

**May 19, 2024**  
**Pentecost Sunday**  
**Recognition of Graduates**

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDES**

*Creator Spirit, By Whose Aid*                      *James Mansfield*  
*Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*  
*Robert W. Thygerson*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRAYER CONCERNS AND REQUESTS**

**CHORAL INTROIT #388**                      *Come All You People*                      *Uyai Mose*  
***Come all you people, come and praise your Maker; come all you people, come and praise your Maker; come all you people, come and praise your Maker; come now and worship the Lord.***

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**RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP**

*The liturgist will read the words designated "One" and the congregation will respond, not in word, but in action, as noted in the italicized words.*

**One: On the day of Pentecost, the church was gathered together in one place. Could it have looked something like this?**

*Turn and look around you; notice the people who sit near you today.*

**One: On the day of Pentecost, the Spirit of God blew through the church like a howling wind. Could it have sounded something like this?**

*Respond by making wind noises with your mouth and by rubbing your hands back and forth.*

**One: On the day of Pentecost, differences were minimized as people came together seeing and hearing one another. Could it have felt something like this?**

*Respond by waving to or shaking hands with someone close to you.*

**One: On the day of Pentecost, the Spirit of God fell down like rain on everyone gathered there that day. And sons and daughters prophesied.**

*If you are someone's child, no matter your age, place one hand on your heart.*

**And young people saw visions, and old people dreamed dreams.**

*If you consider yourself young in spirit or wise in years, place a second hand on your heart.*

**One: Thanks be to God for bringing us together in this place for worship. May we, like those before us, worship God with our whole hearts.**

\*Please stand as you are able.

## **OPENING PRAYER**

Holy Spirit, dwell among us here like you hovered over the waters of Creation. Breathe on us as we worship God and the Word is read and proclaimed. Sanctify us as we hear your voice in the cacophony of all our voices united in praise to you. In the name of Christ, we pray. **Amen.**

## **\*OPENING SONG #280**

*Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us*  
(verse 1)

*Ebenezer*

***Come, O Spirit, dwell among us; come with Pentecostal power; give the church a stronger vision; help us face each crucial hour. Built upon a firm foundation, Jesus Christ, the Cornerstone, still the church is called to mission that God's love shall be made known.***

(verse 2)

***We would raise our alleluias for the grace of yester years; for tomorrow's unknown pathway, hear, O Lord, our humble prayers. In the church's pilgrim journey you have led us all the way; still in presence move before us, fire by night and cloud by day.***

(verse 3)

***Come, O Spirit, dwell among us; give us words of fire and flame. Help our feeble lips to praise you, glorify your holy name. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One: what mystery! We would sing our loud hosannas now and through eternity.***

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## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

One: God's Spirit has gathered us for worship. Let us confess our sins and return to God:

## **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Spirit of God, we hesitate and doubt. You call us to act boldly but our fear keeps us from following your call. Forgive our lack of courage. Embolden us to dream big and trust the Spirit to fill us and use us. Help us be Christ's church without hesitation. Guided by your Holy Spirit, help us to usher in your coming kingdom. Amen.**

*(Time of Silence)*

## **ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON**

One: "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and freed.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## **\*SONG OF RESPONSE #288**

*Spirit of the Living God*

*Living God*

***Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.***

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\*Please stand as you are able.

## **\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

One: Welcome each other. Welcome the stranger. Welcome all who come. As Christ welcomed everyone, let us be Christ to everyone we meet. Peace be with you.

**All: And, also, with you.**

## **WORD**

### **UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**With clear minds and focused hearts, may we hear the words of Scripture today, and be receptive to the way in which God speaks to us through these words. In God's Spirit, we pray. Amen.**

### **FIRST SCRIPTURE READING**

*John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15*

<sup>26</sup> “When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. <sup>27</sup> You also are to testify, because you have been with me from the beginning.

<sup>4b</sup> “I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. <sup>5</sup> But now I am going to him who sent me, yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ <sup>6</sup> But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. <sup>7</sup> Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you, but if I go, I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup> And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: <sup>9</sup> about sin, because they do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup> about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, and you will see me no longer; <sup>11</sup> about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

<sup>12</sup> “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. <sup>13</sup> When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. <sup>14</sup> He will glorify me because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup> All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

### **CHORAL ANTHEM**

*Miserere Nobis (Sung in Latin)*

*McPheeters*

*TRANSLATION:*

*Have mercy upon us. For thou alone art holy. Thou alone art the Lord.  
With the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father. Have mercy upon us.*

### **SECOND SCRIPTURE READING** *Acts 2:1-21*

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

\*Please stand as you are able.

<sup>5</sup> Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup> Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" <sup>8</sup> And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup> Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." <sup>12</sup> All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup> But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." <sup>14</sup> 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. <sup>15</sup> Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup> No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup> '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. <sup>18</sup> Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. <sup>19</sup> And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. <sup>20</sup> The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. <sup>21</sup> Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

**SERMON**

*"The Spirit Comes"*

*Rev. Dr. John Wahl*

**UNISON AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Nicene Creed)**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## WITNESS

### INVITATION TO OFFERING

We take this time to reflect and recognize all contributions of time, talent, and treasure. A basket is available for making monetary donations.

### OFFERTORY

*Come, Holy Spirit*

*George Lachenauer*

### RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES (see attachment)

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION / PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**\*SENDING SONG #290**    *O Day of Joy and Wonder!*                      *Jonathan's Tune*  
(verse 1)

***O day of joy and wonder! Christ's promise now fulfilled: the coming of the Spirit that holy love has willed. Our Lord in human body to mortal eye is lost, yet comes in flame upon us at blessed Pentecost.***

(verse 2)

***The world, in sheer amazement, the truth must now declare: that those who once were cowards are brave beyond compare; and tongues, which could not utter their faith in Jesus' name, defy all persecution God's glory to proclaim!***

(verse 3)

***We too may know your power; your courage makes us strong. Your love, your joy, your patience can all to us belong. Come now and dwell within us, O Comforter divine. Come to our hearts, and keep them; there let your brightness shine.***

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### \*CHARGE AND BLESSING

### \*BENEDICTION

*Go Now in Peace*

*Besig*

### POSTLUDE

*Saint Denio*

*Edward W. Beals*

\*Please stand as you are able.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Knitting For Others



Inviting all folks from 12-100 years of age, who like to knit or who would like to learn, to be a part of Valley's Knitting Group. We will be knitting special items like prayer shawls, blankets, and other helpful and comforting items for our members and people in our community.

The group will meet:

Wednesday, May 22 — 10:30 a.m. - noon

For questions, please call one of our Co-Chairs, Beverly or Bev:

Beverly Wahl  
502-553-7255

Bev Keough  
330-888-5385

## Church Work Days

**Sunday, May 19**



Our church building and grounds require many helping hands to keep it functional and beautiful. There will be tools and jobs available today, May 19, for those who would like to help. You can, also, pitch in a different time at your convenience. Please see Elder Jerry Moreno for project ideas.

## CFPCC Food Bank Needs

Please consider donating the following items to help stock the shelves at Chagrin Falls Park Community Center:



**May is Cleaning Supply Giveaway month – toilet bowl cleaner, sponges, scrub brushes, paper towels, Windex, Murphy's Oil Soap, Mr. Clean/Lysol, Pinesol, Comet, etc. or anything you would like to donate.**

CFPCC is receiving donations at your car. Someone will come out and retrieve donations.

## Faith Garden

We believe that it is a good thing to spend time in God's creation, and to be faithful stewards of the good gifts that God provides.

All the produce raised in the Valley Faith Garden is donated to the food pantry at Chagrin Falls Park Community Center.

You are invited to come and spend time in and around the Faith Garden – weeding, planting, picking, or just sitting for a rest – at these times (from May – September):

First and third Tuesdays of each month – 6 - 7 p.m.

Second and fourth Wednesdays of each month – 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

## Pass-it-on Resale Store



The **store will be open** on:

**Friday, June 14, 2024** (1 p.m. – 4 p.m.)

**Saturday, June 15, 2024** (10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

Pass-it-on is accepting donations. Please contact Brenda Wahl at 440-829-7841 or [passitonamissionoflove@gmail.com](mailto:passitonamissionoflove@gmail.com).

### VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

[www.valleypresbychurch.org](http://www.valleypresbychurch.org)

**VPC Guest Wifi Password: VPC12345**

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Heart of Valley Preschool  
Heidi Cregar, Director  
Phone: (440) 708-2572  
Email: [hovcp@netlink.net](mailto:hovcp@netlink.net)

Director of Music: Nancy Sullivan  
Liturgist: Marilyn Rodenhausen

Organist: John Kautzman  
Greeter: Tanya Fouts

## Graduates



**Will Belew** – son of Bill & Amy Belew. Graduated from Kenston High School and will be studying Horticulture / Landscaping at The Ohio State University-ATI Campus.

**Patrick Gurd** – grandson of Ruth Gurd. Graduated from The Ohio State University with a Bachelor of Science in Health and Rehabilitation Sciences.

**Ethan Krause** – son of Pete & Beth Krause. Graduated from Ohio Northern University with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science.

**Matt Louis** – son of Chris & Michele Louis. Graduated from Kenston High School and will be attending the School of Engineering at Cleveland State University.

**Lydia Obman** – daughter of Jim & Janice Obman. Graduated from Duquesne University with a Bachelor Degree in Nursing and will be working in the Medical ICU at Cleveland Clinic.

**Benjamin Smyser** – grandson of Lillian Smyser. Graduated from Wittenburg University with a Bachelor of Science in Biology with a Marine Science Minor.

**Molly Jane Sullivan** – granddaughter of Don & Nancy Sullivan. Graduated from Medina High School and will be majoring in Early Childhood Education at Bowling Green.

**Jack Wahl** – son of Pastor John Wahl. Graduating from Chagrin Falls High School and will be living at home and continue with vocational training.