

+ Our Foundation is Built on the Rock of Jesus the Christ +



+ **The People of Mount Zion-Finksburg, Maryland** +

Wm. Louis Piel Pastor + Leslie Gabler, Director of Music
Ushers in May Lois Pulket & Judy Piel, Ken Bakewell
Morning Prayer Marianne Hewitt

The Celebration of Pentecost + The Observance of Memorial Day
May 28, 2023 + Worship 9:55 a.m. +

A Thought as You Prepare for Worship

Without the Holy Spirit:

God is far away

Christ stays in the past

The gospel is a dead letter;

The Church is simply an organization;

Authority is a matter of domination;

Mission is a matter of propaganda;

The liturgy no more than an evocation;

Christian living a slave mentality.

(Bishop Ignatius of Latikion at a Council of Churches meeting at Upsala)

Prelude

Our Worship Themes Today

- a. Celebration of the Holy Spirit – The Day of Pentecost
- b. Observance of Memorial Day – Our National Holiday “We Remember”

We Gather + Our Gathering Song “Spirit of the Living God” U.M. Hymnal #393
+ Please sing (2) two times

Scripture Lesson

The Promise: “Jesus ordered his disciples not to leave Jerusalem but wait for the promise of the Spirit. You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea, and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

The Gift of the Spirit: “When the day of Pentecost had come they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came the sound of a violent wind and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit gave them ability.”

Opening Prayer

Video “MZ Day of Pentecost”

(Note this video was taken from a motion picture showing the wind of God)

Anthem The Faithful Few. “Come Holy Spirit”

“The Holy Spirit came at PentecostCome Holy Spirit, dark is the hour, We need Your filling, Your love and Your mighty power. Move now among us, Stir us we pray, Come, Holy Spirit, Revive the Church today.”

Hymn of Pentecost “On Pentecost They Gathered”

Sing to the tune Hymnal #547 “O Church of God United”

Words written by Jane Parker Huber (“A Singing Faith”

- (1) “On Pentecost they gathered, quite early in the day, a band of Christ’s disciples, to worship, sing and pray. A mighty wind came blowing, filled all the swirling air, and tongues of fire a glowing, inspired each person there.
- (2) The people all around them, were startled and amazed, to understand their language, as Christ their Lord they praised. What universal message, what great good news was here? That Christ once dead is risen, to vanquish all our fear.
- (3) God pours the Holy Spirit on all who would believe, on women, men and children, who would God’s grace receive. That Spirit knows no limit, be stowing life and power, the church formed and reforming, responds in every hour.
- (4) O Spirit, sent from heaven, on that day long ago. Rekindled faith among us in all life’s ebb and flow. O give us ears to listen, and tongues aflame with praise, so folk of every nation glad songs of joy shall raise.”

Video For Pentecost “Consuming Fire – Pentecost” (Hillsong- United)

We Welcome our Children

Even if we do not have children in congregational worship we remember all God’s children.

“The Faith We Sing” songbook #2233 “This, this is where children belong, welcomed as parts of the worshipping throng. Water, God’s Word, bread and cup, prayer and song. This is where children belong.”

Informal Moments + Reception of our Tithes & Offerings

Offering Response (Hymnal #94) “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Morning Prayer + Prayer Leader Marianne Hewitt

Our Prayer Song (“Sweet, Sweet Spirit U.M. Hymnal #334)

“There’s a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, and I know that it’s the Spirit of the Lord.
There are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.
Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, stay right there with us, filling us with your love.
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise, without a doubt we’ll know
that we have been revived when we shall leave this place.”

.(inspired by Acts 2

(Unison)

**Breath of God,
Spirit who appeared like a driving wind, blow away our prejudice
and teach us to value all people.**

**Spirit of God,
who appeared like tongues of flame, burn in us as a passion for justice (over)
and a commitment to change.**

**Spirit of life,
who caused the disciples to speak in tongues, speak through us,
and fill us with the courage to proclaim your love.**

**Spirit of truth,
who fills us with wonder and awe, inspire us to work for a better world
and a future where injustice is swept away. Amen
Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.**

**O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
Amen.**

Video “Taps – For Memorial Day”

Lighting the Memorial Candle + Melanie Stranix

The Memorial Day Challenge

Video “Memorial Day + We Pause to Remember – Our Wars – Our Losses

A Personal Witness Ken Bakewell

Special Poem – “We Remember You” - Written by Leslie Gabler

Viet Nam Memorial “More Than a Name on a Wall” – (The Statler Brothers)

Our Closing Song “Let There Be Peace on Earth and Let It Begin With Me”
U.M. Hymnal #431

Closing Blessing (Pastor

Go now as God’s chosen witnesses

Go now to testify that Christ has been raised and that we are raised with him.
Do not look for Jesus among the dead, but be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

And may God raise you from all that would entomb you;
May Christ Jesus call you by name and go ahead of you;
And may the Holy Spirit empower you for all that is good.

Musical Postlude + Leave this place but don’t forget to take Jesus with you!

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