

Day of Pentecost



**May 31, 2020
at 10:30 a.m.
on Facebook **Live****

**or in the afternoon on our
church website at
westminsterakron.org**

COME

We welcome you to Westminster's virtual worship service this Sunday. To set a more worshipful tone while watching this service at home, we encourage you to find a quiet space and light a candle.

If you are joining us on Facebook Live, then you can find a copy of today's bulletin on our church website at westminsterakron.org.

Opening Voluntary Variation on "Down Ampney" Richard T. Gore

*Call to Worship Zack Troyer

Come to Jesus, you who are thirsty.

Alleluia!

Drink deeply of the Holy Spirit.

Alleluia!

Let your heart overflow with the living water that renews the face of the earth.

Alleluia! Thanks be to God.

*Hymn 466 O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing AZMON

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing My dear Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King, The triumph of God's grace!
2. Jesus, the name that charms our fears, That bids our sorrows cease; 'Tis
music to the sinner's ears, 'Tis life, and health, and peace.

3. Christ breaks the power of reigning sin, And sets the prisoner free; Christ's blood can make the sinful clean, Christ's blood availed for me.
4. My gracious Master and my God, Assist me to proclaim,
To spread to all the earth abroad The honors of Thy name.

ENCOUNTER

Call to Confession

God has promised that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. Therefore, let us call upon the Lord, confessing our sins.

Prayer of Confession

God of new creation, we confess that we have failed to trust your bountiful goodness. By the power of the Holy Spirit you brought forth the earth and its creatures in abundance. Yet, we hoard the earth's resources and refuse to share your gifts. We dishonor your generosity by withholding our charity to those in need. We betray your kindness by dealing harshly with our enemies. We disregard your compassion by severely judging the sins of others. Forgive us. By the power of your Spirit renew our hearts and free us from sins that we may enjoy the fullness of your blessing upon all creation. Amen.

Silence is observed.

Response 574 Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*
Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Sisters and brothers, God offers forgiveness of our sins and the grace of repentance. Accept God's grace, repent of your sin, and be restored to abundant life.

*Response 567 Glory Be to the Father *Gloria Patri*
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever, Amen. Amen.

*Passing the Peace

We invite you now to greet one another saying, **The peace of Christ be with you.**

Time for Church Life and Call for the Offering

With thanksgiving for God's gifts to us, let us offer ourselves and the fruits of our labor for God's work in the world.

Anthem Pentecost Mark Schweizer
(The Congregation is invited to sing along on the Refrain)

*Come O Spirit of Fire, To all people inspire Holy wind, holy fire
Rushing down in glory, Tell the ancient story.*

REFRAIN Rushing wind, wind, wind, Tongues of flame, flame, flame; Rushing
wind, tongues of flame, Who will tell the story?

*Come O Spirit of Flame, To your people proclaim God in Spirit became For us to
inherit God, the Son and Spirit.*

REFRAIN

*Come O Spirit of Light, Pentecost is your might; Seven gifts sent aright To your
congregation, Blessing every nation.*

REFRAIN

*God the Son, Spirit, blest Ever our welcomed guest, Be all honor addressed
Endless praise be given To the Lord in heaven.*

*Rushing wind, wind, wind, Tongues of flame, flame, flame,
Rushing wind, tongues of flame, We will tell the story!*

*Come O Spirit of Love, From the Lord God above, Come, O heavenly dove, Shine
in all your glory; Tell the ancient story.*

REFRAIN

Rushing wind, tongues of flame, We will tell the story!

*Response 592 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow *Doxology*
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures
here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son,
and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Time with Young Disciples

Val Thorson

GROW

Prayer for Illumination

Almighty God, by the power of your Holy Spirit, speak to us in the language of our hearts, that we may hear your Word with understanding and answer your call with confidence. Amen.

The First Lesson

Acts 2:1-21

New Testament

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."

The Second Lesson John 7:37-39

New Testament

On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, 'Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, "Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water."' Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon Go with the Flow

The Reverend Dr. Sandy Selby

SERVE

*Affirmation of Faith

from A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in one body of Christ, the church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of those long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, Come, Lord Jesus!

Pentecost Prayers of the People

God who comes among as rushing wind, move the Church to receive the breath of your Spirit, so that we will be a movement for love, peace, and justice. God of life,

Fill us with your Holy Spirit.

God who speaks through tongues of fire, empower all leaders to speak your truth of love and compassion for all, and set them on fire with a passion to serve the common good. God of power,

Fill us with your Holy Spirit.

God who brings forth rivers of living water, open us to be conduits of that life-giving water for those who thirst: those who are sick, lonely, afraid, homeless, or hopeless, that they may drink and be filled with your comfort and your strength. God of love,

Fill us with your Holy Spirit.

God who created this earth as a place of goodness and beauty, ground us in commitment to this sacred trust, that we may be faithful stewards of the lands, waters, and creatures entrusted to our care. God of providence,

Fill us with your Holy Spirit.

God who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, open us to your presence that is with us in all times and places, that we may be witnesses to your steadfast, abiding love for all Creation. Triune God,

Fill us with your Holy Spirit.

We pray now in silence for our own needs and those of others.

And finally, together as the people of God, let us offer the words of the Lord's Prayer, saying in one voice:

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.

*Hymn 376 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

1. Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down. Fix in us Thy humble dwelling, All Thy faithful mercies crown! Jeus, Thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love Thou art; Visit us with Thy salvation, Enter every trembling heart.
2. Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit Into every troubled breast! Let us all in Thee inherit, Let us find the promised rest; Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be; End of faith, as its beginning, Set our hearts at liberty.
3. Come, Almighty to deliver, Let us all Thy life receive; Suddenly return, and never, Nevermore Thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing,

Serve Thee as Thy hosts above; Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.

4. Finish, then, Thy new creation; Pure and spotless let us be; Let us see Thy great salvation Perfectly restored in Thee; Changed from glory into glory, Till in heaven we take our place, Till we cast our crowns before Thee, Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

*Charge and Benediction

Life is short, and we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who journey along the way with us. O be swift to love, and make haste to be kind (Henri-Frederic Amiel).

And may the Holy Spirit refresh and sustain you with the living water of Christ. Amen.

Voluntary Every Time I Feel the Spirit Traditional

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome The Reverend Dr. Sandy Selby to the pulpit this Sunday. Reverend Dr. Selby is Pastor of Furnace Street Mission. She worked for BF Goodrich for 18 years before following the call to ordained ministry.

The Flowers In The Chancel are given in appreciation for the dedicated WPC staff and volunteers who provide support for us all, from Alec and Margo Works.

Let Us Know Your Favorite Hymns I am inviting you all to fill out the online form you will find on our website under Current Updates page, listing your top five favorite hymns (in order of preference). When I've received all the forms, I'll tally up the totals for each hymn selected, and make a chart listing the favorite hymns for WPC. The forms will then go to Pastor Jon for his files. Be sure to put in your name. During worship on Sunday, August 2nd, we'll have an old-fashioned "hymn sing," in which we'll sing the top ten hymns of the congregation. It should be fun! I look forward to seeing (and hearing) your favorites!
Faithfully, Valerie Thorson, Director of Music & Organist.

Pentecost Each year on Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the church. The Holy Spirit remains with us still, connecting us with the church of the past, continuing to inspire the church of today, and pointing us to the church of the future. Each year, this celebration is

marked by receiving the Pentecost Offering which nurtures the faith of those who are the church to come — children, youth, and young adults. The Pentecost Collection supports four primary goals:

- 25% goes to support Young Adult Volunteers,
- 25% supports ministries with youth ages 12 to 18.
- 10% supports “Educate a Child, Transform the World” and
- 40% remains at Westminster to assist local programs that serve at risk children, youth and young adults.

This year RAHAB Ministries Minor Safe House for youth fleeing human trafficking is our beneficiary. More information about the RAHAB programs and the RAHAB Minor Safe House is available at

RAHAB Ministries <https://youtu.be/I1-ghGJGzJo>

Minor Safe House <https://youtu.be/ShOeLYT5wT8>

Please join in supporting our youth globally and locally with your contribution on Sunday, May 31.

New Mobile Banking App For Your Donations Session approved Mobil Banking through GIVE**PLUS+**. You can now download the App on your devices: go to your App Store or Google Play and search for GIVE**PLUS+** to download the App for free. The mobile App will take you to your online giving account or you can create your new online giving account to track your donations and set up recurring gifts. Note that we are not accepting credit cards.

During these difficult times, the church remains grateful for your faithful support of our ministries through your financial contributions. Please help us continue to serve the WPC family and our neighbors by ensuring that our staff is supported, our facility remains operational, and the "least of these" are served. To give online, click under the tab "online giving."

The church office remains open from 9:00 a.m. to noon, Monday-Friday. Staff schedule in the office: **Monday** - Pastor Jon, Debby Evrard and Dave Bodnar. **Tuesday** - Debby Evrard, Sheila Svoboda, Claudine Schooley and Dave Bodnar. **Wednesday** - Pastor Jon, Mallory Gray, Debby Evrard and Dave Bodnar. **Thursday** - Debby Evrard, Sheila Svoboda and Dave Bodnar. **Friday** - Pastor Jon and Claudine Schooley.



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