



Pentecost, El Greco



Pentecost, Jen Norton

OUR SERVICE OF WORSHIP, JUNE 5, 2022

PENTECOST

WESTWOOD FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, CINCINNATI, OH



GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

Welcome/Announcements

Prelude: "Loving Spirit"—arr. Emma Lou Diemer

[Please take a moment to silence all mobile devices and prepare for worship.]

Ringling of the Tower Bell

Choral Introit: "I Was Glad"—Whitworth

[Where indicated (*), those who are able are invited to stand.]*

* Call to Worship (Responsive)

The Lord be with you all.

And also with you

Then I will pour out my spirit on all flesh, thus says the Lord.

Send down the fire of your justice!

Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,

Send down the rain of your love!

Your old shall dream dreams, and your young shall see visions.

Send down your Spirit, breathe life in your people!

In those days, I will pour out my spirit.

And we shall be people of God.

We gather in the Spirit's arms to be nurtured as we worship.

May it fill us with the Spirit as we go back to our daily lives.

Opening Prayer



* **Hymn No. 129:** “Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us”

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.

We would raise our alleluias for the grace of yesteryears;
For tomorrow’s unknown pathway, hear, O God, 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.

Come, O Spirit, dwell among us; give us words of fire and flame.
Help our struggling voices 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.



Invitation/Prayer of Confession (*Unison*)

Loving God, Lord of the Church, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed: by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with all our heart or served you with all our strength; we have been blind to the vision of a renewed world and deaf to your call to costly discipleship; we have been indifferent to the suffering of others and unwilling to forgive one another. In your mercy, Lord, pardon and restore us, that together in Christ’s ministry, we may serve you with joy all the days of our life. Amen.

A Moment for Silent, Personal Confession

[Please take a moment for silent reflection]

Assurance of Forgiveness (*[Ezekiel 37:14] Responsive*)

“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.”

The good news of the Gospel is this: In the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God has spoken and God has acted. It is for this reason, we are forgiven and freed.

Thanks and praise be to God!

When Jesus left his disciples, he did not leave them alone, sending the Holy Spirit. In doing so, He gave them an amazing gift—His peace. Through the Spirit, this gift endures, and so, may the peace of Christ be with you now and always!

And also with you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

- + June WestFed Food Pantry needs: Toilet paper, macaroni and cheese, canned fruit
- + Carla and Wayne Barlow would like to thank everyone for their birthday cards (Carla’s birthday was May 26) and she wants to thank the ladies from the Thursday lunch group that called and sang a “melodious” Happy Birthday to her!!
- + Flowers are given this week in memory of:
 - ♥ Brian DeFazio, by the DeFazio and Fair families.
 - ♥ Diane Heilmann in memory of her mother, Marion Heilmann.
- + Prayers are requested for:
 - ♥ Connie Hedrick and her family, after the death of her brother, Ron Eckenroth last Friday.
 - ♥ Luke, the seven month old nephew of Mike and Amy Babicke, who is undergoing treatment for Kawasaki disease.
 - ♥ Janet Ziegler, recently diagnosed with leukemia.
 - ♥ Jim Phillips, now at Alois Alzheimer’s Center.
 - ♥ Joe Dearwester, recovering from knee replacement surgery.
 - ♥ Cathie DeFazio, who is dealing with a rare melanoma behind her right eye, and Larry DeFazio, who is healing from a torn right rotator cuff.
 - ♥ Dominic, a teen-aged friend of the Zorn’s, undergoing open heart surgery.
 - ♥ Susie, a friend of the Kochheisers, undergoing chemotherapy.
 - ♥ Linda Kugele who continues to deal with breathing issues.
 - ♥ Our homebound members and friends.
 - ♥ The boys, girls, young men and women of our Scouting units, their families and leaders.
 - ♥ The members of our Session, our committees, and the discernment team.
 - ♥ Our partnership with City Gosel Mission and the Little Princesses Ballet.



MOMENT FOR MEDITATION: PENTECOST

Martin Luther wrote, “I truly desire that all Christians would love and regard as worthy the lovely gift of music, which is a precious, worthy, and costly treasure given to mankind by God...

“We marvel when we hear music in which one voice sings a simple melody, while three, four, or five other voices play and trip lustily around the voice that sings its simple melody and adorn this simple melody wonderfully with artistic musical effects, thus reminding us of a heavenly dance.”

This is why we take one day each year, to stop and thank all of you church musicians for all the wonderful blessings you add to our worship services. Without the music of the faith which you bring us, they would be something far less meaningful than they are. You bless us all year long in every season and occasion with your precious gifts of sacred music.

Thank you, Heather. You are amazing. It’s hard to comprehend how many hours you have spent in your lifetime practicing and how dedicated to the church’s music ministry you are. I’ll never know how you manage to do all that you do! Thanks too, to Julie, who gifts us with her presence and her music.

Thank you, choir members. Your faithfulness is astounding. The choir rehearsals, the Sunday morning run-throughs, the worship service Sunday after Sunday, over and over and over again. You lend your full voice and heart to every note of every part of the liturgy and hymns!

Thank you, bell choir members. Your hard work and musicianship are truly a blessing. You don’t receive anywhere near the amount of praise that you should!

Thank you, soloists. Your skills are extraordinary. Your leadership, professionalism and dedication are incredible. Beyond just our music ministry, please know that you are a valued part of our church family.

In his most famous quote on music, Luther said: “Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise. The gift of language combined with the gift of song was given to man that he should proclaim the Word of God through music.” And so we say “THANK YOU” to all church musicians. May God bless each of you richly, for all you do for the church.

~ Pastor Jeff and the Congregation of Westwood First PC

* **Response:** “*Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks to the Risen Lord*” (Unison)

[Refrain]: Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his Name.

We have been crucified with Christ, now we shall live forever. [Refrain]

Come let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Savior. [Refrain]

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading: *Ezekiel 37:1-14—The Valley of Dry Bones*

¹ 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. ² He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³ He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord God, you know.” ⁴ Then he said to me, “Prophecy to these bones and 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.”

Second Reading: *Acts of the Apostles 2:1-8, 12-21—The Day of Pentecost*

¹ 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 nation 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? 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, “Men of Judea 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.”

Sermon: “*Forgotten God*”

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Invitation to Offering

[No offering will be collected. Please place your offerings in the baskets located at the entrances to the sanctuary. Thank you for your generosity—now and always!]

Offertory Prayer (*Unison*)

Gracious God, accept our gifts, and with them our lives, to be used in your service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offertory Anthem: “*Sing to the Lord a New Song*”—Robert Benson

Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**



The Prayer of Thanksgiving/Words of Institution/Sharing of the Elements

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.

BEARING GOD’S WORD INTO THE WORLD

*** Hymn No. 264:** “*When In Our Music God Is Glorified*”

When in our music God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride,
It is as though the whole creation cried: Alleluia!

How often, making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound,
As worship moved us to a more profound Alleluia!

So has the church, in liturgy and song, in faith and love, through centuries of wrong,
Borne witness to the truth in every tongue: Alleluia!

Let every instrument be tuned for praise! Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always: Alleluia! Amen.

Charge and Benediction

Choral Response: “*O Holy Spirit, Lord of Grace*”—Christopher Tye

Postlude: “*Choral Song*”—Samuel Wesley

LEADING WORSHIP THIS MORNING:



Rev. Dr. Jeff Colarossi, *Pastor*
Heather MacPhail, *Organist/Director of Music Ministries*
Jason Dennison, *Videographer/Director of Technology*
Jeri Rathkamp, *Lay Worship Leader*

