



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

May 28, 2023 – 11:00 am

Pentecost



"Fireworks!," Jon B., 2019

I'm convinced that nothing can separate us from God's love in Christ Jesus our Lord: not death or life, not angels or rulers, not present things or future things, not powers or height or depth, or any other thing that is created.

Romans 8:38-39 (CEB)

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Welcome to our service of worship. Although we are worshipping in a variety of locations, we still affirm that God is present in our worship, whether in-person or virtually. Our prayer is that all who worship with us this day will truly feel the presence of God in this time. Know that you are loved and we are so glad you are here! Parts of today's liturgy are from Ruth Burgess and Chris Polhill, *Fire and Bread: Resources for Easter Day to Trinity Sunday* (Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, 2006); and Ruth Burgess, *Summer: Liturgical Resources for May, June and July* including Eastertide and Pentecost (Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, 2020).*

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *When I Survey the Wonderous Cross* - Bell Choir

HAMBURG/ARR BY JANET VAN VALEY & SUSAN BERRY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***OPENING HYMN #315:** *Every Time I Feel the Spirit*

ADAPTER: MELVA W. COSTEN

Refrain:

Every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray.
Yes, every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray.

Upon the mountain, when my Lord spoke,
Out of God's mouth came fire and smoke.
Looked all around me, it looked so fine,
Till I asked my Lord if all was mine. **(Refrain)**

Jordan river, chilly and cold,
It chills the body but not the soul.
There is but one train upon this track;
It runs to heaven and then right back. **(Refrain)**

***OPENING SENTENCES**

"OPENING AND CLOSING RESPONSES FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY," RUTH BURGESS

God speaks to us
in the riches of creation

God speaks to us
in the stories of Jesus

God speaks to us
in the lives of other people

God speaks to us
in words and ways that we can understand

Let us worship our God.

LITANY OF PENTECOST

"THE BEAUTIFUL NOISE OF GOD," LOUISE GOUGH

Refrain:

Ho-ly Spir-it, come to us. (3x)

Suddenly
the shocked silence
of crucifixion,
resurrection,
shattered.

Into that
waiting
prayerful
hopeful space
the symphony
of the Spirit
boomed.

Refrain (3x)

Formerly fearful disciples
gifted with the power of speech
transcending the boundaries of language:
God is for all!

Those drawn
by the sounds
of the Spirit
heard
and understood.

Refrain (3x)

Raised voices
reverberating hearts
lives transformed...

The beautiful noise
of God.

Refrain (4x)

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of power and grace,
fill us with the wisdom of your word
and the understanding of your Spirit
so that we may be your church:
a people with dreams and visions
at work in all the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

ACTS 2:1-4

PEW BIBLE, 1324

ROMANS 8:14-39

PEW BIBLE, 1377-1378

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

AN OFFERING OF OUR PLEDGES

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY #428:** *We Give Thee But Thine Own*

WILLIAM WALSHAM HOW

We give Thee but Thine own,
Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

*BLESSING OUR GIFTS

***HYMN OF THE DAY #316** *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

EDWIN HATCH

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.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Until my heart is pure,
Until with Thee I will one will,
To do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Till I am wholly Thine,
Until this earthly part of me
Glows with Thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
So shall I never die,
But live with Thee the perfect life
Of Thine eternity.

Come, Holy Spirit

into the areas of our lives
where there is darkness
when there should be light;
where there is anger
and we find it difficult
to forgive those who,
maybe unintentionally,
have hurt us.

Come, Holy Spirit

into the areas of our lives
where there are problems
and we need your wisdom
about how to solve them;
where we are uncertain
and we need your guidance
about the way we should proceed.

silent prayer

Come, Holy Spirit

into the areas of our lives
where there is sadness
and we need your comfort;
where there is pain and hurt
and we need your healing;
where we are afraid
and we need your courage
to empower us.

Come, Holy Spirit

into the areas of our lives
where we are reluctant
to grant you entry
in case you want to make
too many changes;
where we know we are weak
and we need your power
to make us strong.

Come, Holy Spirit

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

I proclaim to you in the name of our God that:

You are enough.
You are forgiven.
You are loved.

Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE: *Spirit of the Living God*

DANIEL IVERSON

Spirit of the Living God,
Fall afresh on me,
Spirit of the Living God,
Fall afresh on me.
Break me, melt me, mold me, fill me.
Spirit of the Living God,
Fall afresh on me.
responding to god's word

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *Master, Speak! Thy Servant Heareth*

Bell Choir

ANTON P. BERGGREEN/ ARR BY JANET VAN VALEY & SUSAN BERRY

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon

ELDER CHIP ALLEN

PENTECOST PRAYER

"BIG SPIRIT," RODDY HAMILTON, "SPILL THE BEANS"

...Your Kingdom come.
your will be done...

...Give to us, O God,
*a vision of your Kingdom,
a glimpse of your glory,
an openness to your rule,
and your Spirit to guide us.
Hear us, we pray, through Christ,
the risen and ascended one*
who taught us to pray together in the language
most familiar to us, saying:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*...Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.*

***CLOSING HYMN #326:** *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*

GEORGE CROLY

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
Wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as Thou art,
And make me love Thee as I ought to love.

Hast Thou not bid us love Thee, God and King;
All, all Thine own: soul, heart, and strength and mind?
I see Thy cross; there teach my heart to cling.
O let me seek Thee, and O let me find!

Teach me to feel that Thou art always nigh;
Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,
To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh;
Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

Teach me to love Thee as Thine angels love,
One holy passion filling all my frame;
The baptism of the heaven-descended Dove,
My heart an altar, and Thy love the flame.

***SENDING**

"OPENING AND CLOSING RESPONSES FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY," RUTH BURGESS

God of fire and beauty
warm us

God of peace and justice
disturb us

God of wind and wonder
amaze us

God of Pentecost
kindle your love in our lives

CHORAL BLESSING: *Shalom to You*

ELISE S. ESLINGER

POSTLUDE: *Mighty Maker of All*

RACHEL SAWYER

** Please stand in body or spirit.*

This Week's Calendar:

Sunday, May 28th – Pentecost Sunday

11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream)

Wednesday, May 31st

6:30 – Choir Practice

Sunday, June 4th – Trinity Sunday & Communion

11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream)

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Session

Moderator: Rev. Jon Phillips

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