

The Feast of Pentecost

Morning Prayer Rite II

May 23, 2021

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Hymn Spirit of the Living God

Sung by all

Opening Sentence

Presider Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Presider Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Confession of Sin & Absolution

Led by Kallen Tsikalas

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and one another.

All

Almighty God, Source of all that is, Giver of every good gift:

You create all people in your image and call us to love one another as you love us.

We confess that we have failed to honor you in the great diversity of the human family. We have desired to live in freedom,

while building walls between ourselves and others.

We have longed to be known and accepted for who we are,

while making judgements of others based on the color of skin, or the shape of features, or the varieties of human experience.

We have tried to love our neighbors individually

while yet benefitting from systems that hold those same neighbors in oppression.

Forgive us, Holy God.

Give us eyes to see you as you are revealed in all people.

Strengthen us for the work of reconciliation rooted in love.

Restore us in your image, to be beloved community,

united in our diversity,

even as you are one with Christ and the Spirit,

Holy and undivided Trinity, now and for ever.

Amen

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

Invitatory & Psalter

Presider Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

All **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia!**

Presider Alleluia. The Spirit of the Lord renews the face of the earth: Come let us adore him. Alleluia.

Canticle 12 A Song of Creation

sung by Motomi Tanaka

Psalm 104

sung by Hirona Amamiya

All **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

The Lessons

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Read by Pat Thebaud

When the day of Pentecost had come, the disciples 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. 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? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs-- in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." 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.
 And I will show portents in the heaven above
 and signs on the earth below,
 blood, and fire, and smoky mist.
 The sun shall be turned to darkness
 and the moon to blood,
 before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.
 Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' "

The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia, Raise the Gospel

sung by the Choir

A reading from the Gospel of John.

Read by Deacon John Musco

Jesus said to his disciples, "When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

"I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis, co-chair Poor People's Campaign

Freedom is coming

sung by the choir

The Apostles Creed

said in unison

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

The Offertory

We give thanks to God for all we have and all we are. You can give securely online here:

<https://onrealm.org/holyapostles/give/website>

Doxology

Sung by all

**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. Amen.**

Presider And now as our Savior Jesus has taught us, we are bold to pray:

The Lord's Prayer LEVAS-264

Sung by all

Our Father, which 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.**

Prayers of the People

Led by Missy Trull

On this day of Pentecost, we delight in the Holy, sprightly Spirit of God, dancing among us, filling the world with joyful possibility, revealing the music of the Creator.

We rejoice at the Spirit's daring spontaneity and find ourselves caught off guard by her unexpected communications.

In a world that can seem predictable, the Spirit sparks into being new possibilities; inspiring us to forgive ourselves for past mistakes, freeing us from our bondage to past wrong.

In a world that can seem drab, the Spirit weaves ever-changing patterns in the fabric of our being.

In a world that can be hostile, the Spirit provides a mediating love, building a path from loneliness to conviviality, from antagonism to co-operation.

In a world that appears purposeless, the Spirit's vitality shouts out a mighty 'yes' to life and declares the source of all living to be in the One in whom we all live, move and have our being.

On the day when we celebrate the Church's founding let us pray for her work across Christ's world, in places whose stories we know and in places we can only leave to the knowledge of the heart of God. And especially we remember those places where those who confess Jesus as their Saviour are still persecuted for His sake. May they know the emboldening power of the Spirit of Pentecost and the loving assurance of the Comforter. *[Pause]*

We pray for those experiencing illness in body or in mind, and for those who practise the healing arts of medicine and nursing. We remember families and communities emerging from the pandemic still feeling the pain of loss of loved ones. May they experience God's love and comfort through our actions and our words. *[Pause]*

And as we pray for those whose are feeling despair through the loss of employment or opportunity, we also pray that despite our weaknesses we, with the assurance of the Spirit, may bring hope through the practical resolve of a Church ready to play its part in the work of healing and renewal. *[Pause]*

Let us pray that in this land and in the world the Spirit will inspire and raise up women and men, young and old, to dream dreams and share a vision of a world where oppression is defeated by justice, where anxiety is vanquished by hope, where creation is cherished and the earth's resources are harvested responsibly for a just sharing. Where hate is overcome by love, and

where the 'earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.' [Pause]

Dear people of God, on this day of Pentecost for whom and for what do you pray for?

Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

O God, who on this day taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: Grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Closing Prayer

Led by Peter Saghir

Friends, please join me in our closing prayer:

May the exuberant Spirit of God, bursting with the brightness of flame into the coldness of our lives warm us with a passion for justice and beauty.

May the exuberant Spirit of God, sweeping us out of the dusty corners of our apathy breathe vitality into our struggles for change.

May the exuberant Spirit of God, speaking words that leap over barriers of mistrust convey messages of truth and new understanding.

May the exuberant Spirit of God, flame, wind, speech; burn, breathe, speak in us; filling our world with justice and joy. Amen

The Benediction

Presider May Almighty God, who enlightened the minds of the disciples by pouring out upon them the Holy Spirit, make you rich with his blessing, that you may abound more and more in that Spirit for ever.

May God, who sent the Holy Spirit as a flame of fire that rested upon the heads of the disciples, burn out all evil from your hearts, and make them shine with the pure light of his presence.

May God, who by the Holy Spirit caused those of many tongues to proclaim Jesus as Lord, strengthen your faith and send you out to bear witness to him in word and deed.

God's blessing be with you, Christ's peace be with you, the Spirit's outpouring be with you now and always. Amen.

Closing Hymn: Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit

Sung by all

Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Risen Christ. Alleluia!
All **Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

Parting Hymn

May the Lord, mighty Lord, bless you and keep you forever
Bind your heart to his heard, with a bond that nothing can sever
Give you light on the uphill road, and courage in every endeavor
May the Lord, mighty Lord, bless you and keep you forever.