

Day of Pentecost
Communion

June 8, 2025

10:30 a.m. Worship



All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

--Acts 2:4

First Presbyterian Church

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COMMISSIONED PASTOR: DR. WENDY L. LAMB

MINISTRY OF PASTORAL SUPPORT: REV. DR. STEPHEN W. SMITH

MINISTRY OF VISITATION: LAURIE STAFFORD

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: CURTISS ALLEN, JR., DIRECTOR OF MUSIC;

WILLIAM ZEITLER, ORGANIST;

AMY GANO, BELLS

PASTOR EMERITUS: REV. JAMES C. HUFFSTUTLER

Welcome to Worship at First Presbyterian Church

This service is being livestreamed and can be viewed on our YouTube channel in real time or as a recording. **Large-print copies of this order of service**, as well as **audio enhancement devices** are available **from the ushers**.

We gather on Sunday for 3 reasons:

- **To seek God**- whom we find in sacred text and sacrament, in music and in song, in prayer, in the beauty of this space, in the stillness where we can hear our hearts. We offer God our thanks and praise, our lament and longing, and our resources. We let go of burdens and receive grace and forgiveness. We see the One our hearts love.
- **To practice Community** – rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. To break bread with those whom we love and those whom we need to love more fully. We practice things our culture does not emphasize: resting, forgiving, sharing. Jesus asked us to love one another as he loved us, and we cannot do so without practice.
- **To listen for our Call**- often an invitation to go out and be or do or remember. God is speaking all the time: through conscience, nature, friends, and certainly scripture. We gather to listen for that Call and to recommit ourselves to discipleship.

Information on our common life can be found on our website www.fpcsb.net, along with sermons and newsletters. You can participate in our work by supporting us financially with a one-time or sustaining donation.

Children are welcome in worship. Younger children may go to the Nursery at any time.

OUR NEXT COMMUNION will be Sunday, July 6th.

Morning Worship†

Lector: Robin Edwards

REFLECTION BEFORE THE SERVICE

God of fire, burn brightly in your Church.
Consume our petty concerns and jealousies,
Purify our deeds and intentions,
Kindle in our hearts the fire of your love.
Amen.

David Hamflett, *Fire and Bread*

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Pentecost Prelude

Charles Callahan

Susan Addington, Flute

Allow the music to usher you into sacred space and time.

INTROIT

Spirit of the Living God¹

Daniel Iverson

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.

*CALL to WORSHIP

God of wind and fire

Blow into our lives

✘ **Move us to action,**

Break down the walls that separate us.

Where our language divides

✘ **Offer us translation.**

Where our fear overcomes

✘ **Fill us with the fire of courage.**

Where our lives are becalmed

✘ **Fill our sails with wind,**

Moving us forward into the unknown future.

God of Pentecost

✘ **Fill us with your hope and promise. Amen.**

† The symbols you will see in this order of worship mean:

*** Stand if you are able**

✘ The congregation will read.

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***PRAYER of CONFESSION²**

✘ God of wind and of fire,
 We are predictable, set in our ways.
 We are reluctant and we are afraid.
 We grow discouraged and feel powerless.
 We long for so much more.
 (*Take a moment to silently name your longing.*)
 God of fire, burn brightly in your Church.
 Kindle in our hearts the fire of your love. Amen.

ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

✘ In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and are being made whole.

***ALLELUIA**

William Zeitler

TIME with the CHILDREN

[Children are always welcome in worship. KidSpace is taking a break for the summer, but will resume in September in Room 10.

There are activity bags in the narthex and we will hand out Children's Bulletins after Time with the Children.]

ANTHEM

Spirit of Life³

Jane M. Marshall

Spirit of Life, in this new dawn, Give us the faith that follows on, Letting Thine all-pervading pow'r Fulfill the dream of this high hour. Spirit Creative, give us light, Lifting raveled mists of night; Touch Thou our dust with spirit-hand and make us souls that understand. Spirit Consoling, let us find Thy hand when sorrows leave us blind; In the gray valley let us hear Thy silent voice: "Lo, I am near." Spirit Redeeming, give us grace When crucified to seek Thy face; To read forgiveness in Thine eyes Today with Thee in Paradise. Spirit of Love, at evening time, When weary feet refuse to climb, Give us Thy vision, eyes that see Beyond the dark, that see the dawn and Thee.

² Thom M. Shuman, *Fire and Bread*

³ Text: Earl Marlatt. ©1959 The H. W. Gray Co., Inc. Reprinted with permission under ONELICENSE #A706254. All rights reserved.

This is the word of faith that we proclaim

✠ **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Universal Translator! Rev. Samuel Roberts

THE OFFERING of OUR TITHES and GIFTS

(We offer our tithes and gifts to be part of God's purposes in the world, and we invite you to take part. You may place your offering in the basket in front or give it to the usher. You may always send gifts by mail or online.)

OFFERTORY

SACRAMENT of the LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION to the LORD'S TABLE

SURSUM CORDA

The Lord be with you.

✠ **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

✠ **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

✠ **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

GREAT PRAYER of THANKSGIVING

SANCTUS

James C. Huffstutler

✠ **Holy, holy, Lord Almighty, God of power and might.**

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Glory in the highest.

Blessed, blessed,

blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna, hosanna,

Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and OUR 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.

PRAYER of CONSECRATION

The WORDS of INSTITUTION

WE SHARE GOD'S GIFTS

The cup is non-alcoholic. Gluten free is available at the station under the pulpit. Communion will be served by intinction at two stations. As you feel ready, please come up the center aisle to a station, receive a piece of bread, dip it in the cup, eat it, and return to your seat by the side aisle.

As you prepare to go forward and when you have returned, please join us in our sung prayer. These refrains will be sung over and over as we make them our own prayers.

SUNG PRAYERS

527

*Eat This Bread*⁴

Taizé

**Eat this bread; drink this cup;
come to me and never be hungry.**

**Eat this bread; drink this cup;
trust in me and you will not thirst.**

Refrain 284

*Holy Spirit, Come to Us*⁵

Taizé

**Holy Spirit, come to us;
kindle in us the fire of your love.**

Holy Spirit, come to us.

Holy Spirit, come to us.

Refrain 466

*Come and Fill Our Hearts*⁶

Taizé

Come and fill our hearts with your peace;

You alone, O God, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace; Alleluia.

PRAYER after COMMUNION

✠ **Lord Jesus Christ, you have put your life into our hands;
now we put our lives into yours. Take us, renew and remake us.
What we have been is past;
what we shall be, through you, still awaits us.
Lead us on. Take us with you. Amen.**

⁴ Text: Robert J. Batastini and the Taizé Community, Music: Jacques Berthier ©1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications Inc., agent. All rights reserved.

⁵ Text & Music: Jacques Berthier. ©1998 Les Presses De Taizé (admin GIA Publications, Inc.) All rights reserved.

⁶ Text & Music: Jacques Berthier. ©1982 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications Inc., agent. All rights reserved.

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***MOMENT for REFLECTION**

***CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

***RECESSIONAL**

Laudate Dominum ⁷

Taizé

We sing as we walk outside.

Once on the lawn, we'll release doves, a sign of the Spirit's freedom & flight. (We will be releasing the doves on the lawn between the Sanctuary and Fireside Lounge. Please make your way to the lawn and patio in that direction.)

**Laudate Dominum, laudate Dominum,
omnes gentes, alleluia!**

**Laudate Dominum, laudate Dominum
omnes gentes, alleluia!**

*The Reverend Samuel Roberts preaches for us today.
He is a chaplain and a member of the Presbytery of Riverside.*

GREETER: Bobbie Terrell

USHERS: Brad Smith, *Lead Usher*

Marilyn Kraft, Al Rueda, *Security Ushers*

SOUND ENGINEERS: Dan Direen, Brent Nord, Brandon Turner

LIVESTREAM ENGINEER: James Welte

CAMERA OPERATORS: Kevin Lamb, Lynn Usher

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK

Bob Saenz, Doris Schiavone, Nancy Sellas

Elders: Norm Wallis, Pat Morris, Susan Skoglund

Deacons: Mindy Rueda, Kristine French, Joyce Lyons

Pastor Nominating Committee:

Susan Addington, Mary Bolaños, John-Paul Fletcher

This Weeks' Celebrations

***Jun 12* Rowan Fletcher**

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The White Wing Ceremony Company is once again providing us with the beautiful doves that represent the Holy Spirit today.

Why Support the Pentecost Offering?

Forty percent of the Pentecost Offering **stays with our congregation** to support **ministries with young people in our community**. **This year that portion will go to the Salvation Army to support the children and youth in their Hospitality House.**

Twenty-five percent of the Offering goes to support the **Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) program**, a faith-based year of service in service since 1994, where young adults can have an opportunity to address root causes of poverty and reconciliation in an intentional community.

Twenty-five percent supports nurturing the faith of our youth through events like the **Presbyterian Youth Triennium**. **Ten percent** of your gifts to Pentecost support education for at-risk children through the **Educate a Child, Transform the World** initiative.

We will receive the Pentecost Offering TODAY.

Thank you for your generous support of our food participants. We continue to accept donations of any shelf-stable foods. A suggestion list is at reception and on our website. If you want to shop with a focus, bargain cereal is always needed, and rice or pasta or help stretch limited food into more meals.

More News and announcements are available in your Friday *Keeping in Touch* emails. If you are not receiving these, and you would like to, contact Mimi in the church office.

Music Box

In a quiet village surrounded by hills of folded stone, there lived a woman who did not speak.

She had not always been silent. As a girl, her laughter spilled over like a fountain. But over time, her voice had folded itself inward, like wings folding after flight. No one knew why. Some said she had once sung to a man who left her. Others claimed she'd glimpsed something too beautiful to name, and it had burned the words out of her. She never confirmed or denied. She simply lived—grinding grain, lighting lamps, tending her garden as the years wore their slow groove through her life.

The villagers called her Ashna, though that was not her birth name. Ashna meant "burnt one."

And she was content, or so it seemed. Until the night the fire came.

It was during the dark season, when even the moon kept her distance. Ashna sat by her hearth, the flame guttering low. Outside, the wind moaned across the ridgeline like an old god remembering its name. She felt no fear. Only weariness. Her hands were calloused. Her knees ached. And still, no word had passed her lips in years.

She reached for a log to feed the fire—and the room changed.

There was no sound. No wind. No breath. And yet, the air pressed against her like a question.

Then it came.

Not as a blaze, nor a spark, but a presence—a hush so total that it rang like a bell. It did not touch her skin. It touched her being. Her bones. Her breath. And suddenly, she was no longer Ashna the Silent, the Burnt One. She was a vessel filled beyond herself.

The fire did not burn. It unfolded. Slowly. Patiently. Like a hand opening inside her chest. It was not heat she felt, but meaning—pure and wordless. It burned away everything untrue. Every defense. Every delay. Every smallness.

And with it came the pain.

Not physical—but the ache of years spent silent, of beauty seen but never shared, of songs swallowed in the throat.

She fell forward onto the floor, palms spread wide, sobbing—but still voiceless.

Then she heard the whisper.

Not outside her, but through her.

“You were not made to be ash.”

Her breath caught.

“You were made to carry flame.”

Something cracked.

Her mouth opened—not of will, but of necessity. And what came out was not language, but sound. A note, low and trembling, rising from the place behind the ribs where longing lives. It echoed through the house, and through it, the fire flared to life—tall, golden, alive.

She sang.

And as she sang, the house was filled with presence—not just the fire, but the memory of everything she had ever withheld: the lullabies never sung, the affection never spoken, the truth never dared.

The villagers saw the flames leap from her chimney and came running, afraid her house had caught fire. But when they arrived, they found her standing in the doorway, radiant. Her eyes were still full of tears, but her face shone.

“Come in,” she said, her voice rusted with disuse, but steady.

They did.

And she told them what had happened.

Not as a sermon. Not as a lesson. Only as what was.

That night, they sat by the fire and listened. To her. To each other. To the silence between words.

And when she had finished, she said, “The fire does not come to comfort. It comes to call. It will not burn your skin. But it may burn your excuses. Your small stories. Your hiding places.”

They asked her, “How will we know if it comes to us?”

She smiled.

“You will feel it. Like breath before speech. Like trembling before truth. Like a bell that rings in your chest and does not stop. And you will know—you can no longer remain silent.”

She paused.

“And then you must choose.”

-- William Zeidler



The seal of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is a symbolic statement of the church's heritage, identity, and mission in contemporary form. Its power depends on both its simplicity and complexity, as well as its traditional and enduring qualities.

The basic symbols in the seal are the cross, Scripture, the dove, and flames.

As a church of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), our congregational life is governed by the Ruling Elders of our current Session:

Lily Bolaños, Margaret Doane, Jon Horstmann, Phyllis Hough,
Sue Alexander, Jeanne Clark, Kathy Showman, Norm Wallis,
Pat Morris, Susan Skoglund, Katie Smith, Neal Williams,
and Clerk of Session Amy Smith

and supported by our Board of Deacons:

Rebecca Allen, Brad Smith, Dave Thomas, Chris Wright-Thomas,
Kristine French, Joyce Lyons, Joanna Nord, Mindy Rueda, Rick
Rodriguez, Jim Siegmund, Kyle Smith, and Christian Usher.

In this time of change for our congregation, a Pastor Nominating Committee has been elected by the congregation:

Susan Addington, Mary Bolaños, John-Paul Fletcher,
Brian Gano, Kendra Lamb, Jim Morris,
Shelby Obershaw, Christa Wallis, Neal Williams