

PENTECOST



SUNDAY



West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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May 28, 2023

Pentecost Sunday

Today, Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate the Holy Spirit's establishment of the church — the body of Christ that still embraces and empowers all. Welcome!

Welcome

Prelude

O Spirit of The Living God

arr. Lyndell Leatherman

O Spirit of the living God,
thou light and fire divine,
Descend upon thy church once more
and make it truly thine.
Fill it with love and joy and power,
with righteousness and peace;
Till Christ shall dwell in human hearts
and sin and sorrow cease.

Blow, wind of God! With wisdom blow
until our minds are free
From mists of error, clouds of doubt,
which blind our eyes to thee.
Burn, winged fire! Inspire our lips
with flaming love and zeal,
To preach to all thy great good news,
God's glorious common weal.

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

* Opening Words

Mennonite Central Committee Canada

- One: In a world filled with violence and war,
Many: **we gather together to celebrate the promise of peace.**
One: In a world filled with tyranny and oppression,
Many: **we gather together to celebrate the promise of justice for all.**
One: In a world filled with hunger and greed,
Many: **we gather together to celebrate the promise of plenty for all.**
One: Our hope is in the name of the Almighty God,

Many: the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of heaven and earth.

* **Opening Prayer**

Great Spirit, you have lit upon each of us a flame to serve you in all that we do. Ignite your flame and help us to burn brightly for you. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

* **Opening Song**

This Is My Song

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This Is My Song (FINLANDIA) by Georgia Elma Harkness, Jean Sibelius, Lloyd Stone

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Verse 1 This is my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is:
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
but other hearts in other lands are beating
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

Verse 2 My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
and sunlight beams on clover leaf and pine.
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
and skies are ev'rywhere as blue as mine.
So hear my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for their land and for mine.

Verse 3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's kingdoms,
Your kingdom come; on earth your will be done.
O God, be lifted up till all shall serve you,
and hearts united learn to live as one.
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations.
Myself I give you; let your will be done.

CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

Time with our Children (after, children, over 5, can go to Children's Church)

In Remembrance of Our Loved Ones

Barbara Keithly Brian Crawford Cheryl ^(Hite) Mitchell
Darryl Lynch Frank Fuller Richard Barry Virginia Whitten

Prayer for Remembrance Day

One: Let us pray for all who suffer as a result of conflict, and ask that God may give us peace: for the service men and women who have died in the violence of war, each one remembered by and known to God;

Many: **God give peace.**

One: For those who love them in death as in life, offering the distress of our grief and the sadness of our loss;

Many: **God give peace.**

One: For all members of the armed forces who are in danger this day, remembering family, friends and all who pray for their safe return;

Many: **God give peace.**

One: For civilian women, children and men whose lives are disfigured by war or terror, calling to mind in penitence the anger and hatreds of humanity;

Many: **God give peace.**

One: For peacemakers and peacekeepers, who seek to keep this world secure and free;

Many: **God give peace.**

One: For all who bear the burden and privilege of leadership, political, military and religious; asking for gifts of wisdom and resolve in the search for reconciliation and peace;

Many: **God give peace.**

One: O God of truth and justice, we hold before you those whose memory we cherish, and those whose names we will never know. Help us to lift our eyes above the torment of this broken world, and grant us the grace to pray for those who wish us harm. As we honor the past, may we put our faith in your future; for you are the source of life and hope, now and forever. Let us close now, in unison, with the prayer that Jesus taught us...

ALL: 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 WHO TRESPASS AGAINST US. AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION; BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL. FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM, THE POWER AND THE GLORY, FOR EVER AND EVER. AMEN.

WORSHIP IN GIVING

Special Music

Day By Day

arr. Oscar Ahnfelt

Thoughts on Giving

<https://blog.brethren.org/2023/pentecost-offering-2023/>

In the season of Pentecost, we celebrate the gift of the Spirit and the way it continues to move among us. We understand that our calling to follow Jesus is paired with a commission to be sent by Him to serve others and speak words of life in His name. Through the missions and ministries of West Richmond, we put our faith into action by walking in our God-given calling as we are empowered by the Holy Spirit. We are calling and equipping fearless disciples and leaders, renewing and planting churches, and transforming communities. Your support of the Pentecost Offering supports these faith-building and life-changing endeavors that we do together—through the power of God and the unity of the Holy Spirit.

Song

Come, Thou Fount

5 6 3

Verse 1: Come, thou fount of ev'ry 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 unchanging love.

Verse 2: Here I raise my Ebenezer,
hither by thy help I'm come,
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wand'ring from the fold of God.
He, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

Verse 3: Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
bind my wand'ring 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.

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Dramatic Reading for Pentecost

The text comes entirely from Scripture and weaves the Old and New Testament together in an attempt to enliven the historical context for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit tens days after the ascension of Christ.

Sermon

“Fire and Wind!”

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Song

Wind Who Makes All Winds

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Wind Who Makes All Winds by Carol Doran, Thomas H. Troeger
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Verse 1: Wind who makes all winds that blow—
gusts that bend the saplings low,
gales that heave the sea in waves,

stirrings in the mind's deep caves—
aim your breath with steady pow'r
on your church, this day, this hour.
Raise, renew the life we've lost,
Spirit God of Pentecost.

Verse 2: Fire who fuels all fires that burn—
suns around which planets turn,
beacons marking reefs and shoals,
shining truth to guide our souls—
come to us as once you came;
burst in tongues of sacred flame!
Light and Power, Might and Strength,
fill your church, its breadth and length.

Verse 3 Holy Spirit, Wind and Flame,
move within our mortal frame.
Make our hearts an altar pyre.
Kindle them with your own fire.
Breathe and blow upon that blaze
till our lives, our deeds, and ways
speak that tongue which ev'ry land
by your grace shall understand.

Benediction

Postlude

Heaven Medley

arr. Eloise Haynes

* Please stand as able and led



Ministers All Members

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|---|-------------------------------------|
| Pastor.....David Whitten | Special Music Bob Phillips |
| Worship Leader.....Barbara Beers | Flautist Sarah Hartman |
| Children's Time..... Sarah Hartman | Guitarist David Whitten |
| Readers....Barbara Beers, Thoko Lipato, | Pianist/Organist Bob Phillips |
| David Whitten | Tech & Media Dir. Kevin Beers |

