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First Presbyterian Church

149 Broad Street
Tonawanda, New York 14150 ~ 2111
Church: (716) 692-1319
Rev. Pastor Leslie Latham

Come, Worship the Lord, Our God

May 23, 2021

10:00am

Pentecost Sunday

We Celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion

CCLI License # 2839486

Words to hymns are on the insert

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

We have come to a place of the Holy Spirit.

In this sanctuary there are healing and hope, wind and fire.

We have come to a community of the Holy Spirit.

Our sons and daughters are prophets;

Alzheimer's patients dream dreams; Millennials see visions.

We have come to a time of the Holy Spirit.

We expect the unexpected.

We come to worship God!

GATHERING PRAYER

Gracious God, you come among your people as One who fashioned all things, who, face-to-face, revealed your knowledge of our lives, and whose presence brings assurance and hope. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love so that in hearing and seeing the gifts of this life, we may know the way to live in thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

HYMN: #291 *Spirit*

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE: A Litany of Solidarity, with and through the Spirit

Come Holy Spirit,

Fill us.

Come, Holy Breath,

Live in us.

Come, Holy Wind,

Move through us.

For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again.

**When we are led by other impulses, we become slaves again,
and our way of being is guided by fear.**

Where we are guided by prejudice,

Fill us with love.

Where we are guided by pessimism,

Fill us with joy.

Where we are guided by misunderstanding,

Fill us with peace.

Where we are guided by superficial quick-fixes,

Fill us with patience.

Where we are guided by self-interest,

Fill us with patience.

Where we are guided by apathy,

Fill us with goodness.

Where we are guided by convenience,

Fill us with faithfulness.

Where we are guided by complacency,

Fill us with meekness.

Where we are guided by temptation,

Fill us with self-control.

Come Holy Spirit,
Fill us.
Come, Holy Breath,
Live in us.
Come, Holy Wind,
Move through us. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy Spirit, come again. As long ago you inspired, astonished, and confused the people, come to us now to fill our ears with the sound of your breath, fill our eyes with the brilliance of your presence in each other, fill our hearts with your good Word. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

John 15:26-27. 16:4b-15

Acts 2:1-21: *The Story of Pentecost, a Dramatic Reading*

SERMON:

The Rev. Leslie Latham

CALL TO THE OFFERING

God is our rock and our fortress. Let us celebrate our salvation by fearlessly giving a portion of what has already been given to us, either by placing it in the basket in the back of the church, or by mailing it in.

OFFERTORY *As the Wind Song*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of mercy, we give you thanks for all that your bounty creates. The gifts we bring today acknowledge our debt to you and our intent to relieve others of their burdens. Bless what we offer and bless those who will be shown deeds of power through them; in Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

... Therefore, we praise you, joining the song of the universal church and the heavenly choir:

Holy, holy, holy...

THE LORD'S PRAYER *ecumenical version*

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever, Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, may we who have received this sacrament live in the unity of your Holy Spirit, that we may show forth your gifts to all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

HYMN: #286 *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

CLOSING LITANY

The Spirit descends like a dove,
bringing peace to unite the world in a just and caring community.

The Spirit comes like a breath, bringing life to renew the people of God.

The Spirit spreads like fire, bringing energy for witnessing to the love of God.

Spirit of the living God, come to us and transform our lives by your power.

BENEDICTION: *The Lorica, a prayer of protection (a Breastplate) as a safeguard against evil*

The arms of God be around my shoulders,

The touch of the Holy Spirit upon my head,

The sign of Christ's cross upon my forehead,

The sound of the Holy Spirit in my ears,

The fragrance of the Holy Spirit in my nostrils,

The vision of heaven's company in my eyes,

The conversation of heaven's company on my lips,

The work of God's church in my hands,

The service of God and neighbor in my feet,

A home for God in my heart,

And to God, the father of all, my entire being. Amen. ~St. Fursey, 7th century