

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

Pentecost Sunday

May 31, 2020

Welcome to All

Thank you for joining us!



ST. JOHN'S

United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.

We are a Christian community called to share our gifts through worship, witness and service so that others will know God and become disciples of Jesus Christ.

Spending Time Together

Prelude Terry Byars
I'm Goin'a Sing When the Spirit Says Sing

Words of Grace and Welcome Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

In the Bible, the early church was described in this way:

"Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people."

(Acts 2: 46-47a)

Centering Our Hearts as One

*We invite you to place your hand on your heart.
Feel your breath and the beat of your heart as we pray.*

Hear this assurance from God:

(sung to the tune of Amazing Grace)

**Be still, O heart, you're not alone,
your beat is shared with me.
Come now, and calm, and center here,
you're mine, secure and free.**

Let us pick up our heart stone, sometimes called a "worry stone," and let our touch on its surface remind us that God's touch is within us, between us, and around us.

We offer a prayer song of letting go.

Sing along, if you're comfortable:

(sung to the tune of Amazing Grace)

**Into your care, we offer now,
our worries, fears and strife.
We turn to you and know you're near-
Your light, our love and life.**

*Let's light our candles now
and set our heart worry stones next to it.*

Call to Worship

**Wind and fire of God... [repeat]
We gather in your name...[repeat]
invited by Jesus...[repeat]
bound together with your Spirit...[repeat]
in union with each other...[repeat]
Feed our spirits with your presence...[repeat]
And break open our hearts by your love...[repeat]
so that we might offer hope to others...[repeat]**

Hymns of Praise

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

**There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;
there are sweet expressions on each face,
and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.**

**Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove,
stay right here with us, filling us with your love;
and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;
without a doubt we'll know
that we have been revived
when we shall leave this place.**

There's a Spirit In the Air

**There's a Spirit in the air,
telling Christians everywhere:
Praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working, in our world.**

**May the Spirit fill our praise,
guide our thoughts and change our ways:
God in Christ has come to stay.
Live tomorrow's life today!**

Breaking Open the Word

A Pentecost Dramatic Reading

Based on Acts 2:1-21 and 1 Corinthians 12:1-14

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Response to the Word

Many Gifts, One Spirit

**God of change and glory, God of time and space,
when we fear the future, give to us your grace.
In the midst of changing ways
give us still the grace to praise.**

**Many gifts, one Spirit, one love known in many ways.
In our difference is blessing, from diversity we praise
one Giver, one Lord, one Spirit, one Word
known in many ways, hallowing our days.
For the Giver, for the gifts, praise, praise, praise!**

Prayer for Illumination

based on Psalm 19:14

**May the words of our mouths and the meditations
of our hearts be acceptable in thy sight, thou who art
our strength and our redeemer. Amen.**

The Message

"Apostles of Hope"

Pastor Lane

Breaking Open our Hearts and Lives

Visual Meditation

Come, Great Spirit

Hymn of Faith

We Are the Church

I am the church! You are the church!
We are the church together!
All who follow Jesus, all around the world!
Yes, we're the church together!
The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple,
the church is not a resting place, the church is a people.

I am the church! You are the church!
We are the church together!
All who follow Jesus, all around the world!
Yes, we're the church together!
We're many kinds of people, with many kinds of faces,
all colors and all ages, too, from all times and places.

Sharing in Prayer

Rev. Deirdré Halliburton

The Lord's Prayer

Praising God!

Prayer of Dedication

Offering Our Tithes and Gifts to God

Take Heart, My Soul
written by Betty Schroeder

As the black night yields to dawn
and the birds begin to stir,
My heart begins its song
of its sorrows and its hurt.
Through all my days gone past
I've known such emptiness,
But You have come at last
and filled my life with bliss.

Rejoice, my soul, give up your grief.
Rejoice, my soul, take heart.
Redeeming love now waits for you.
Let earthly woes depart.

Now my Christ comes forth in light;
with His love the shadows part;
He dispels the deepest night
and heals my grieving heart.
So my heart sings out with praise
while I look upon His face,
And the notes my thanks do raise
for His redeeming grace.

So I sing His praises every day.
My heart is now at peace.
I know my Savior stands by me.
In Him I find release.

We appreciate your generosity.

Each gift enables us to be a blessing in our community.
You may give online here: <http://www.stjohnsbr.org/give>

Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Practicing Goodwill

Faith in Action

*From children to octogenarians this is a time for everyone to
put their faith into action.*

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Hymn of Discipleship

Forward Through the Ages

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

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

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

Benediction

based on Psalm 16

Postlude

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Thank you for worshipping with us!

Today's worship stewards are:
Carrie Poynt, Terry Byars,

*André de la Fuente, Trey Halliburton, David Idikwu,
Guy Johnson, Seng Kinraw, Latrice Mallard, Cadee Murray,
Betty Schroeder, John Toney, Mari Walker, Saroj Welch,
and our pastors.*

*The flowers on the altar are given by Tom Burch and family
in loving memory of Martha Burch.*

*Portions of today's liturgy are adapted from
www.worshipdesignstudio.com/series by Dr. Marcia McFee.*

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