace beyond compare:
Come, Holy Spirit, come.

The Church at Prayer

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.

Introduction to Offering

Prayer of Dedication Holy and loving God, our hearts overflow with gratitude as we raise our voices in joyous harmony. Let us use the breath you have given us to speak your truth and sing your glory. We dedicate the gifts of our lives and labor to build the Church you gave birth to on that first Pentecost. We pray in the name of the One who invites us to come and follow. Amen.

Hymn 291 Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness *Spirit*
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.
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.”
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.
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.
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

Charge and Benediction

Voluntary Come, Creator Spirit Maurice Duruflé

Worship Participants

Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer, Pastor and Head of Staff
Rev. Trajan I. McGill, Associate Pastor for Parish Life
Rev. Christian K. Choi, Associate Pastor for Family Ministry
Dale T. Rogers, Organist and Director of Music and the Arts
Kamen Petkov, Violinist Lyle VanDeventer, Bass
Bob Fox, Videographer Bob’s wife Elsie, Director and Producer

Pentecost Readers:

Beth Allen (Spanish), Bob Blythe (German), Sophia Choi (Korean),
Haofang Chuang (Mandarin), Peter Kieffer (French)