

May 28, 2023
The Day of Pentecost

We Gather In God's Presence

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the traditional territory upon which we gather this morning. For many thousands of years the Anishnaabe, the Attawandaron, the Haudenasounee, and others, including our nearest Indigenous neighbours, the Chippewa of the Thames, the Muncee – Delaware Nation, and the Oneida of the Thames, have sought to walk gently on this land. They offered assistance to the first European travellers to this territory and shared their knowledge for survival in what was at times a harsh climate. We seek a new relationship with the Original Peoples of this land, one based in honour and deep respect.

Lighting the Christ Candle

Gathering In Song VU 381 "Spirit of Life"

Spirit of Life, come unto me.

Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.

Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;

move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.

Roots hold me close; wings set me free;

Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

Birthdays, Celebrations, and Life and Work of the Congregation – see last page ...

Call to Worship

We have come to celebrate the birthday of the church.

We have come to celebrate Pentecost,

and to open ourselves to God's Spirit that it might fill us.

**O God, help us to direct our thoughts to you,
that your power might fill this church and our lives,
as it filled your people throughout the ages.**

Teach us to be your church and your people.

Amen.

Hymn VU 207 "Spirit of God, Unleashed on Earth"

Spirit of God, unleashed on earth
with rush of wind and roar of flame!

With tongues of fire saints spread good news;
earth, kindling, blazed its loud acclaim.

You came in power, the church was born;
O Holy Spirit, come again!

From living waters raise new saints,
let new tongues hail the risen Lord.

With burning words of victory won
inspire our hearts grown cold with fear,
revive in us baptismal grace,
and fan our smouldering lives to flame.

Opening Prayer: VU 206 (*unison*)

Your Spirit, God, works in our weakness until we are aflame with your love and power.
Fill the hearts of your faithful with living fire, that we may set the world ablaze;
through Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the Spirit be honour and praise, now and forever. Amen.

We Celebrate God's Presence

Hymn VU 467 "One Bread, One Body"

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
one cup of blessing which we bless;
and we, though many, throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.

Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man, no more.

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
one cup of blessing which we bless;
and we, though many, throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.

Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all.

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
one cup of blessing which we bless;
and we, though many, throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one, for all.

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
one cup of blessing which we bless;
and we, though many, throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

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

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God, Creator of light, Giver of all life, Source of love. In the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and your Word brought all things into being. Through a burning bush you spoke to your prophets and your people. With glowing coals you touched their lips, that they might speak your word of truth and justice. By fire and your Spirit, you have guided us through the wilderness. We give you thanks and praise, O God of wind and word, power and peace. Lover of all nations, although we have so often betrayed your promise, you have never left us nor forsaken us. You sent us Jesus, your Gift of Grace, our Light and Flame. You poured out your Spirit upon us, to create, renew, inspire, that all might be made whole. We bless you, for your Spirit wraps us in your presence, drawing us closer in community. And so it is that on this feast of Pentecost, we give you praise and thanks for your many gifts, joining with all your people that, as one body, we may proclaim your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

On the eve of his betrayal, Jesus renewed God's covenant promise. He took bread, offered the blessing, broke it, and gave it to those who sat at table with him.

Then, at the close of the meal, he poured the cup of blessing, raised it in thanks to God, and passed it among them.

Loving God, we rejoice in the gift of your grace, remembering Christ's life and death, proclaiming his resurrection, waiting in hope for his coming again. Grant that in praise and thanksgiving, we may so offer ourselves to you that our very lives may proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this offering of your church, that we who eat and drink at Christ's table may share in his life. Pour out your Spirit upon the whole earth, and make it your new creation. Gather your church together from the ends of the earth into your realm where peace and justice are revealed—that we, with all your people, of every language, race, and nation, may share the banquet you have promised.

At this time, we also remember all those with whom you would have us share your feast.

We pray for all who mourn, especially the friends and family of the Rev. Dr. Grafton Antone, and Anne Haycock.

We pray for all who are ill or alone, especially

We pray for all who are struggling with difficult situations in their lives,

We pray for your church and its varied ministries, especially Burgessville United Church . . .

for the nations as they strive for peace and justice . . .

for the people of the earth, especially the people of Angola and Mozambique...

for the earth, and the fragile web of life we share . . .

for our families, our friends, and for our enemies.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most holy, now and forever.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,
forever and ever.**

Amen.

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer Following Communion

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world united in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Anthem:

Invitation to Invest in God's Mission

On the day of Pentecost the church came alive with the movement of the Holy Spirit. Today, the Holy Spirit moves in us and through us in the giving of our gifts, our skills, our time, and our money. Our tithes and our offerings will be received, by CanadaHelps, Canada Post, and the offering plate.

Offering Hymn VU 539 "God of All Good" vs. 2

We give our mind to understand your ways,
hands, eyes and voice to serve your great design;
heart with the flame of your own love ablaze,
till for your glory all our powers combine.

Offering Prayer

Holy One, accept all that we offer. Move through what is offered to bring new hope and new life to all our neighbours; the ones we love, the ones we look down on, and the ones who look down on us. In Christ's name. Amen.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b VU 827 part 2

Refrain: Bless, O my soul, the Almighty, who rules all creation.

O God, how manifold are your works!

**With Wisdom at your side you made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.**

Refrain: Bless, O my soul, the Almighty, who rules all creation.

There lies the great and mighty Sea,
teeming with living things both great and small.

**Upon it sail the ships, and there is Leviathan,
the monster you made to play in it.**

All these look to you,
to give them their food in due season.

**What you give them they gather up.
When you open your hand,
you fill them with good things.**

But when you hide your face they despair.
When you take away their breath, they die,
and return to dust.

**But when you send out your spirit, they live again,
and you renew the face of the earth.**

Refrain: Bless, O my soul, the Almighty, who rules all creation.

May your glory, O God, endure forever.

May you rejoice, O God, in your works.

When you look at the earth it trembles,

when you touch the mountains they smoke.

I will sing to God as long as I live.

I will praise my God while I have being.

Refrain: Bless, O my soul, the Almighty, who rules all creation.

Scripture: Numbers 11:24-30

So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD, and he gathered seventy of the elders of the people and placed them all around the tent. Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders, and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!" And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

The other readings for this week are: Acts 2:1-21; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13; John 20:19-23 OR 7:37-39

Hymn VU 205 "Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song"

Like the murmur of the dove's song,
like the challenge of her flight,
like the vigour of the wind's rush,
like the new flame's eager might:
come, Holy Spirit, come.

To the members of Christ's body,
to the branches of the Vine,
to the church in faith assembled,
to our midst as gift and sign:
come, Holy Spirit, come.

With the healing of division,
with the ceaseless voice of prayer,
with the power to love and witness,
with the peace beyond compare:
come, Holy Spirit, come.

Meditation: "Pop goes the weasel."

We Go Forth With God's Blessing

Hymn VU 380 "She Comes Sailing on the Wind"

She comes sailing on the wind,
her wings flashing in the sun;
on a journey just begun, she flies on.
And in the passage of her flight,
her song rings out through the night,
full of laughter, full of light, she flies on.

- 1 Silent waters rocking on the morning of our birth,
like an empty cradle waiting to be filled.
And from the heart of God the Spirit moved upon the earth,
like a mother breathing life into her child.
- 2 Many were the dreamers whose eyes were given sight
when the Spirit filled their dreams with life and form.
Deserts turned to gardens, broken hearts found new delight,
and then down the ages still she flew on.
She comes sailing on the wind,
her wings flashing in the sun;
on a journey just begun, she flies on.
And in the passage of her flight,
her song rings out through the night,
full of laughter, full of light, she flies on.
- 3 To a gentle girl in Galilee, a gentle breeze she came,
a whisper softly calling in the dark,
the promise of a child of peace whose reign would never end,
Mary sang the Spirit song within her heart.
- 4 Flying to the river, she waited circling high
above the child now grown so full of grace.
As he rose up from the water, she swept down from the sky,
and she carried him away in her embrace.
She comes sailing on the wind,
her wings flashing in the sun;
on a journey just begun, she flies on.
And in the passage of her flight,
her song rings out through the night,
full of laughter, full of light, she flies on.
- 5 Long after the deep darkness that fell upon the world,
after dawn returned in flame of rising sun,
the Spirit touched the earth again, again her wings unfurled,
bringing life in wind and fire as she flew on.
She comes sailing on the wind,
her wings flashing in the sun;
on a journey just begun, she flies on.
And in the passage of her flight,
her song rings out through the night,
full of laughter, full of light, she flies on.

Commissioning and Benediction

May the boldness of God's Spirit transform us,

May the gentleness of God's Spirit lead us,

May the gifts of God's Spirit equip us

to serve and protest injustice this day and always.

Amen.

Sung Response: "Go Now In Peace"

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there supporting us with love.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen, amen, amen.

UNION:

The Outreach Focus for the months of May and June is: Second Stage Housing.

Wish list: Antiseptic cleaner, Lysol spray or wipes, New Toilet plungers, New Toilet brushes
Liquid hand soap, Dish soap. Dryer sheets, Paper towels, Toilet paper

Coming Services

June 11 Outdoor Service and Sunday School closing with potluck following
July 9 Outdoor Service with potluck following

Stone Church Cruise Nights - Last Monday of the Month

June 26, July 31, August 28, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Everyone Welcome. Custom - Rods – Classics - Muscle Cars - Trucks
Special Interest & Vintage vehicles of all kinds
Hot Beef-on-a bun, Hot Dogs, Ice Cream, Cold Drinks
NOTE: In case of bad weather, come anyway because "rain or shine"
We will be serving the beef-on-a-bun!!!

DORCHESTER:

Next Sunday Yousef and Ruba, and their children Lana and Jawad will be joining us for worship and for refreshments following worship.

Lectionary Readings for next week:

(June 4, Trinity Sunday)
Genesis 1:1 – 2:4a; Psalm 8; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20