

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
Day of Pentecost

May 23, 2021

10:00 a.m.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Words of Welcome

Prelude

"Every Time I Feel the Spirit"

arr. John Carter

Call to Worship

Jesus says, "I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever."

This is the Spirit of truth.

You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

* Hymn 289

"On Pentecost They Gathered"

- 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 aglowing inspired each person there.
- 2 The people all around them were startled and amazed
to understand their language, as Christ the 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, bestowing life and power.
The church, formed and reforming, responds in every hour.
- 4 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.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

Almighty God,

you poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples

creating bold tongues, open ears, and a new community of faith.

We confess that we hold back the force of your Spirit among us.

We do not listen for your word of grace,

speak the good news of your love,

or live as a people made one in Christ.

Have mercy on us, O God.

***Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit,
and fill us with a flaming desire to be your faithful people,
doing your will for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.***

* Silent Confession

* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

* Response 587 ***Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 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. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

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. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: '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. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

A Time with Children

Gospel Lesson: John 15:26-27, 16:4-15

"When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. But I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them.

"I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and

righteousness and judgment: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned."

"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

Sermon: "God's Gift to Church Folks"

Rev. Carter

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 287 "Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading"

1 Gracious Spirit, heed our pleading; fashion us all anew.
It's your leading that we're needing; help us to follow you.

Refrain: Come, come, come, Holy Spirit, come. Come, come, come, Holy Spirit, come.

2 Come to teach us; come to nourish those who believe in Christ.
Bless the faithful; may they flourish, strengthened by grace unpriced. (**Refrain**)

3 Guide our thinking and our speaking done in your holy name.
Motivate all in their seeking, freeing from guilt and shame. (**Refrain**)

4 Not mere knowledge, but discernment, nor rootless liberty;
turn disquiet to contentment, doubt into certainty. (**Refrain**)

5 Keep us fervent in our witness, unswayed by earth's allure.
Ever grant us zealous fitness, which you alone assure. (**Refrain**)

* Litany of Gifts

There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.

God works through each person in a unique way,
but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.

Together we are the body of Christ,
and individually members of it.

* Statement on Ordination

* Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;**

**who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;**

the third day he rose again from the dead;

**he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;**

from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Constitutional Questions
Prayer of Ordination
Welcome and Charge

Offering
Offertory "Fughetta on Komm, heiliger Geist, Herre Gott" arr. Andreas Armsdorf

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.**

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 280 "Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us"

- 1 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.
- 2 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.
- 3 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.

* Charge and Benediction

Postlude "Rhumba on Veni, Creator Spiritus" arr. Paul Leddington Wright

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher	Rev. William G. Carter
Coordinator of Children And Youth Ministries	Jana Schillinger
Liturgist	Beverly Bright
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck

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Today we will ordain and install elders and deacons for the next term. Brad Campbell, Ginny O'Brien, and Barry Shepherd will be ordained and installed as elders, class of 2024. JoAnn Hall and Robin Pinches (both in the class of 2024) and Jay Clymer (class of 2023) will be installed as elders.

Diana Pope-Albright and Tracy Smith will be ordained and installed as Deacons, class of 2024. Bill Farrell, Kate Hopkins, and Peter Moore will be installed as Deacons, class of 2024.

First Presbyterian Church
300 School Street
Clarks Summit, PA 18411
570/586-6306
www.fpccs.org

Family Announcements

Thank you for joining us for Worship. We worship every Sunday in two ways!

- **Have you had your vaccines?** [Make a reservation with our office](#) (570-586-6306) and join us in person at 10:00 a.m.
- **Tune in online** for our weekly service, which is broadcast live on [our video page on YouTube](#) and archived for later viewing on the same site.

The Covid guidelines are changing quickly. Our Session is asking that we continue the use of masks for the time being. There is more freedom in seat selection since the blue tape has been removed from the pews, and the pew cushions have returned to the sanctuary so the pews are a little more comfortable. **Reservations** for worship are helpful, but **there is more flexibility** now, so if you forgot to make a reservation but want to come, **please do!**

As we are returning to more regular services and attendance at church, please consider honoring loved ones, celebrations and family events with a special floral arrangement to mark the occasion. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Upcoming meetings:

My Brother's Keeper Quilts (MBKQ) – May 25, 10:00 a.m.

Board of Deacons – May 25, 7:00 p.m.

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, May 31, Memorial Day

FEMA is currently accepting applications to reimburse up to \$9000 for Covid-19 related funeral expenses. The original article (from Boston Globe) and the FEMA link are below. <https://www.boston.com/news/coronavirus/2021/04/08/fema-coronavirus-funeral-expenses> or www.fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus/economic/funeral-assistance.

2020 Pastoral Sabbatical – in 2021!

Rev. Bill is preparing to take a summer sabbatical, which was deferred a year by the pandemic. He will be "off the clock" from June 1 until the end of August. Some of our best local preachers and caregivers will be covering for him, as he researches and writes a book titled *Thriving on a Riff: Jazz and the Spiritual Life*.

For any pastoral needs during the sabbatical, contact the church office (570-586-6306).

CAMP LACKAWANNA INFORMATION

Summer Camp 2021 Registration is open! Head on over to camp.lackawanna.org to see what programs are being offered this summer and to register your children for camp! Family Camp registration is also open! **Our church offers scholarships** for all young people who want to go. Check with Jana Schillinger for details.

Help Needed: Many cabins at camp need a fresh coat of paint before camp season begins. If you have any available time to help the Camp, please contact Mykela Bricka (570-550-2391 or camplackawanna.director@gmail.com). She will be happy to have your help.

Camp Lackawanna Summer Schedule

DATES	CAMP	AGE GROUP
June 24-27	Family Camp	All Ages
June 28-30	Mini Camp	Ages 6-10
July 4-10	Wet n' Wild	Ages 7-16
July 11-17	Music, Arts and Drama	Ages 7-16
July 11-24	JH/SR 2-week	Completed grades 6-11
July 18-24	Adventure Camp	Completed grades 6-10
July 25-31	Night Owls	Completed grades 3-10
August 1-7	Camp Olympics	Ages 7-16

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