

Sunday May 19, 2024
Day of Pentecost



"The Holy Spirit. So What?"

First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City
Rev. Debbie Johnson

"The Holy Spirit. So What?"

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Office Hours: 9:00 – 12:00 Noon
Tuesday -- Thursday

Liturgy Sunday May 19, 2024
Day of Pentecost
10:30 AM

We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds: "...power is not owned by the oppressor. Power belongs to those who possess the capacity to think in a creative and organized way and then to act with strength and precision." *H. Lionel Edmonds*

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship: Elder Mabel Rogers

Come, Holy Spirit! Ignite our hearts with joy and confidence!

For God has done wondrous things for us.

Come, Holy Spirit! Fill us with the power of the rushing wind that we may faithfully serve you in all that we do.

For Christ has called each of us and blessed us!

Come, Holy Spirit! Be with us today.

Help us to boldly proclaim Christ Risen. Amen.

Prelude

Choral Introit "Holy Holy Holy"

* Hymn: On Pentecost They Gathered (Familiar Tune)

1 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 aglowing
Inspired each person there.

2 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.

3 God pours the Holy Spirit
On all who would believe,

Current Prayer Concerns:

Marie McCallister, Lori Patrick, Thomas Simpson, Chris Hazard, Kent Mitchell, Hudson Day, Margy Kreppel, Amy Etheridge, Bonnie Hancock, Eric Richardson, Samantha Kilgore, Bob Lebo, Lydia Frasca, Diane Devanna, Larry (Black) Blackwell, Betty Ignash, Lake Scott, Bryan Wayne-Records, Kathy Smith, Larry Steele, Margie Baugher Cramer, Mark Payne, Beth Miller, Baby Owen, Kathryn Maxwell, Pat and Ben Steele, and Joey Martin.

Fellowship Hosts Coming Up:

May	26	Ann Hales & Carol Reese
June	2	Karen Eberle & Mabel Rogers
June	9	Beth Fisher & Peggy Webster
June	16	Mabel Rogers & Vicky Cairns
June	23	Ann Hales & Brenda Wilkinson

Session Minutes

We will now be posting Minutes of the Session Meeting after they have been approved at the next meeting.

You will find them on the hall bulletin board.

Pastor Debbie's Contact Information

Cell: 843-568-6480

Email: djhj3675@gmail.com

You can call or text her. Pastor Debbie will be in Ocean City on Tuesdays and Sundays.

Welcome—Soli Deo Gloria

Calendar, Birthdays ... and more!

Sun	May 19	Boy Scouts Troop 2173	4:00 PM
Wed	May 22	Hand Bells Practice	5:00 PM
Wed	May 22	Choir Practice	6:00 PM
Fri,	May 24	Narcotics Anonymous	7:00 PM

Birthdays: *Paul Ketterman (5/21) Woody Warren (5/24)*

Flowers: Flowers in the chancel vases are given:

~ In praise of the father, son, and Holy Spirit, and in loving memory of Rich's brother Bill as he celebrates his birthday with God, May 21st. Bill is still alive in our hearts because of all of the fond memories we have of him. Rich and Nancy Wright

Chancel vases open for dedication:
05-26-24 two vases

All Women of the Church are Invited

Please join us for the WOW Luncheon on **Tuesday, May 21** at
the Longboard Cafe

6701 Coastal Highway

WOW Meeting at 11:00—Lunch at 1:00

Congregation Financials as of April 30, 2024:

- Year-to-date giving/income (\$60,652.51 from giving;
remainder from parking, building use, etc.): \$68,814.75

- Year-to-date disbursements: \$52,189.03

Note: A bookkeeping change was made to charge \$20,166 against Capital Improvement for the new windows installed in the Manse in 2023. Capital Improvement balance now stands at \$89,666.08.

On women, men, and children
Who would God's grace receive.
That Spirit knows no limit,
Bestowing life and power.
The church, formed and reforming,
Responds in every hour.

O Spirit, sent from heaven
On that day long ago,
Rekindle faith among us
In all life's ebb and flow.
O give us ears to listen
And tongues aflame with praise,
So folk of every nation
Glad songs of joy shall raise.

* Passing the Peace

Sharing our Concerns, Joys, and Affirmations

Call to Confession

We do not stop enough to listen to the still-speaking God. And like the people of Jerusalem long ago, we often misunderstand the Spirit's movement among us. In the silence and stillness of this moment, let us draw near to God and listen.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

We confess to you, Renewing Spirit,
that we confuse unity with uniformity,
and diversity with divisiveness.

We speak and behave as if being a part of your family
means assimilating others to our way of living.

We deny and destroy the beauty you created in each person.

We long to change these patterns, O Creator,
but we do not know how.

Teach us to value challenge.

Help us to see strength in difference.

And empower us to build your kingdom in creativity and
love. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (responsive)

Hear the good news! God's Spirit has been poured out upon all
flesh, and we have been made one. We are no longer scattered

or divided, but gathered together to build up the kingdom on this earth. **Thanks be to God! Amen**

*** Gloria Patri** (unison)

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

Invitation to the Offering

God's Spirit is among us making all things new. Let us participate in this new creation by offering our gifts to God

*** Doxology** (unison)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly Hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

You have blessed each of us with gifts to serve and share, Most Generous God. May the offerings we present today be used to further your Kingdom and build your beloved community. Amen

Choral Anthem "I Want Jesus To Walk With Me"

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Come Holy Spirit!

Come with the power of a great wind, to clear out the cobwebs of our hearts, or come stealthily, as close as our own breathing, to whisper your truth into the silence of our lives.

However you come, come with the power to change us that we might truly become the body of Christ in the world. Amen.

1st Scripture: Ezekiel 37: 1-14 [NRSV]

Elder Bill Owens

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and

Heads Up!

International Students' Breakfasts Coming Soon

Wednesdays, June 19—Wednesday, August 14

New Time: 7:30 AM—9:30 AM

Summer is almost upon us and that means we will once again have the privilege to welcome, feed, and encourage students from all over the world each Wednesday morning. Many of these young folks have never visited the United States and we have the honor of being ambassadors for our country.

Let's come together to witness our love for God, each other, and for each of them. Just imagine if your grandchild, or niece, nephew or young friend was visiting a foreign country for the first time. We would all pray for warm and welcoming arms for them, wouldn't we? Let's extend that warmth to our students this summer!

Further details will be coming and Marty anticipates that we will use the team method we used last summer. Many hands make light work, so please consider sharing some of your time to help make this a memorable Summer for all of us.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (unison)

* Hymn: "Sweet, Sweet Spirit" # 252

Charge

Benediction

Postlude and Response: "God Be With You"

*Liturgy credit: The Presbyterian Outlook, Lectionary Liturgies,
Laughing Bird Liturgical Resources*

the tower of
Babbling on
never got us anywhere
but scattered

two eyes two ears
one mouth
watch listen
shut up

wait in Jerusalem

when we least expect it
a windstorm of breath, Spirit, fire, tongues
utter amazement
sober intoxication

driving Parthians and Medes
Jew and Gentiles
Blacks and Whites

out of their cozy upper rooms and
into the streets
to find each other

Pentecost power

[May it be so, Lord. Do it again. Amen.]

<https://x.com/mrdanielgrothe>

say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵ Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord." ⁷ So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸ I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. ¹¹ Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' ¹² Therefore prophesy and say to them: Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the Lord when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord."

2nd Scripture Reading: Acts 2: 1-21 [NRSV]

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When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ² 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. ³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵ Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶ And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the

native language of each. ⁷ Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹² All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³ But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵ Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

¹⁸ Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹ And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

²⁰ The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood,

before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

²¹ Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Time with Children & Youth
Rev. Debbie Johnson

Sermon: "The Holy Spirit. So What?"
Rev. Debbie Johnson

*** Hymn: "Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart" #249**

*** Affirmation of Faith - From a Brief Statement of Faith (1983) (unison)**

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.
The same Spirit
who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.
In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
Amen.