Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren

Long Green and Kanes Rds., near Glen Arm, MD May 20, 2018

Worship 10:00 am

Sunday School 11:10 am

Large print hymnals are available

see an usher

This room is equipped with a sound loop for the hearing impaired

Pentecost

"Then afterward I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions." (Joel 2:28)

Beginning with Praise (9:50 am)

"Fluye"

(insert/screen)

Announcements

John 15: 26-27; 16: 4b-15 Words to ponder

(Laughing Bird version)

Prelude

The Pentecost Story - 1 Acts 2:1-4

(Contemporary English Version)

*Song "I'm gonna sing when the Spirit says" (insert/screen) (come forward, light candle off the "Joy" lamp, and place on table)

*Call to Worship

Leader: I feel something in this place!

People: It feels like fire burning within!

Leader: It feels fresh and exciting!

People: It feels like fire burning within! Leader: It feels like uncontainable joy! People: It feels like fire burning within!

All: It is fire burning within!

We are on fire and the world can't put it out!

"O Holy Spirit, making whole" *Hymn

300

*Opening Prayer

Hope to remember

Romans 8:22-27

Thoughts on ALS

Dennis Rosas

Praying together as we return our offerings

(Please sign the attendance pad and pass it on)

The Pentecost Story - 2

Acts 2:5-13 (Contemporary English Version)

A Birthday Song

Offertory

(to "Hark! the herald angels sing" #201)

Let the whole creation sing joyful praise to God our King! On this day, God finds the lost. Celebrate sweet Pentecost.

Wisdom, knowledge, pow'r & prayer gifting us to love & care.

Miracles today abound as the mighty wind is sound.

Join the heavens, let us say: "Body of Christ is born today."

Sharing a joy, a concern, a word of testimony or praise (please be brief, and aware of God's listening presence)

Hymn

"Every time I feel the Spirit"

(insert/screen)

(back of bulletin)

Prayer

The Pentecost Story - 3 Acts 2:12-21 (Contemporary English Version)

Message

"Leaning into tomorrow"

*Hymn

"New earth, heavens new"

299

*Benediction

Leader: Can you feel the fire!?

People: Yes! It is keeping us alive!

Leader: Then go, spread the fire everywhere; and know that

the Pentecostal Lord of life will be with you now and

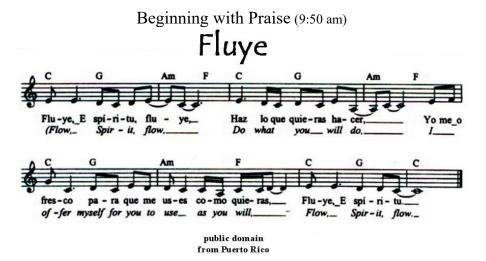
always!

*Postlude

*Rise in body or in spirit

sermon is posted at http://rockhay.tripod.com/sermons/2018/18-05-20.htm

Gathered together to worship God



Announcements

Words to ponder

John 15: 26-27; 16: 4b-15

- P In the Gospel of John, we find these words that set the stage for the celebration of Pentecost. Listen to them. Mull over them in your heart and mind as the Prelude nudges us toward worship.
- M On the night that he was betrayed, Jesus said to his disciples, "I am going to send the Spirit to you from the Father. The Spirit will be your companion, your advocate and supporter, and will confirm for you the whole truth about me. You too are to speak up for the truth, because you have been with me ever since we started.

- P "Up until now I have always been with you, so there was no need to explain these things, but now I am going back to the One who sent me. None of you have even asked me where I am going. Instead you are just sitting there getting more and more down in the dumps with each thing I say. All the same, I'll say it again: the truth is that you will be better off after I've gone. You see, the Spirit can't come to be with you until I leave. Once I'm gone though, I will send the Spirit to you.
- M "The Spirit will come and show everyone just how wrong the world has been in its opinions about sin and righteousness and judgment. As the Spirit will show, people have the wrong idea about sin because they don't trust my ways. They have the wrong idea about righteousness because they don't know that it only comes from the Father. It won't be any easier to see now that I'm going back to its source. They have the wrong idea about judgment because they think it's all in the future, when in reality, sentence has already been passed on the one who steered this world into its godless ways.
- P "There is a whole lot more I would love to say to you, but it would all be too much for you at the moment. The Spirit will come, full of truth, and will lead you by the hand into the pathways of truth. The Spirit does not speak independently, but on my behalf. Through the Spirit, I will let you know what is going to happen and what it all means. I will be honored by everything the Spirit says, because they are my words delivered to you. All that the Father has is mine. So now you understand why I have been saying that the message the Spirit will deliver to you is actually coming from me."

from the *Laughing Bird* version ©2001 Nathan Nettleton, LaughingBird.net

Prelude

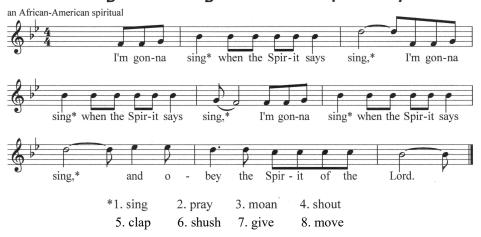
The Pentecost Story - 1

Acts 2:1-4

- 1 On the day of Pentecost all the Lord's followers were together in one place. Suddenly there was a noise from heaven like the sound of a mighty wind!
- 2 Take a deep breath... Now let it go as loudly as you can...
- 1 It filled the house where they were meeting.
- 2 Take another deep breath... Now let it go as loudly as you can...
- 1 Then they saw what looked like fiery tongues moving in all directions, and a tongue came and settled on each person there. The Holy Spirit took control of everyone, and they began speaking whatever languages the Spirit let them speak.
- 2 As we join our voices in song, you are invited to come forward and choose a candle up front, light it from the "Oil of Joy" lamp and place it on the worship table. Please rise now in body or spirit and let us sing an old African-American spiritual.

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I'm gonna sing when the Spirit says



Call to Worship

Leader: I feel something in this place!

People: It feels like fire burning within!

Leader: It feels fresh and exciting!

People: It feels like fire burning within!

Leader: It feels like uncontainable joy!

People: It feels like fire burning within!

All: It is fire burning within!
We are on fire and the world can't put it out!

by The Rev. B. Kevin Smalls
Worship Resources for Pentecost Sunday
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from 21st Century Africana Liturgy Resources

"O Holy Spirit, making whole"

- 1. O Holy Spirit, making whole thy church in body, mind, and soul, thou Light of life, thou Fire divine, inspire thy church and make it thine, till Christ shall rule in every heart, and Pentecost its power impart.
- 2. Blow, Wind of God! in wisdom blow away all mists and clouds below!
 Dispel our error, doubt, and fear, till truth shall make love's message clear, and Christ shall rule in every heart, and Pentecost its power impart.
- 3. Burn, winged Flame, within each breast, until thy Spirit, ever blessed, shall purge our lives from dross and sin, and peace and power abide within! So Christ shall rule in every heart, and Pentecost its power impart.
- 4. Inspire our lips with truth and love to speak thy language from above; God's message all may understand in every age and every land, till Christ shall rule in every heart, and Pentecost its power impart.

Hymnal #300 words by Henry Tweedy, 1939 music by John B. Dykes, 1861

Opening Prayer

O God, we have prayed for your Spirit to come and dwell among us, and today it has. Continue to ignite in us new possibilities of community and fellowship. Enliven in us the passion to serve and to share. Grow in us the desire to set this world on fire through your Holy Spirit; and in so doing, we shall never be the same. Amen.

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Please be seated.

Hope to remember

Romans 8:22-27

²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America.

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Thoughts on ALS

Dennis Rosas

Praying together as we return our offerings

If you haven't already read it, take time to pay attention to what's written on the back of your bulletin. Many of us know the author, who was pastor here 30 years ago. The last paragraph, *in italics*, is a prayer. Would you pray it with me in unison? The words are also on the screen.

Holy Spirit, Living God, we thank you for preparing us for what you have in store. You give us gifts for ministry and service, and you shower us with fruits like joy and peace that keep us empowered and lifted up. May this Pentecost Sunday remind us to tend to the spiritual needs in our lives as we focus on your living presence among us. Amen.

prayer by Scott L. Duffey, pastor Staunton, VA Church of the Brethren from Church of the Brethren *Living Word* bulletin © 2018 Brethren Press.

Ushers, please guide us in our giving.

Offertory

The Pentecost Story - 2

Acts 2:5-13

- 2 The Pentecost Story continues. Hope is set on fire. God's people come alive in the Spirit. The wind of the Lord blows. Those of you who are helping with this reading, be ready to shout. The rest Listen.
- 1 Many religious Jews from every country in the world were living in Jerusalem. And when they heard this noise, a crowd gathered. But they were surprised, because they were hearing everything in their own languages. They were excited and amazed, and said:
- 2 Don't all these who are speaking come from Galilee? Then why do we hear them speaking our very own languages? Some of us are from:

Parthia, (pahr-thee-uh)

Media, (mee-dee-uh)

and Elam.

(ee-luhm)

2 - Others are from

Mesopotamia, (mes-uh-puh-tey-mee-uh)

Judea, (jew-dee-uh)

Cappadocia, (kap-uh-doh-shuh)

Pontus, (pon-tuhs)

Asia, (ey-shuh)

Phrygia, (frij-ee-uh)

Pamphylia, (pam-fil-ee-uh)

Egypt, (ee-jipt)

parts of Libya near Cyrene, (lib-ee-uh ... sahy-ree-nee)

Rome, (rohm)

Crete, (kreet)

and Arabia. (uh-rev-bee-uh)

- 2 Some of us were born Jews, and others of us have chosen to be Jews. Yet we all hear them using our own languages to tell the wonderful things God has done.
- 1 Everyone was excited and confused. Some of them even kept asking each other,
- 2 "What does all this mean?"
- 1 Others made fun of the Lord's followers and said,
- 2 "They are drunk."

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A Birthday Song

Wind and fire ... words spoken in every language – the Pentecost story. This is the birth of the church of Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit as midwife of a new creation.

If you haven't already noticed, our worship center is in a different location this morning. It's closer to you, just like with the coming of the Holy Spirit, God is very near to all of us – within us, in fact. Squint your eyes a bit and look at the table. Do all these candles remind you of a birthday cake? Good, because today is the birthday celebration of the church.

We won't say how old she is. To be honest, we might get it wrong. Besides, like with those of seasoned years, the number of candles on the cake no longer indicates the age. Rather, it says the light still shines, the fire still burns, the Spirit still moves. In celebration of this, let's sing "a birthday song" for the church. The tune takes us back to Christmas, the birthday celebration of Jesus. Let's sing it together.

(to "Hark! the herald angels sing" #201)

Let the whole creation sing joyful praise to God our King!
On this day, God finds the lost.
Celebrate sweet Pentecost.
Wisdom, knowledge, pow'r & prayer gifting us to love & care.
Miracles today abound as the mighty wind is sound.
Join the heavens, let us say:
"Body of Christ is born today."

by Rev. Frank McKenzie, adapted http://www.fccgardner.org/bulletinaudio/2014bulletin/pentecostsong.pdf

Sharing a joy, a concern, a word of testimony or praise

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

Words & music: African-American spiritual



Prayer

Every time, Lord? ... Well, most every time. ... Okay, the truth, O God, is that a lot of the time we're just not paying enough attention to you to feel anything. Which doesn't mean your holy wind is not blowing or your holy fire is not burning – this we realize as we make our confession of distraction. We want to feel your Spirit moving in our hearts, but we often fail to open ourselves to your presence.

Even so, come Holy Spirit. Rush through this room, blow through the sanctuary of our hearts like the mighty wind you are. Be the match that sets our inner candle aflame. And be the mirror behind it that reflects light into our darkest corners. Advocate for us when we fall short of glory and fortify us for walking the Way of Christ today and this week. Energize your people here and elsewhere for tasks both great and small. Like a dove, fly over the turbulent waters of this world seeking the olive branch of peace, and lead us in that direction... Yes, come Holy Spirit – not just on this Pentecost Sunday, but every day.

You hear the labor pains of all Creation, just as you have searched our hearts and know our cares before we even can give voice to them. Yes, we pray over yet another mass shooting this week, but Holy Spirit empower "We the people" in this nation to move past our sighs and beyond our clashing ideologies to do something constructive about it. Likewise, in all the other issues that divide us, guide us to gain from our differences, instead of allowing them to cripple us.

You know each one we mentioned earlier, just like you know those who spoke. You also know what we have not said. So, move in all those lives, just as you moved above the waters at the very beginning, bringing into being the heavens and earth. We cannot imagine how things will turn out, but we dare to trust that your will be done.

In your name we pray. Amen

The Pentecost Story - 3

Acts 2:12-21

¹² Everyone was excited and confused. Some of them even kept asking each other, "What does all this mean?"

¹³ Others made fun of the Lord's followers and said, "They are drunk."

¹⁴ Peter stood with the eleven apostles and spoke in a loud and clear voice to the crowd:

Friends and everyone else living in Jerusalem, listen carefully to what I have to say! ¹⁵ You are wrong to think that these people are drunk. After all, it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶ But this is what God had the prophet Joel say,

When the last days come, I will give my Spirit to everyone.
Your sons and daughters will prophesy.
Your young men will see visions, and your old men will have dreams.
In those days I will give my Spirit to my servants, both men and women, and they will prophesy.

in the sky above and wonders on the earth below.

There will be blood and fire and clouds of smoke.

20 The sun will turn dark, and the moon will be as red as blood before the great and wonderful day of the Lord appears.

21 Then the Lord will save everyone who asks for his help."

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"Leaning into tomorrow"

"New earth, heavens new"

- 1. New earth, heavens new, Spirit of God moving; new seed, creatures new, Spirit of life moving; new man, woman new, image of God moving.

 **refrain:* Sing a new song to the One who has said, "Behold, I make all things new."
- 2. New love, mercies new, Spirit of God moving; new strength, hopefulness new, Spirit of life moving; new hearts, spirits new, image of God moving.

 **refrain:* Sing a new song to the One who has said, "Behold, I make all things new."
- 3. New minds, wisdom new, Spirit of God moving; new law, covenant new, Spirit of life moving; new name, nature new, image of God moving.

 **refrain*: Sing a new song to the One who has said, "Behold, I make all things new."
- 4. New earth, heavens new, Spirit of God moving;
 New birth, creatures new, Spirit of life moving;
 new men, women new, image of God moving

 <u>refrain</u>: Sing a new song to the One who has said,
 "Behold, I make all things new."

Hymnal #299 by Harris Loewen © 1991 Hope Publishing Co. CCLI #1347096

Benediction

Leader: Can you feel the fire!?

People: Yes! It is keeping us alive!

Leader: Then go, spread the fire everywhere; and know

that the Pentecostal Lord of life will be with you

now and always!

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Postlude