

The United Methodist Church at Absecon

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Spirit Powered-Live to Give!

May 24, 2026

Today's Lay Reader: Sharon Wilson

Welcome

Prelude

Poem Mystique

Richard Purvis

Call to Worship

Leader: On Pentecost, God poured out the Holy Spirit upon all people.

People: Fill us again with power, love, and generous hearts.

Leader: Scripture says, "Do not withhold good when it is in your power to act."

People: Send us to serve boldly and love freely.

Leader: Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

People: By Your Spirit, make us joyful and compassionate disciples.

Leader: Come, Holy Spirit, and renew Your church today.

**ALL: We will live to give, love to serve, and follow Christ with joy.
Amen.**

Hymn

O Spirit of the Living God

1. O Spir - it of the liv - ing God, thou
 2. Blow, wind of God! With wis - dom blow un -
 3. Teach us to ut - ter liv - ing words of
 4. So shall we know the power of Christ who

light and fire di - vine, de - scend up - on thy
 til our minds are free from mists of er - ror,
 truth which all may hear, the lan - guage all may
 came this world to save; so shall we rise with

church once more, and make it tru - ly thine.
 clouds of doubt, which blind our eyes to thee.
 un - der - stand when love speaks loud and clear;
 him to life which soars be - yond the grave;

Fill it with love and joy and power, with
 Burn, wing - ed fire! In - spire our lips with
 till ev - ery age and race and clime shall
 and earth shall win true ho - li - ness, which

righ - teous - ness and peace; till Christ shall dwell in
 flam - ing love and zeal, to preach to all thy
 blend their creeds in one, and earth shall form one
 makes thy chil - dren whole; till, per - fect - ed by

 hu - man hearts, and sin and sor - row cease.
 great good news, God's glo - rious com - mon - weal.
 fam - i - ly by whom thy will is done.
 thee, we reach cre - a - tion's glo - rious goal!

Opening Prayer

Holy Spirit,

You were poured out upon the church at Pentecost to fill ordinary people with extraordinary love and courage. Your Spirit ignited the embers of this church in 1796, at a bonfire revival with Bishop Francis Asbury. Fill us today with that same Spirit, so that we may live generously, serve faithfully, and love boldly. Open our eyes to the needs around us and move our hearts to act with compassion and grace. May our worship ignite us for ministry, and may our lives reflect the giving love of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn

Spirit of the Living God

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a-fresh on me.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a-fresh on me.

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The bass staff contains a bass line with chords. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a-fresh on me."

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

The second system of musical notation consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The bass staff contains a bass line with chords. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me."

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a-fresh on me.

The third system of musical notation consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The bass staff contains a bass line with chords. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a-fresh on me."

Senior Choir

Spirit of Gentleness
Saxophone: Jim Daly

arr. James Hassell

Scripture Lesson

Proverbs 3:27-32

Never walk away from someone who deserves help;
your hand is God's hand for that person.

Don't tell your neighbor "Maybe some other time"
or "Try me tomorrow"

when the money's right there in your pocket.

Don't figure ways of taking advantage of your neighbor
when he's sitting there trusting and unsuspecting.

Don't walk around with a chip on your shoulder,
always spoiling for a fight.

Don't try to be like those who shoulder their way through life.

Why be a bully?
“Why not?” you say. Because God can’t stand twisted souls.
It’s the straightforward who get his respect.

Acts 20:32-35

“Now I’m turning you over to God, our marvelous God whose gracious Word can make you into what he wants you to be and give you everything you could possibly need in this community of holy friends.

“I’ve never, as you so well know, had any taste for wealth or fashion. With these bare hands I took care of my own basic needs and those who worked with me. In everything I’ve done, I have demonstrated to you how necessary it is to work on behalf of the weak and not exploit them. You’ll not likely go wrong here if you keep remembering that our Master said, ‘You’re far happier giving than getting.’”

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God
People: **Thanks be to God**

Message Spirit Powered-Live to Give!

“Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to act.” Proverbs 3:27

“Jesus himself said: ‘It is more blessed to give than receive.’ ” Acts 20:35b

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God

Offertory May the Mind of Christ My Savior A. Cyril Barham Gould

Doxology Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Hymn America the Beautiful

1. O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of
 2. O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing
 3. O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the

grain; for pur - ple moun-tain maj - es - ties a -
 strife, who more than self their coun - try loved, and
 years thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, un -

bove the fruit - ed plain! A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca!
 mer - cy more than life! A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca!
 dimmed by hu - man tears! A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca!

God shed his grace on thee, and crown thy good with
 May God thy gold re - fine, till all suc-cess be
 God mend thine ev - ery flaw, con - firm thy soul in

broth - er - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.
 no - ble - ness, and ev - ery gain di - vine.
 self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.

Benediction

Postlude

Ancient of Days

Thomas Chesterton

Spirit Powered-Live to Give!

"I HAVE SHOWN YOU IN EVERY WAY, BY LABORING LIKE THIS, THAT YOU MUST SUPPORT THE WEAK. AND REMEMBER THE WORDS OF THE LORD JESUS, THAT HE SAID, 'IT IS MORE BLESSED TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE.'" (ACTS 20:35).

**LIVE
TO
GIVE**

"the wonderful miracle is that the Holy Spirit patiently keeps generously giving us gifts."

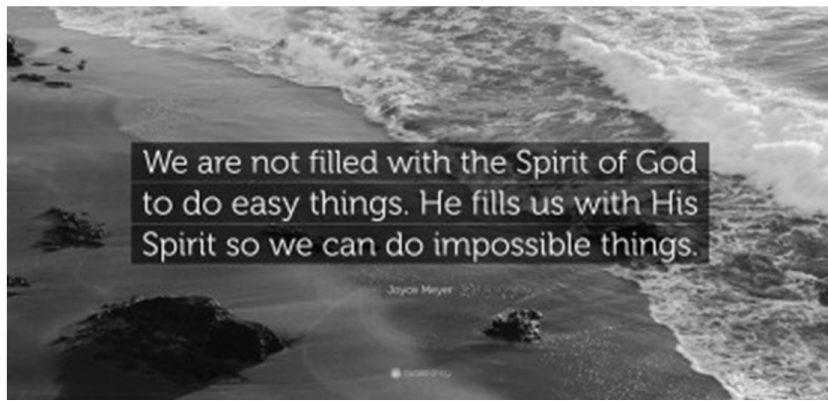


“The Holy Spirit fills us so we can pour ourselves out for others.”



We are not filled with the Spirit of God to do easy things. He fills us with His Spirit so we can do impossible things.

Joyce Meyer



Start Small





See People Differently- the Spirit widens our circle



**A CANDLE WILL LOSE NOTHING
BY LIGHTING ANOTHER CANDLE**

**ENCOURAGE AND COMFORT ONE ANOTHER AND
BUILD EACH OTHER UP -1 THESSALONIANS 5:11**

USE YOUR POWER

**(your gifts, time
and finances)**

**Ordinary people
change lives!!!**



**This Church Exists
Today-Because Others
Lived to Give**