

PROCESSION OF THE FLAMES REPRESENTING THE HOLY SPIRIT

PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:

- ❖ A human being is a part of the whole called by us universe, a part limited in time and space. He experiences himself, his thoughts and feeling as something separated from the rest, a kind of optical delusion of his consciousness. This delusion is a kind of prison for us, restricting us to our personal desires and to affection for a few persons nearest to us. Our task must be to free ourselves from this prison by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty. *Albert Einstein*
- ❖ We are living in an historic moment. We are each called to take part in a great transformation. Our survival as a species is threatened by global warming, economic meltdown, and an ever-increasing gap between rich and poor. Yet these threats offer an opportunity to awaken as an interconnected and beloved community. Desmond Tutu
- * The Holy Spirit can't be taught, it must be caught. You can only share with others if you believe you have enough.

PRAISE SONG: Listen Now for the Gospel (music at end of bulletin)

CALL TO WORSHIP:

L1: Come, Holy Spirit, Come!

L2: Renew the face of the earth. Come, Holy Spirit, Come!

L1: Renew our lives, inside and out.

ALL: Renew our faith, renew our relationships, renew our trust in your mercy.

L2: Come, Holy Spirit, Come!

L1: Renew our lives, inside and out.

ALL: Challenge us, comfort us, stir us up, calm us down.

L2: Come Holy Spirit, Come!

L1: Renew our lives, inside and out.

ALL: With fire and wind, come to this place; gather us in, send us out;

L1: Come Holy Spirit, Come!

L2: Renew our lives, inside and out.

ALL: Make our legs stronger, our hands firmer, our hearts wider in love.

L2: Come Holy Spirit, Come!

L1: Renew the face of the earth.

OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH IN THE HOLY SPIRIT:

All: We believe in God, known as Creator, Son and ever-present Spirit. We believe God gave birth to the church with the gift of the Holy Spirit - stirring the disciples and us to tell the Good News, heal the sick, feed the hungry, take care of the poor, welcome the stranger and be a community of forgiveness and joy.

We believe the Spirit is still moving, still acting, still turning the world upside down with love. We believe the Spirit gives us different gifts to use, all for building up the church and showing the world a community of compassion and wisdom.

We believe the Holy Spirit will not be contained in dull, lifeless forms, but surprises us and empowers us to do new things, to risk loving, to venture boldly into God's world.

We believe in the church, wind-powered, fire-tinged and Spirit-filled.

SONG: Boundless Love, v. 1 & 3 (music at end of bulletin)

PENTECOST READINGS:

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."

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

God's various gifts are handed out everywhere; but they all originate in God's Spirit. God's various expressions of power are in action everywhere; but God himself is behind it all. Each person is given something to do that shows who God is: Everyone gets in on it, everyone benefits. All kinds of things are handed out by the Spirit, and to all kinds of people! The variety is wonderful:

Wise counsel Clear understanding Simple trust Healing the sick

Miraculous acts

Proclamation

Distinguishing between spirits

Tongues

Interpretation of tongues.

All these gifts have a common origin, but are handed out one by one by the one Spirit of God. He decides who gets what, and when.

You can easily enough see how this kind of thing works by looking no further than your own body. Your body has many parts—limbs, organs, cells—but no matter how many parts you can name, you're still one body. It's exactly the same with Christ. By means of his one Spirit, we all said good-bye to our partial and piecemeal lives. We each used to independently call our own shots, but then we entered into a large and integrated life in which he has the final say in everything. (This is what we proclaimed in word and action when we were baptized.) Each of us is now a part of his resurrection body, refreshed and sustained at one fountain—his Spirit—where we all come to drink. The old labels we once used to identify ourselves—labels like Jew or Greek, slave or free—are no longer useful. We need something larger, more comprehensive.

MESSAGE: "Pass It On" Pastor Cristy School

SONG: Send Down the Fire (music at end of bulletin)

THE PENTECOST PRAYER:

Holy Spirit, Creator, in the beginning you moved over the waters. From your breath all creation drew life. Without you, life turns to dust.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Holy Spirit, Counselor, by your inspiration, the prophets spoke and acted in faith. You clothed them in power to be bearers of your Word.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Holy Spirit, Power, you came as fire to Jesus' disciples; you gave them voice before the rulers of this world.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Holy Spirit, Sanctifier, you created us children of God; you make us the living temple of your presence; you intercede within us with sighs too deep for words.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Holy Spirit, Giver of life, you guide and make holy the church you create; you give gifts: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and fortitude, the spirit of knowledge and piety, the spirit of the fear of the Lord, that the whole creation may become what you want it to be.

Come, Holy Spirit!

True and only Light, from whom comes every good gift.
Send your Spirit into our lives with the power of a mighty wind.
Open the horizons of our minds by the flame of your wisdom.
Loosen our tongues to show your praise, for only in your Spirit can we voice your words of peace and acclaim Jesus as Lord.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

THE SENDING OUT:

L1: Go forth now as Pentecost people, filled with the Spirit, dreaming dreams, and seeing visions of God's possibilities.

L2: We go forth, knowing we are beloved and blessed by a God who never leaves us alone.

L1: Go, to be surprised by the Spirit in all that you do and everywhere that you go.

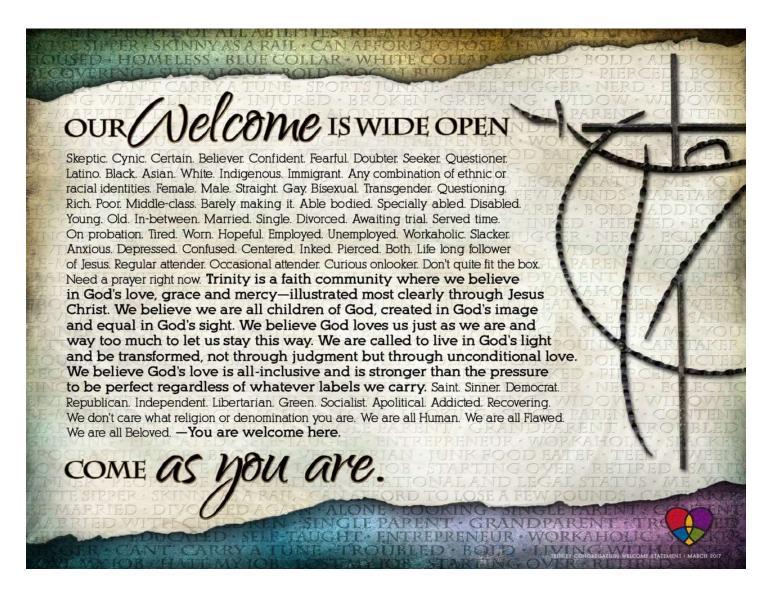
L2: We go, claiming our identity as Pentecost people—people of wind and fire, dreams and visions, people filled with that most amazing and transforming Spirit. **Amen.**

THE SENDING SONG: From Now On (music at end of bulletin)

THE DISMISSAL:

Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!



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Listen Now for the Gospel







From Now On
Congregational lyrics in bold type. Song leader lyrics in italics.

