

Peace UCC
May 23, 2021

Prelude "Tongues of Fire" Alfred V. Fedak
(Pentecost Dance)
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Welcome

Opening Words adapted worship ways

One: Here we gather for song and scripture, seeking comfort and hope, seeking to be inspired as well as challenged.

Many: Living and Speaking out loud

Leader: Here we gather to retell the ancient tales and wonder how God's story continues to unfold. To day we tell the story of Pentecost, the story of the Holy Spirit rushing in like a wild wind and dancing like flames upon each of the disciples,

Many: Living and Speaking out loud

One: And we ask ourselves where we see the Holy Spirit present our world today. Today we tell a story of the Holy Spirit igniting hope again. We will hear Peter claim his identity, tell his story, and inspire others to see the Holy at work in the world.

Many: Living and Speaking out loud

One: Friends, welcome. Welcome to this place with all questions, doubts, wonders. Find here an invitation to experience something ancient and something new. May we be open to the Spirit. May we be open to learning and learning from one another. May we grow in faith, hope, and love. **Amen.**

Opening Response "Spirit of Life" Carolyn McDade

Prayer of Invocation adapted from Acts 2:1-21

God, today you come to us like the rush of a violent wind and fill this house – your house. May we, like your disciples be filled with the Holy Spirit. May we be prophets. May we see visions. May we, even us, receive your Holy Spirit and spread the Good News far and wide that you are unfailing and steadfast in your love to all people. Amen.

The Witness of Music Chancel Choir
"On the Day of Pentecost" Douglas Nolan
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Scripture: Acts 2:1-8, 11b-21

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they all met in one room. Suddenly they heard what sounded like a violent, rushing wind from heaven; the noise filled the entire house in which they were sitting. Something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each one. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as she enabled them.

Now there were devout people living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled. But they were bewildered to hear their native languages being spoken. They were amazed and astonished: "Surely all of these people speaking are Galileans! How does it happen that each of us hears these words in our native tongue? ... We hear them preaching, each in our own language, about the marvels of God!"

All were amazed and disturbed. They asked each other, "What does this mean?" But others said mockingly "They've drunk too much new wine.

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd: People of Judea, and all you who live in Je-

rusalem! Listen to what I have to say! These people are not drunk as you think – it's only nine o'clock in the morning! No, it's what Joel the prophet spoke of:

'In the days to come it is our God who speaks – I will pour out my Spirit on all humankind. Your children will prophesy, your young people will see visions, and your elders will dream dreams. Even on the most insignificant of my people, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. And I will display wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below: blood, fire and billowing smoke. The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon will become blood before the coming of the great and sublime day of our god. And all who call upon the name of our God will be saved.'

For the wisdom contained in these holy words we give thanks. Amen.

Sermon Rev, Wendy Bruner

Hymn "Send Down the Fire" Marty Haugen

Joys and Concerns

Prayer

Creator, who art in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kin-dom come, your 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 yours is the kin-dom, and the power,
and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

How Shall We Join God's Work in the World

Gracious God, we give thanks.
We ask your blessings on these gifts of time,
talent, and treasure as we use them to join
Your work in the world. Amen

Benediction

Postlude "Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers" Alfred V. Fedak
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