

Pentecost

Sunday, May 28, 2023 – 10:30 a.m.



Welcome!

To our guests and visitors:

We are glad that you are here with us today!

If you have no church home, why don't you consider joining us? Please speak to Pastor Parrish after the service and enjoy a special gift for visiting with us today!

Holy Spirit, Rain Down

Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down; O Comforter and Friend,
How we need Your touch again;
Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down; Let Your power fall, let Your voice be heard,
Come and change our hearts as we stand on Your Word; Holy Spirit, rain down.

Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down; O Comforter and Friend,
How we need Your touch again;
Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down; Let Your power fall, let Your voice be heard,
Come and change our hearts as we stand on Your Word; Holy Spirit, rain down.

No eye has seen, no ear has heard, No mind can know what God has in store,
So open up Heaven, open it wide, Over Your church over our lives.

Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down; O Comforter and Friend,
How we need Your touch again;
Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down; Let Your power fall, let Your voice be heard,
Come and change our hearts as we stand on Your Word; Holy Spirit, rain down.

Rain down, rain down, Rain.

"Holy Spirit, Rain Down" Words and Music by Russell Frager Copyright 1997 Russell Frager/Hillsongs Publishing Used by permission. CCLI# 2960087

INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me—

C: **Let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."**

P: For whoever would save his life will lose it—

C: **But whoever loses his life for Jesus will find it.**

P: Therefore, I consider my life worth nothing.

C: **If only I may finish the race—**

P: And complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me.
C: **The task of testifying to the gospel of God's amazing grace!**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Magnificent and merciful Father,
C: **Hear my sorry story of sin and rebellion.**

P: I have grown used to my spiritual emptiness and deadness.
C: **I have grown content with my stubborn attitude and my hard heart.**

P: I have settled for something less than being Christ's passionate disciple.
C: **I have sunk deeper and deeper into sin and selfishness.**

P: My spiritual zeal and zest have dried up like a desert.
C: **I have succumbed to a mediocre life and a lackluster faith. Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on me!**

P: In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus bled for you, Jesus died for you, Jesus lives for you and Jesus is coming for you. Jesus loves you, and Jesus forgives all your sins. In Holy Baptism, you were crucified with Christ.
C: **It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me! I now live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant to us the same Spirit so that we may joyfully receive the message of Christ, who has come for us all; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C: **Amen.**

By Faith

By faith we see the hand of God
In the light of creation's grand design;
In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness,
Who walk by faith and not by sight.

By faith our fathers roamed the earth,
With the pow'r of His promise in their hearts
Of a holy city built by God's own hand,
A place where peace and justice reign.

We will stand as children of the Promise.
We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's reward.
Till the race is finished and the work is done,
We'll walk by faith and not by sight.

By faith the prophets saw a day
When the longed-for Messiah would appear,
With the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death
And rise triumphant from the grave.

By faith the Church was called to go
In the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost,
To deliver captives and to preach Good News
In ev'ry corner of the earth

We will stand as children of the Promise.
We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's reward.
Till the race is finished and the work is done,
We'll walk by faith and not by sight.

By faith this mountain shall be moved
And the pow'r of the Gospel shall prevail,
For we know if Christ all things are possible
For all who call upon His Name.

We will stand as children of the Promise.
We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's reward.
Till the race is finished and the work is done,
We'll walk by faith and not by sight.

We will stand as children of the Promise.
We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's reward.
Till the race is finished and the work is done,
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We'll walk by faith and not by sight.

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The Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 29:1,4-7

This is the text of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the surviving elders among the exiles and to the priests, the prophets and all the other people Nebuchadnezzar had carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon.

⁴This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon:

⁵“Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. ⁶Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. ⁷Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading

Acts 17:16-21

While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷So he reasoned in the synagogue with both Jews and God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there. ¹⁸A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to debate with him. Some of them asked, “What is this babbler trying to say?” Others remarked, “He seems to be advocating foreign gods.” They said this because Paul was preaching the good

news about Jesus and the resurrection.

¹⁹ Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus, where they said to him, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? ²⁰ You are bringing some strange ideas to our ears, and we would like to know what they mean.” ²¹ (All the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there spent their time doing nothing but talking about and listening to the latest ideas.)

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 9:35–38

³⁵ Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸ Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.

King of Kings

In the darkness we were waiting
Without hope without light
Till from Heaven You came running

There was mercy in Your eyes

To fulfil the law and prophets
To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt

Praise the Father
Praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of Glory
Majesty

Praise forever to the King of Kings
To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross

For even in Your suffering
You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation
Jesus for our sake You died
Praise the Father
Praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of Glory
Majesty

Praise forever to the King of Kings
And the morning that You rose
All of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death

And the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe

For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored
And the Church of Christ was born
Then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this Gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel shall not faint

By His blood and in His Name
In His freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me
Praise the Father
Praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of Glory
Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings

Sermon Developing Passionate Disciples of Jesus Matt 9:35-38

The Offering

Prayer of Blessing

P You have called us and empowered us for a mission to the whole world. You have gathered us as a church, washed us in grace, united us in faith and given us the Holy Spirit. We are joined to believers around the globe who offer our lives and our resources to be used in the world of Your Kingdom on earth.

C **Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

Pastor: Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful,
People: **and kindle in them the fire of Your love.**

Pastor: Confident in Christ our Savior and in the promised intercession of the Holy Spirit, let us lift up our hearts and voices in prayer to our Father above.
Faithful Lord, Your mercies are new every morning. Even when we stray from Your presence through disobedience to Your commands, You reconcile and restore us through the Spirit of the message, who is Christ Himself, our hope of glory.

People: Give us the fullness of Your Spirit.

Pastor: Redeeming Savior, You prepare a place for us in Your Father's kingdom and promise to all who trust in You the inheritance of life forever in Your presence. Help us with our hearts to believe and with our mouths to confess Your saving name.

People: Give us the fullness of Your Spirit.

Pastor: Sanctifying Spirit, You fill the lives of all who trust in Jesus. Grant restoration and peace to those who are broken in heart and mind, body and soul. Grant that each one of us find refreshment in Your presence. Open our eyes to the needs of our neighbors, for in them we see You and, in serving them, we give our service to You.

People: Give us the fullness of Your Spirit.

Pastor: Sovereign King, You are Lord of all things in heaven and on earth. Watch over the community, the state, and the nation in which we live, guiding all public servants to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with You as their God. Enable us to dwell in security and peace, giving witness to the message of Christ with both boldness and gentleness so that those who have yet to receive You as their Savior may be brought to saving faith.

People: Give us the fullness of Your Spirit.

Pastor: Great Physician, You give healing to those who cry to You for mercy. Today we lift up before You [names]. Whatever issues we may be facing, help us to look to You and remember that in Christ alone we receive the fullness of who we are called to be.

People: Give us the fullness of Your Spirit.

Pastor: Receiving the fullness of Your Spirit and offering these prayers to You, O gracious Lord, we trust that You hear and answer us according to Your good and gracious will.

People: **In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

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 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 and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen

The Invitation

P: This morning we have another opportunity to encounter God's real, tangible grace for us in this meal; that in, with, and under these simple elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus Christ given to us for the forgiveness of sins.

And so, we become what we eat. We are the body of Christ to be sent out into the world. So it's necessary and good that we partake of this meal; that we experience God's love for us in this way, that we share this family meal together. So if this is your confession I would invite you to join me as we confess together our faith.

C: I understand and admit that I have sinned against God, that I recognize my sin and humbly ask God to forgive me. I believe that Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior and that He is my only hope against sin, death, and the devil.

I believe that the risen Christ is really present in the Sacrament, and under the form of the bread and wine I receive this true body and blood for the forgiveness of my sin and the strengthening of my faith and life to the Lord and His Church by faithfully worshipping Him, cheerfully giving my time and resources, and joyfully sharing the Good News of Jesus with others.

Words of Institution

On the night He was betrayed,
He took the bread, gave thanks, and said,
"Take eat, my friends, this broken bread,

this is my body for forgiveness of your sin.
When you eat, my friends, this meal of love,
remember me and my love for you again.”

On the night He was betrayed,
He took the cup, gave thanks, and said,
“Take drink, my friends, this cup of wine,
this is my blood for forgiveness of your sin.
When you drink, my friends, this cup of love,
remember me and my love for you again.”

**Oh, we are here, to thank You Lord,
for the bread and wine outpoured.
For it is Your body and Your blood
that You so lovingly and freely give to us.
So we praise You holy Lamb of God;
We love You our sweet Jesus.
We love You our sweet Jesus. We love You our sweet Jesus.**

“On the Night” words and music by Mark Zehnder. Used by permission. CCLI#2960087.

Distribution

Hymn of Heaven

How I long to breathe the air of Heaven,
Where pain is gone and mercy fills the street;
To look upon the one who bled to save me,
And walk with Him for all eternity.

There will be a day when all will bow before Him.
There will be a day when death will be no more.
Standing face to face with He who died and rose again.
Holy, holy is the Lord.

And ev'ry prayer, we prayed in desperation.
The songs of faith we sang through doubt and fear.
In the end, we'll see that it was worth it
when He returns to wipe away our tears.

There will be a day when all will bow before Him.
There will be a day when death will be no more.
Standing face to face with He who died and rose again.
Holy, holy is the Lord.

And on that day we join the resurrection,
And stand beside the heroes of the faith.
With one voice, a thousand generations
Sing worthy is the Lamb who was slain.
Forever He shall reign.

There will be a day when all will bow before Him.
There will be a day when death will be no more.
Standing face to face with He who died and rose again.
Holy, holy is the Lord.

So let it be today we shout the hymn of Heaven.
With angels and the Saints we raise a mighty roar.
Glory to our God who gave us life beyond the grave.
Holy, holy is the Lord
Holy, holy is the Lord
Holy, holy is the Lord

*"Hymn of Heaven" Words and Music by Phil Wickham, Bill Johnson, Brian Johnson and Chris Davenport. Used by permission.
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Communion Dismissal

P: Now may this true body and blood, strengthen and preserve you in the one
true faith until life everlasting.

Go in His peace.

C: Amen

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this Meal. Daily remind us of our identity in You as a newborn, chosen, priestly people called to proclaim Your excellencies; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Benediction

P: Jesus says—

C: **Go make disciples of all nations,**

P: Baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Teaching them to obey everything that he has commanded us.**

P: Christ is with us always—

C: **To the very end of the age!**

Days Of Elijah

These are the days of Elijah, declaring the Word of the Lord.

And these are the days of Your servant Moses, righteousness being restored.

And though these are days of great trials, of famine and darkness and sword;

Still we are the voice in the desert crying, “Prepare ye the way of the Lord.”

Behold He comes, riding on the clouds, shining like the sun at the trumpet call.

Lift your voice, it’s the year of jubilee, and out of Zion’s hill salvation comes.

And these are the days of Ezekiel, the dry bones becoming as flesh.

And these are the days of Your servant David, building a temple of praise.

And these are the days of the harvest, the fields are as white in Your world;

And we are the laborers in Your vineyard declaring the Word of the Lord.

Behold He comes, riding on the clouds, shining like the sun at the trumpet call.

Lift your voice, it’s the year of jubilee, and out of Zion’s hill salvation comes.

There’s no god like Jehovah, There’s no god like Jehovah,

There’s no god like Jehovah, There’s no god like Jehovah.

There's no god like Jehovah, There's no god like Jehovah,
There's no god like Jehovah, There's no god like Jehovah.

There's no god like Jehovah, There's no god like Jehovah,
There's no god like Jehovah, There's no god like Jehovah.

There's no god like Jehovah, There's no god like Jehovah,
There's no god like Jehovah.

Behold He comes, riding on the clouds, shining like the sun at the trumpet call.
Lift your voice, it's the year of jubilee, and out of Zion's hill salvation comes.

Behold He comes, riding on the clouds, shining like the sun at the trumpet call.
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Lift your voice, it's the year of jubilee, and out of Zion's hill salvation comes.

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