

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

THE DAY OF PENTECOST

May 31, 2020

*All who are able may stand.

Bold type spoken by the congregation

GATHERING. . .

The Prelude

Spirit of God

arr. Lani Smith

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

The Call To Worship

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth,
darkness was over the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.
**Centuries before Jesus walked among us, the Spirit of God was promised to him,
so that he would bring justice to the nations.**
Jesus sent the Spirit of truth to teach us and give us peace.
**At Pentecost the Spirit came, as the rush of violent wind and tongues of fire.
That same Spirit is among us now. Let us worship God!**

The Prayer of Adoration

The Hymn

On Pentecost They Gathered

*On Pentecost they gathered quite early in the day,
a band of Christ's disciples, To worship, sing, and pray.
A mighty wind came blowing, filled all the swirling air,
and tongues of fire a-glowing Inspired each person there.*

*The people all around them were startled and amazed
to understand their language, as Christ the Lord they praised.
What universal message, what great good news was here?
That Christ, once dead, is risen to vanquish all our fear.*

*The Prayer of Confession

Connie Barnes, liturgist

With new life all about us, O God, we still cling to old ways. Sometimes it is easier to hang on to our fears than to sail with the new winds of Your leading. So often, in spite of Your promises we seek self-assurance. You send the Holy Spirit to enliven our existence yet the darkness of doubt can swallow the new light the Spirit brings when we think we know best. We are afraid to admit what it might mean if we surrendered our selves. So we continue to pursue our flights of fancy, and pretend that we can go it alone. In Your mercy forgive us for clinging so tightly to the ways things were ... (time for silent confession)...

*The Assurance of Pardon

*The Gloria Patri (spoken)

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: World without end. Amen.*

*The Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you!**

(For those worshipping in the Sanctuary, please be careful to maintain adequate distance
as you exchange this ancient greeting with worshipers seated near you.)

For those worshipping at home, please share Christ's peace with someone outside Your home this week.)

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD. . .

The Prayer for Illumination

Eternal God, by the power of Your Holy Spirit, speak to us in the language of our hearts, that we may hear Your Word with understanding and answer Your call with confidence. Through Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

The New Testament Lesson: *Acts 2:1-21*

The Psalter Lesson: *Psalms 104:24-34,35b*

The Anthem

I Will Sing With the Spirit

John Rutter

*I will sing with the spirit, alleluia, alleluia!
And I will sing with the understanding also; alleluia, alleluia!*

The Epistle Lesson: *I Corinthians 12:3b-13*

The Gospel Lesson: *John 7:37-39*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon

In Search of...
Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

TO RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD. . .

The Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

**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 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.**

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE IN GOD'S NAME. . .

The Hymn

Wind Who Makes All Winds That Blow

*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 power on Your church this day, this hour.
Raise, renew the life we've lost, Spirit God of Pentecost.*

*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.*

*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 every land by Your grace shall understand.*

The Charge and Benediction

The Postlude

A Thousand Tongues

arr. William A. McNair

Announcements for May 31 - June 7

Pentecost – Celebrate the Movement of the Spirit

This Sunday, Christians across the world will celebrate Pentecost. Some of us may wonder what it will be like to celebrate the movement of the Spirit in and through the early church, even as many of us won't be able to gather as a Church in the same ways we have for thousands of years. If Pentecost is a celebration of the movement of God among a gathered people, how do we celebrate it absent a gathering?

It may be helpful to remember that the Church has always been dispersed. When you read Luke and Acts together, the reality is that those first followers of Jesus spent far more time apart than they did together. On Pentecost we celebrate the miraculous movement of the Spirit in Acts 2, but by the 8th Chapter of Acts these new disciples are scattered across the world. There is a constant movement from gathering to dispersion. And the Spirit is a part of it all. This is our story.

There will be opportunities upcoming for some to gather, as they are able; but still, we recognize many will remain dispersed. In this time while we are not in the same place, we remain committed to living out our care for one another and remaining together while apart. Blessings as you continue to live out and tell the Story!

Capsule of Concern: Debbie Eckel, Doris Glidden, Donn Langfitt, Billie Plank, David Scott, John Walker, Pam Werner, Don Wilson

Lectionary Readings for Sunday, June 7:

Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Psalm 8;
2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20

Birthdays this week May 31-June 7

31. Matt Bohmke, Jim Gaines
1. Betty Ellett, Marsha Lockett, Paul Ludwig
2. Scott Allison, Becca Sidebotham
3. Sophie Early, Tom Theado
4. Hailey Bothel, Teri Clark, Sophie Jones, Doreen Vaughn, Charlotte Webb
5. Edith Hall, Sue Keffer
6. Debe Garrison, Margaret Rowe, Adrienne Vaughn
7. Jeremy Fisher, Christy Humphreys, Chaz Robertson, Stacy Whalen

Food Pantry update: Since our Food Pantry's temporary closing due to concern over the safety of both our volunteers and guests and disruptions in supply chains, we have shifted our efforts to help support the good work of our siblings in Christ at Fredericksburg United Methodist Church, as they continue to distribute food to neighbors in need. If you are interested in joining these efforts, please be in touch with Sherman Brown at (540) 226-3295. For others who may want to help but aren't in a position to volunteer, we encourage you to continue your support of our feeding ministry through giving. Gifts can be made by designating "food pantry" in the memo line of your check. Many thanks – your generosity is an expression of who we are as Christians, seeking to love and serve the world as Jesus loved and served the world.

New info regarding School Dressing Days from Becky Paul: the original dates (July 31 and August 1) are still on the calendar but could be adjusted depending on how things are going in the state of Virginia. We could modify or add to our plan but this is what we've come up with for right now. We are collecting these items to put in backpacks: soap, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, 1" binders, and athletic socks for boys/girls. You may bring donations to the Education Building Lobby during church hours, Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. You may place the items in the labeled bin.

Thanks for your faithful support of our ongoing ministries. Please send your checks to the church office or give online through our website www.fredericksburgpc.org.

Do you shop at Amazon.com? Would you like 0.5% of your eligible purchases donated to our church?

Shop at smile.amazon.com instead of the regular Amazon site and choose Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church as your charity of choice. By doing so, a portion of your purchase will automatically go to our church.

To set up Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church as your charity of choice, **1)** log into Amazon Smile (<https://smile.amazon.com>) using your Amazon ID and password. **2)** Below the search box, click on the down arrow to the right of the Supporting box; **3)** in the box below the “Or pick your own charitable organization,” line type “Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church;” **4)** click on the “Search” button. **5)** On the next screen, “Select” Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church.

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice. To date, Amazon has contributed over \$169 million to charitable organizations.

Please note that this is not an endorsement of Amazon. This action recommendation only is for persons who already shop at Amazon. This program costs nothing and provides a way to help the church’s finances. Session thanks you for your consideration and support.

Will you help us recognize High School graduates? We ask that you write signed messages of congratulations and send them to the church office through the month of May. We will distribute them to members of our church who are graduating this spring without the ‘Pomp and Circumstance’ of earlier generations. A word of blessing, congratulation, and encouragement would go a long way to seal this important milestone on their life journey.

We will acknowledge those who are graduating from high school and beyond. Please email the church office (cjforsing@fredericksburgpc.org) with the name of the school from which you are graduating. Thank you!

Weekly Family Home Church School Activities are on the education page of our website.

Weekly Zoom Meetings

Men’s Breakfast Group, Tuesday, 7:30 a.m. Contact John Howe (jhowe1969@cox.net) for the Zoom link.

Meditation Group, Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Contact Marsha Lockett (luckett@juno.com) for the Zoom link.

Women’s Bible Study, Thursday, 9:30 a.m. Contact Marsha Lockett (luckett@juno.com) for the Zoom link.

Sunday Morning Church School Classes

8:30am Color of Law Book Study -- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84247187892>

9:45am Faith and Movie Class -- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84012359434>