

**Wesley Order of Worship
Pentecost Sunday**

May 20, 2018

* please stand as you are willing and able.
Please respond where the print is in **Bold**.

Gathering as People of God

**Hymn Sing
Highlighted Announcements**

Opening to Divine Presence

***Call to Worship:**

This is the day that God has made,

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Midst the joy of a long weekend,

We gather to give thanks,

To hear again of Divine Love,

To be comforted and challenged by the Spirit which was in Jesus.

Let us worship together.

***Hymn of Praise:** Come, O Holy Spirit (#23, More Voices)

Opening prayer:

Holy Spirit of God, pour upon us your gift of guidance. We live in this day which specialises in confusion. We live in this time where your Spirit sounds suspect to rational minds. Confirm in us your courage for faith in this suspicious age.

We are your church! Guide us with your renewing Spirit! Give us the heart to awaken to your wonders and the faith to welcome your signs of hope around us. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Reflecting on Holy Wisdom

***Hymn of Preparation:** Dance with the Spirit (#156, More Voices)
(Children are invited to come forward)

Time with Young at Heart: *Filled with the Spirit.*

The Lord's Prayer (sung)) #959 VU

(NOTE – If you wish to make this more inclusive, you may sing “Creator, Redeemer...” or “Our Father, Our Mother...”)

***The Peace**

Peace be with you.

And also with you. (Sharing signs of peace and reconciliation)

Scripture Readings:

~ Dorothy Taylor

Genesis 11:1-9 (The Message)

Acts 2: 1-21 (The Message)

For the word of God in Scripture, for the word of God among us, for the word of God within us.

Thanks be to God.

Ministry of Music: God Breathe ~ Vicki Tucker Courtney

Message: *Babel or Pentecost?* ~ Rev. Jenny Stephens

Responding to God's Call

Moment for Individual Meditation

Hymn of Response: Come Touch Our Hearts (#12, More Voices)

Offertory Music: Holy Manna ~ Joel Raney

Offertory Prayer: (*From Touch Holiness*)

O God, on this day of Pentecost we celebrate your Spirit so freely given and so powerfully active within your church. As that Spirit moves in our midst, may it inspire us towards generosity and fire us with an energy to serve you well. We ask this in the name of Christ whose promise of ever-presence the Spirit fulfills. Amen.

Celebration of Holy Communion

***Sung Response:** Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ vs1&2
(#468, Voices United)

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving (see insert)

This prayer, of United Church origin, is written from a multicultural perspective, affirming God's work in and through diverse peoples and cultures.

Breaking bread

Pouring the wine

Distribution ~*Please come to the front to receive the bread and juice.*

Prayer after Communion: *(From Touch Holiness)*

Eternal and gracious One, though we live in a world of need, here we have tasted your goodness and hungered for a world more just. Though afflicted by brokenness and division, here we have heard your call to be a people of healing community. Though daily we touch our limits, here we have received the fullness of your grace. Send us forth, O God, in faith, in hope, and in love. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Going Forth to Share the Good News

***Hymn of Mission:** Draw the Circle Wide (#145 [More Voices](#))

***Commissioning**

We go as Spirited people, powerful as the wind in doing God's will, energetic as fire in extending the love of Christ. We are builders of understanding and makers of peace, open to embrace and celebrate the diversity of God's creation.

***Benediction**

***Choral Benediction:** You Are Holy (#45, [More Voices](#))

Postlude: Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring - J.S. Bach

Thanks to Mark Miyasaki for sharing his trumpet talents during worship this morning.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Holy One is here.

God's Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

It is indeed good and right to give you thanks and praise,
O God of many names.

You made a covenant with Noah
and caused nations, in their amazing diversity,
to spread over the face of the earth.

As of old you led your people
out of a land of enslavement to a land of promise,
so, too, you led our ancestors, and some among us,
into new lands of possibility—there to find you anew.

In the fullness of time, you sent Jesus,
in every aspect human as we are.
He grew up in a small town in Galilee,
far from the seat of religious and civil power.

He spoke with a distinct accent.
He learned of the breadth of your grace
from a Gentile mother.

Beside Jacob's well,
he was moved by an encounter with a minority woman
and disclosed his messianic identity.
Therefore, with these and our other ancestors in the faith,
both named and unnamed,
who through the ages and all over the world
have borne courageous witness to the hope within them,
we praise you, singing:

Holy, holy, holy God, Power of life and love! (x2)
Heaven and earth are full of your glory! Hosanna through the
ages! (x2)
Blest is the One who comes to bring your justice to earth!
Hosanna through the ages. (x2)

On the last night he spent with his friends,
Jesus took an age-old tradition of his people
and transformed it into something new.
He took bread, staple food of his land,
blessed and broke it, and gave it to those around him saying,
“Take, eat, this is my body, broken for you.
Whenever you do this, remember me.”
After supper he took a cup of wine, common drink of his people,
and gave it to them, saying,
“Drink this, all of you, this is the new covenant in my blood.
Each time you do this, remember me.”
By remembering Jesus in this way now,
we claim our common heritage
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Send, O covenant God, your Holy Spirit
upon us and what we do here,
that we and these gifts, empowered by your Spirit,
may become signs of shalom
to one another and to all peoples of the earth.

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

Amen.