



Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

May 28, 2023

Pentecost

As the Prelude begins, you are invited to enter a time of prayer and meditation as we prepare to worship God together.

The Prelude

How Great Thou Art

arr. Kartsonakis

The Introit

A mighty sound from heaven at Pentecost there came,
and filled the place of meeting with rushing wind and flame:
what Christ had promised now occurred
as each Apostle spoke the word
beneath the Spirit's thunder.
and to the ears of all who heard
proclaimed salvation's wonder.

The Call to Worship

Leader: Sometimes our hearts are shut up like the doors that imprisoned the disciples.

**People: Come, Holy Spirit, with your mighty wind of justice,
blow open these doors and release us!**

Leader: Darkness floods our souls and we wonder if we will ever see the light again.

**People: Come, Holy Spirit, let the flames of fire touch our hearts
and our spirits and burn away our fears and frustrations.**

Leader: We sit, huddled in our own worlds of alienation.

When will we ever feel the power of your love again, O God?

**People: Come, Holy Spirit, fill our lives with your love and free us to reach out to others
with the good news of your eternal presence. Amen.**

The Processional Hymn No. 550

Christ, from Whom All Blessing Flow

CANTERBURY

1. Christ, from whom all blessings flow, perfecting the saints below,
hear us, who thy nature share, who thy mystic body are.
2. Join us, in one spirit join, let us still receive of thine;
still for more on thee we call, thou who fillest all in all.
3. Move and actuate and guide, diverse gifts to each divide;
placed according to thy will, let us all our work fulfill;
4. Never from thy service move, needful to each other prove;
use the grace on each bestowed, tempered by the art of God.
5. Many are we now, and one, we who Jesus have put on;
there is neither bond nor free, male nor female, Lord, in thee.
6. Love, like death, hath all destroyed, rendered all distinctions void;
names and sects and parties fall; thou, O Christ, art all in all!

The Opening Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: Spirit of wind and fire, come to us this day, freeing us from our fears.
Lift us up when we have fallen.**

Dust us off and set us squarely on the path to hope you have set before us.

Remind us that we are never far from your presence.
Get us ready for the great adventure and opportunities that lie before us.
Help us to be good and willing workers for you.
In Christ's Name, we pray. Amen.

The Announcements

The Prayer of Illumination

The Psalter pages 826

Psalm 104:24-34,35b

Joachim Neander
trans. by Catherine Winkworth, alt.
Erneuerten Gesangbuch
harm. by William Sterndale Bennett

Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, who
rules all cre - a - tion.

Response

- 1 Bless the Lord, O my soul!
O Lord my God, you are very great!
You are clothed with honor and majesty,
- 2 and cover yourself with light as with a garment;
you have stretched out the heavens like a tent,
- 3 **and have laid the beams of your chambers on the waters;**
you make the clouds your chariot,
and ride on the wings of the wind;
- 4 **you make the winds your messengers,**
fire and flame your ministers.
- 5 You set the earth on its foundations,
so that it should never be shaken.
- 6 **You covered it with the deep as with a garment;**
the waters stood above the mountains.
- 7 At your rebuke they fled;
at the sound of your thunder they took to flight.
- 8 They rose up to the mountains, ran down to the valleys,
to the place which you appointed for them.
- 9 **You set a bound which they should not pass,**
so that they might not again cover the earth.

Response

- 10 You make springs gush forth in the valleys;
they flow between the hills;
- 11 **they give drink to every beast of the field;**
the wild asses quench their thirst.
- 12 Above the springs the birds of the air have their nests;
they sing among the branches.
- 13 **From your lofty places you water the mountains,**
with the fruit of your work the earth is satisfied.

Response

- 24 O Lord, how manifold are your works!
**In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.**
- 25 Yonder is the sea, great and wide,
**creeping things innumerable are there,
living things both small and great.**
- 26 There go the ships,
and Leviathan whom you formed to play in it.
- 27 **These all look to you,
to give them their food in due season.**
- 28 When you give to them, they gather it;
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.
- 29 When you hide your face, they are dismayed;
**when you take away their breath, they die
and return to their dust.**
- 30 When you send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the ground.
- 31 May the glory of the Lord endure for ever,
may the Lord rejoice in his works,
- 32 **who looks on the earth and it trembles,
who touches the mountains and they smoke!**
- 33 I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God while I have being.
- 34 May my meditation be pleasing to the Lord
in whom I rejoice.
- 35 **Let sinners be consumed from the earth,
and let the wicked be no more!**
Bless the Lord, O my soul!
Praise the Lord!

The Hymn No. 2117

Spirit of God

DOVE SONG

1. Spirit of God, bright Wind, breath that bids life begin,
blow as you always do; create us anew.
Give us the breath to sing, lifted on soaring wing,
held in your hands, borne on your wings. Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come.
2. Spirit of God, bright Dove, grant us your peace and love,
healing upon your wings for all living things.
For when we live your peace captives will find release,
held in your hands, borne on your wings. Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come.
3. Spirit of God, bright Hands, even in far-off lands
you hold all the human race in one warm embrace.
No matter where we go you hold us together so,
held in your hands, borne on your wings. Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come.
4. Spirit of God, bright Flame, send us in your holy name,
with power to heal, to share your love everywhere.
We cannot fail or fall or know defeat at all,
held in your hands, borne on your wings. Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come.
5. Spirit of God in all, we gladly hear your call,
the life in our hands that sings, the power of your wings.
Born of your grace we rise, love shining in our eyes,
held in your hands, borne on your wings. Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come.

Music and text © 1987 Steve Garnaas-Holmes. All rights reserved.

The Scripture Lesson

Acts 2:1-21

The Sermon

Pentecost's Overlooked Miracle

Dr. Matt Bates

The Affirmation of Faith No. 885

A Modern Affirmation

Leader: Where the Spirit of the Lord is,
there is the one true church, apostolic and universal,
whose holy faith let us now declare:

People: We believe in God the Father,
infinite in wisdom, power, and love,
whose mercy is over all his works,
and whose will is ever directed to his children's good.
We believe in Jesus Christ,
Son of God and Son of man,
the gift of the Father's unfailing grace,
the ground of our hope,
and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.
We believe in the Holy Spirit
as the divine presence in our lives,
whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance
of the truth of Christ,
and find strength and help in time of need.
We believe that this faith should manifest itself
in the service of love
as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord,
to the end
that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. Amen.

The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory Anthem

Come Down, O Love Divine

William H. Harris

The Doxology No. 94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

The Hymn No. 393

Spirit of the Living God

LIVING GOD

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living god, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

The Prayers of the People

The Silent Prayer
The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer No. 895

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 that 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.

1. Forward through the ages, in unbroken line,
move the faithful spirits at the call divine;
gifts in differing measure, hearts of one accord,
manifold the service, one the sure reward.

Refrain:

Forward through the ages, in unbroken line,
move the faithful spirits at the call divine.

2. Wider grows the kingdom, reign of love and light;
for it we must labor, till our faith is sight.
Prophets have proclaimed it, martyrs testified,
poets sung its glory, heroes for it died. **Refrain**
3. Not alone we conquer, not alone we fall;
in each loss or triumph lose or triumph all.
Bound by God's far purpose in one living whole,
move we on together to the shining goal. **Refrain**

The Benediction

The Choral Response

Now let all Christian people keep festival today,
for God the Holy Spirit dwells with the Church alway:
and grieve him not, O Christian soul,
his grace within shall make you whole
in body, mind, and spirit,
until you reach the promised goal,
a kingdom to inherit.

The Postlude

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

Doris Akers

© 1962 Manna Music Inc. Used with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-731785. All rights reserved.

Today our organist is Mark Fleisher.

The altar flowers this morning are in memory of Leta Nobles Anderson by Charlene Seitz.

***Reminder! Help us know that you worshiped with us this morning
by signing the online attendance pad [here](#).***

***Thank you to all the volunteers who helped us throughout the week to make all the worship services
this week possible.***

Acts 2:1-21

The Coming of the Holy Spirit

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 people 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.”

Peter Addresses the Crowd

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Fellow Jews^[a] 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.’

Announcements

OH, IF THESE WALLS COULD TALK - Tuesday, June 6 at 10:30am Have you ever wanted to know more of the story concerning our historic Centenary UMC? Who were those early Richmond Methodists? Why does our church have that Gothic feel? Tell me about those beautiful stained-glass windows? Tell me more, more, more (but not too much). Famous raconteur and tour guide, Bob Almond will be presenting *The Centenary Story* on June 6. Meet in our sanctuary at 10:30 am. Bob will enlighten you with what our walls have heard over the last 200 years. Invite a friend to listen and learn and try a downtown restaurant.

GOLF TOURNAMENT – Thursday, June 8 at 9:00am at Hollows Golf Club. Centenary is hosting a golf tournament to raise funds to help send kids to camp this summer! We are looking for sponsors, golfers, and volunteers. For more information see the Events page of the church’s website. centumc.org/events. Use the QR code to sign up!



THE CORNELIUS CORPS (directed by the Rev. Jim Melson) and the Race and Reconciliation Project of Belmont UMC are sponsoring an online workshop titled: "**The Legacy of Birmingham 1963 for 2023**" - **Thursday, June 8 from 7:00-8:30pm on Zoom**. This year marks the 60th anniversary of several major events in the Civil Rights Movement including the Birmingham Campaign of 1963. During this historic campaign thousands of people witnessed to their faith by protesting the structures of racial injustice through nonviolent direct action. This 90-minute online workshop focuses on highlights of the Birmingham Campaign including:

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s *Letter from the Birmingham Jail*
- The Children's Crusade
- The Bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church

Through a combination of worship, primary sources, video clips, and small group sharing; we will **remember** the witness and sacrifice of so many 60 years ago and **recommit** to their legacy of discerning and following God's call to racial justice in our time. [Please register here by June 5.](#)

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY at 10:00am - Join us on Wednesdays as we gather on Zoom to look at the scripture for the upcoming week. An email is out with all the details on Tuesdays. If you would like to be added to the Bible study email list, please contact the church office.

Upcoming Events

THIS WEEK

May 29	Office Closed 5:00 pm	Change the World/RVA
May 30	Noon	AA
May 31	10:00 am 7:15 pm	Zoom Bible Study Choir Rehearsal
June 2	10:30 am Noon	Friday Lunch Program AA
June 4	10:30 am	In person & Live Stream Worship

LOOKING AHEAD

June 6	10:30 am	Church Tour
June 8	9:00 am	Golf Tournament

Online Giving Made Easy – No Account Needed!

