

Pentecost

9:30 a.m.

May 21, 2023

GATHERING

The people of God come together in the Lord's name

Prelude - Choral Variations on "Veni Creator" (Hymn 651) – Maurice Duruflé

Call to Worship

The hour is coming, and is now here,

to worship the Lord in Spirit and truth.

The wind blows where it chooses,

so let us not be astonished to hear,

"You must be born from above,"

so it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.

Opening Hymn 603** - *Come, Holy Ghost, Our Hearts Inspire*

Come, Holy Ghost, our hearts inspire,

let us thine influence prove;

source of the old prophetic fire,

fountain of life and love.

Come, Holy Ghost (for moved by thee

the prophets wrote and spoke),

unlock the truth, thyself the key,

unseal the sacred book.

Expand thy wings, celestial Dove,

brood o'er our nature's night;

on our disordered spirits move,

and let there now be light.

God, through the Spirit we shall know

if thou within us shine,

and sound, with all thy saints below,

the depths of love divine.

Invocation

God of wind, word, and fire, we bless your name this day for sending the light and strength of your Holy Spirit. We give you thanks for all the gifts, great and small, that you have poured out upon your children. Accept us with our gifts to be a living praise and witness to your love throughout all the earth; through Jesus Christ, who lives with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, on God, forever. Amen.

PROCLAMATION

The Word of God is read and proclaimed for all ages.

Scripture Reading

Psalm 104:24-34; 35b

O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

Yonder is the sea, great and wide, creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great.

There go the ships, and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.

These all look to you to give them their food in due season;

when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground.

May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in his works—

who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke.

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the Lord.

Bless the Lord, O my soul. Praise the Lord!

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

Anthem - Come Down, O Love Divine - Ralph Vaughan Williams

Come down, O Love divine,

seek thou this soul of mine,

and visit it with thine own ardor glowing;

O Comforter, draw near,

within my heart appear,

and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,

till earthly passions turn

to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;

and let thy glorious light

shine ever on my sight,

and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

And so the yearning strong,

with which the soul will long,

shall far outpass the power of human telling;

for none can guess its grace,

till Love create a place

wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling. Amen.

God's Word for Young Disciples

Scripture Reading

Acts 2:1-4, 41-47

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. So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added. They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

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

Gloria Patri (sung)**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Sermon - *What is Beloved Community?*

Pastor Jon Priebe

RESPONSE

The people of God respond to the Word

Hymn of Response No. 731** – *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*

*Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
God, whose word cannot be broken,
formed thee for his own abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
thou mayst smile at all thy foes.*

*See, the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters,
and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
ever will their thirst assuage?
Grace which like the Lord, the giver,
never fails from age to age.*

*Round each habitation hovering,
see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a covering,
showing that the Lord is near!
Thus deriving from our banner
light by night and shade by day,
safe we feed upon the manna
which God gives us when we pray.*

*Blest inhabitants of Zion,
washed in our Redeemer's blood;
Jesus, whom our souls rely on,
makes us monarchs, priests to God.
Us, by his great love, he raises,
rulers over self to reign,
and as priests his solemn praises
we for thankful offering bring.*

Reception of New Members

Amanda Austin-DeMartinis
Elizabeth Cramer
Tyson Cramer

Christopher DeMartinis
Anna Rogalski

Mark Rogalski
Margaret Weiner

Discipleship Moment

Offertory - *Beautiful City from Godspell* - Stephen Schwartz

*Out of the ruins and rubble
Out of the smoke
Out of our night of struggle
Can we see a ray of hope?
One pale thin ray
Reaching for the day*

[Chorus]

*We can build
A beautiful city
Yes we can
Yes we can
We can build
A beautiful city
Not a city of angels
But we can build a city of man*

[Verse 2]

*We may not reach the ending
But we can start
Slowly but truly mending
Brick by brick
Heart by heart*

*Now maybe now
We start learning how*

[Chorus]

*We can build
A beautiful city
Yes we can
Yes we can
We can build
A beautiful city
Not a city of angels
But we can build a city of man*

[Bridge]

*When your trust
Is all but shattered
When your faith
Is all but killed
You can give up
Bitter and battered
Or you can slowly start to build*
(Please fill out the attendance sheet found in the pew.)

Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayers of the People/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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

The people of God are sent forth to serve others and witness to their faith

Closing Hymn 648** - God the Spirit

God the Spirit, guide and guardian,
wind-sped flame and hovering dove,
breath of life and voice of prophets,
sign of blessing, power of love:
give to those who lead your people
fresh anointing of your grace;
send them forth as bold apostles
to your Church in every place.

Christ our Savior, Sovereign, Shepherd,

Word-made-flesh, Love crucified,
teacher, healer, suffering Servant,
friend of sinners, foe of pride:
in your tending may all pastors
learn and live a Shepherd's care;
grant them courage and compassion
shown through word and deed and prayer.

Great Creator, Life-bestower,
Truth beyond all thought's recall,
fount of wisdom, womb of mercy,
giving and forgiving all:
as you know our strength and weakness,
so may those the Church exalts
oversee her life steadfastly
yet not overlook her faults.

Triune God, mysterious Being,
undivided and diverse,
deeper than our minds can fathom,
greater than our creeds rehearse:
help us in our varied callings
your full image to proclaim,
that our ministries uniting
may give glory to your Name.

Benediction and Choral Response - Hymn 666

Shalom to you now, shalom my friends. May God's full mercies bless you, my friends. In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

Postlude - Fugue sur le theme de Carillon des Heures de la cathédral de Soissons - Duruflé



The flowers on the altar are dedicated to the glory of God and given

In loving memory of Donald Bowles, by Joan, Mark, Nancy, Isabelle, Emma and Sarah;
In loving memory of James and Dorothy Ward, by Carol Spidle and Jim and Zetta Ward.

Service Music: Jon and Nehemiah Priebe, duet

Music: One License A-731491

Music: One License A-731491

NEXT STEPS

What is Beloved Community?

Acts 2:3-4 – the temple was where God’s Spirit dwelled, now it is with the people

vs. 46 – those who were touched by the Spirit had their lives transformed

To Diognetus, the God-Born

What really makes a Christian different from any other person?

“What the soul is to the body, the Christian is to the world.”

“Christians love those who hate them... even when they are put to death, they receive life”

Questions for Reflection: How has the Holy Spirit changed me as I am a follower of Christ? Read Galatians 5:19-23. Do you see things that the Spirit has helped you lay aside or fruit of character that the Spirit has grown in you? How is God challenging you to live differently so others might see Christ?

Question for Discussion: What do you think the author meant when he wrote to Diognetus that, “the Christian is to the world what the soul is to the body?” How might God use you in this way?

Memory Verse: **Acts 2:46** - *Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts.*

Readings for this Week: Matthew 28:16-20, 2 Corinthians 4:6-15

CHURCH NOTES

Attention VBS Teachers and Helpers: A make up session for those who were unable to attend our required training will be held today after the worship service. There will be a light meal served. Anyone needing Safe Sanctuary training or recertifying will do so after the session.

Love Offering: Both Pastor Mike and Pastor Karol's last day at First Church will be Sunday, June 25. A Love Offering will be taken for both between now and June 18, and will be given to them that day. You may place your Love Offering (made out to First Church, but marked Pastor Mike or Pastor Karol, in separate envelopes if possible) in the offering plate, or you may mail it to the church office to the attention of Nancy Yeager. We will celebrate their service, express our gratitude, and say goodbye to both Pastors Mike and Karol with cookies and lemonade on the lawn after the service on June 25.

Registered for VBS?? It's time for everyone who is registered for VBS to be sure that you have completed and sent in the Medical Forms and your payment. Remember that the fees are \$10 per child for the morning programs, including SERVE and an additional \$60 for those in the afternoon EXTREME program. Those on the waiting list for EXTREME will be notified as soon as possible if a position has opened for your child. Thank you all for registering your children. We are looking forward to our time together on June 19-23.

Family Promise: For the month of May and June, we are going to collect the following for the families of Family Promise: Toilet paper, paper towels, dish soap and laundry detergent. Our cupboards are full of peanut butter, jelly, ramen noodles and Velveeta Shells and cheese so we thought perhaps you could help with the new items listed above for use by the 10 (previously homeless) families with children at the Glendora House on Copley Road just for May and June. Please put your donations in the Family Promise bin by the library.

Good Neighbors is requesting the following: shampoo, shaving cream, toothpaste, deodorant, paper towels, bathroom tissue, laundry and dish soaps, spaghetti sauce, ramen noodles, tomato sauce, and salad dressing.

Golf Outing: The 17th Walter "Bud" Mills Golf outing, the major fundraising event for the Epworth Choir Tour, will be held at Brookledge Golf Club on June 24th, at 1:30. There will be prizes, raffle baskets, and dinner. You may also attend just the dinner (contact Dean.) Putt-Putt will be available at Downview from 4:30-6 for a reduced price of \$4 (mention the golf outing.) We are also seeking sponsors for holes, carts, gifts, and baskets. Brochures are available at the Welcome Center with more information or you may contact Dean Wagner, or Jim Boss.

First Fridays at Five: This popular activity will resume this Friday, June 2, at 5:00 at WaterWorks Park. Please bring a side dish to share and your non-alcoholic beverage of choice. Hot dogs, buns, and condiments will be provided.

Christmas Shoeboxes: Acts of Grace, in conjunction with the Epworth Youth Group, are collecting items each month in an effort to pack 100 shoeboxes. The items for May are: small stuffed animals, combs, and toy cars (Matchbox type.)

Blessing Box: We currently have a large supply of canned good, but are in need of the following: ramen noodles, individual oatmeal packets, flavored rice/ noodle packets, canned tuna/ canned chicken, pasta, pasta sauce, individual fruit cups, travel sized toothpaste, toothbrushes, travel sized body wash, travel sized shampoo.

Church Square Community Garden: Planting has taken place, but there is still lots to do! We can use many helping hands with planting the garden, weeding and watering it throughout the growing season. If you have any questions or are interested in helping, please contact Millie Keyser at 330-945-4858 or millie.keyser@sbcglobal.net. Each year, the produce from the garden has gone to Good Neighbors and other community organizations.

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH –
PRAYER BULLETIN
MAY 28, 2023**



MINISTERS & STAFF:

Forrest Waller & Mike Ward

HOSPITALIZED:

MEMBERS TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER:

Kathy & Scott Adie Bob Ahonen Debbie Amundsen Shirley Asher Mary Ellen Atwood Behrman family Mark & Cindy Blaser Robert Boyd Larry Brimlow	Don Corbett Jim Evans Jean Finnegan Rose Gregory Mary Griest Joyce Haberkost Jim Henes Phil Hennen	Lee Minier Pat Park Kathi Sawyer Todd Schneider Cynthia Schrier Christina Shaw Michael Taucher Ken Tunstall
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DEEPEST SYMPATHY & PRAYERS:

Kathy Kuzas and family on the death of her mother-in-law, member Doris Kuzas on 5/15.