



“Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together.”



West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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May 23, 2021

Pentecost Sunday

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*

Arr. Seidel

Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart by Frederick Cook Atkinson, Lenny Seidel

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GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

* Opening Words

Rev. Nancy J.

Come, Holy Spirit, the one who sang a new melody as God's Creation rose from Chaos, who wept at the dark shadow of a cross, and who danced early in the morning, at the opening of an empty tomb,

Come, Holy Spirit, the one who could not be contained by wind, or flame, or breath, the one who blesses the Church with courage, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit, to us, who gather this day with trembling hands and uncertain hearts. Teach us to sing a new song and to dance with reckless abandon.

Here in this gathering of believers, as you did with those so long ago, breathe on us now.

Breathe on us, blowing away our fears and our hesitations.

Breathe on us, transforming our hard-heartedness into passion-filled lives.

Breathe on us, for we need peace, peace that only you can give. In Jesus' name, Amen.

* Opening Prayer

Rev. Mary Nelson Abbott

Move among us, Spirit, and gather us together with you. Take our many selves— our lives, our loves, our ideas, our questions, our speech, our silence— and unite us as your people.

Give us the gifts of perception and understanding, so that even as we dream your dreams and see your visions, we may be able to witness to your presence in our common life. Amen.

*** Opening Hymn** *Joys are flowing like a river* (vv 1, 3, 5) #301

1 Joys are flowing like a river
since the Comforter has come,
who abides with us forever,
makes the trusting heart a home.

Refrain:

Blessed quietness, holy quietness
what assurance in my soul!
On the stormy sea speaking peace to me
how the billows cease to roll!

3 Like the rain that falls from heaven,
like the sunlight from the sky,
so the Holy Ghost is given,
coming on us from on high. [Refrain]

5 What a wonderful salvation,
where we always see God's face!
What a perfect habitation,
what a quiet resting place! [Refrain]

CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

Time with Our Children

Special Music

What a friend

#574

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!

Congregational Prayer

Jonny Baker

One: Your breath of life fills the whole world and holds all things together. if you withdraw your breath everything turns to dust.

Many: Breathe on me breath of God.

One: You are the source of life that brings life to the world, whole life, full life, unhindered, indestructible everlasting life.

Many: Fill me with life anew.

One: The life of your spirit which Christ sends into the world is the power of the resurrection which brings us new life.

Many: Breathe on me breath of God.

One: The sending of your spirit is the revelation of God's indestructible affirmation of life and marvelous joy in life.

Many: Fill me with life anew.

One: Jesus, where you are there is life. where you are sick people are healed, sad people are comforted, marginalized people are accepted and the demons of death are driven out.

Many: Breathe on me breath of God.

One: Where your Holy Spirit is present there is life. the powers and energies of eternal life are experienced.

Many: Fill me with life anew.

One: The mission of your Spirit is a movement for life and a movement for healing which spreads consolation and the courage to live and raises up what wants to die.

Many: Breathe on me breath of God.

One: We affirm and love life so much that we protest against death and all the powers that disseminate death.

Many: Fill me with life anew.

One: Help us to join with your comforting of the sad, healing of the sick, welcoming of strangers, and forgiving of sins.

Many: Breathe on me breath of God.

One: Send your Spirit so that this world should not perish but live.

Many: Fill me with life anew.

One: Spirit of the new creation break into the here and now bringing foretastes of the age to come when all things

are made new, and creation is set free from the powers of death.

Many: Breathe on me breath of God.

One: Spirit of God renew the face of the earth.

Many: Fill me with life anew.

One: Give us hearts of flesh for hearts of stone.

Many: That we may love as you would love and do what you would do. Amen

Song *Breathe on me breath of God* (vv. 1-3) #356

1 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.

2 Breathe on me, breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until with thee I will one will,
to do and to endure.

3 Breathe on me, breath of God,
till I am wholly thine,
till all this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.

WORSHIP IN GIVING

Thoughts on Giving

Act s 2:44-45 (ESV)

And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Special Music *They'll Know We Are Christians* Arr. Akers

"They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love" by Michael E. Akers, Peter Scholtes
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Scripture Lesson

Act 2:1-4 (NRSV)

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.

Sermon

“Fire and Wind”

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Closing Hymn

Come thou fount

#521

- 1 Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it
mount of God's redeeming love.
- 2 Here I find my greatest treasure;
hither by thy help I've come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
bought me with his precious blood.
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee:
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,

prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.

*** Benediction**

Joanna Harader

As you go forth from this place, may the wind of the Spirit
startle your senses and blow through your life; may the fire
of the Spirit scorch your complacency and light your way.
And may the blessing of the Holy One—Creator, Redeemer,
Sustainer—rest with you now and forever more. Amen.

Postlude

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

arr. William F. Smith

** Please stand as able and led*



Ministers.....	All Members
Pastor.....	David Whitten
Worship Leader	Barbara Beers
Special Music	Sandy Faw, Bob Gangwer, Bob Phillips, Judith Whitten
Special Music	Our Handbell Choir
Flautist	Sarah Beers
Guitarist	David Whitten
Pianist.....	Bob Phillips
Dir. of Technology & Media.....	Kevin Beers

