

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

MAY 23, 2021

PENTECOST

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Prelude on Down Ampney
Come Down, O Love Devine

Tune by Ralph Vaughn Williams

INTROIT

There's A Sweet, Sweet Spirit in this Place
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, SWEET SPIRIT

Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove,
stay right here 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.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, Holy, Spirit, come.

Come and move in and through us.

Whispers of hope around the corner of despair; shouts of joy at a graduation:

You are around us in every place.

The sweet breath of a baby, the remembrances of the elderly:

You speak to us through every person.

Soft breezes on a summer's day; bitter winds through frozen trees:

You are with us in every season.

The gentle lullabies of a parent; the birds twittering us awake:

You sing glad songs to us.

The sudden rush of newness throwing open our sheltered fears;
the gale of justice breaking down the walls of oppression:

You sweep us up in your commitment to transform all lives, all places.

In every breath, in every song, in every moment, in every tongue:

Come, Holy Spirit, and transform us!

HYMN

Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us

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.

We would raise our alleluias for the grace of yesteryears;
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.

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.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One,

The wind blows and we hear the sound of it, but we do not know where it comes from.

We try to explain it away, but even our own breath speaks of new things we cannot understand.

We confess that even when we can be together in one place, but we do not speak with one voice, we do not listen with one heart.

We hear, and dismiss, your deeds of power, your call to love those who are different, your insistence that the whole world be included.

Continued

You pour out your Spirit, and we squash the vision—it is too big, too unrealistic, too uncertain, too unruly.
You send visions of a future with hope, and we look back instead.
You light the way, and we look for a fire extinguisher, trying to keep ourselves safe.
Forgive us, O God. We long for your new life, but we do not know how to live it.
Rush into us again, and fill every nook and cranny with dreams and visions of possibility.
Turn our hushed whispers into proclamations of your grace, in every language of the world.
Lead us out into your future.

Silence is kept for personal prayers of confession

CHORAL PETITION

Spirit of the Living God
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. (2x)
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

LIVING GOD

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

JOYFUL RESPONSE

On Pentecost They Gathered
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 aglowing inspired each person there.
O Spirit, sent from heaven on that day long ago,
rekindle 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.

MUNICH

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Phyllis Bearden

EPISTLE READING

Romans 8:22-27

MUSICAL OFFERING

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 2:1-21

CHILDREN'S LESSON

SERMON

The Spirit Dances, Still

Rev. Camille LeBron Powell

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We are not alone, sliding through a mystery with no guidance.

We have an Advocate who guides us with power and truth.

We do not pray alone, worried about “getting it right” or being heard.

We have an Advocate who prays with us, in deep, wordless sighs.

We do not work alone for the healing of the world.

We have an Advocate who directs our paths and reveals Christ to us.

We are born of water and fire, adopted into the family of God.

We have an Advocate who strengthens our relationship with the Holy.

We are a people of bountiful gifts and many connections.

We have an Advocate who blesses and encourages us.

We are yet coming to know more fully the height and depth and breadth of the love of God.

We have an Advocate who does not rest in revealing that truth to all creation.

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF GOD'S CHURCH, COMMUNITY AND WORLD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Offertory Response

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow LAST UNS ERFREUEN
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Prayer of Dedication

HYMN

We Are One in the Spirit

ST. BRENDAN'S

We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;
we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:

Refrain: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;
we will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land: (*Refrain*)

We will work with each other; we will work side by side;
we will work with each other; we will work side by side,
and we'll guard human dignity and save human pride: (*Refrain*)

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one: (*Refrain*)

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

BENEDICTION IN MUSIC

De Trompette ou de Cornet Separe, en Dialogue

N.-L. Clerambault



Notes on Today's Music