

## Pentecost Worship Service on May 28, 2023

### Welcome and Announcements ~ Glenna Taxter

*A special welcome to Dave and Mary Cobb who are joining us so  
Dave can play the organ today.*

**Tonight** ~ You are invited to Craig and Kay Keith's home at 6 pm to celebrate Pentecost with a potluck supper, campfire, and singing. Please bring a camp chair and a dish to share. The address is 212 Eagle Ridge, Dorset, VT 05251.

**Tuesday** ~ There will be a Pastoral Relations Committee meeting at 3:30 pm at the church.

At 7 pm, the Prayer Group will meet via zoom for prayer and a discussion of chapters 9-10 in *"What Does Your Soul Love?"* We are considering having an in-person option for the next book we do, so please let Pastor Rebecca know if you would be interested.

**Thursday** ~ Our church will be hosting the Interfaith Council Meeting and luncheon at 11:45 am.

### Other opportunities ~

We will be helping at the Community Food Cupboard this month. Please check to see if there are any unfilled spots on Lindy's sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the fellowship room.

If you would like to help with decorating for the Kid's Summer Discovery Camp at the FCC, on July 15<sup>th</sup>, please see Pastor Rebecca.

There is an opportunity to contribute to the America for Christ offering for missions this month.



Thank you to Martha Thompson for bringing flowers in loving memory of her mother, Edith Krakauskas and to Brenda Smith in loving memory of Mary Smith.

### Word of Preparation ~ Glenna Taxter

**Prelude** ~ Dave Cobb will play a song called *"Spirit"* (#249, blue) as we prepare our hearts for worship.

**Call to Worship** ~ Acts 2:1-4, 16-21 (NLT) read by Glenna Taxter.  
Please join in reading the bold lines.

<sup>1</sup> On the day of Pentecost all the believers  
were meeting together in one place.

<sup>2</sup> **Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven  
like the roaring of a mighty windstorm,  
and it filled the house where they were sitting.**

<sup>3</sup> Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire  
appeared and settled on each of them.

<sup>4</sup> **And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit  
and began speaking in other languages,  
as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability...**

<sup>16</sup> [This] was predicted long ago by the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup> 'In the last days,' God says, 'I will pour out my Spirit upon all people.

**Your sons and daughters will prophesy.**

**Your young men will see visions,  
and your old men will dream dreams.**

<sup>18</sup> In those days I will pour out my Spirit  
even on my servants—men and women alike—  
and they will prophesy.

<sup>19</sup> **And I will cause wonders in the heavens above  
and signs on the earth below—  
blood and fire and clouds of smoke.**

<sup>20</sup> The sun will become dark, and the moon will turn blood red  
before that great and glorious day of the Lord arrives.

<sup>21</sup> **But everyone who calls on the name of the Lord  
will be saved.'**

**Song ~ “Wind Who Makes All Winds That Blow” (#236, blue)**

*Wind who makes all winds that blow ~ gusts that bend the saplings low  
Gales that heave the sea in waves, stirrings in the mind’s deep caves ~  
Aim your breath with steady power on your church this day, this hour  
Raise, renew the life we’ve lost, Spirit God of Pentecost*

*Fire who fuels all fires that burn ~ suns around which planets turn  
Beacons marking reefs and shoals, shining truth to guide our souls ~  
Come to us as once you came: burst in tongues of sacred flame!*

*Light and Power, Might and Strength,  
fill your church, its breadth and length*

*Holy Spirit, Wind and Flame, move within our mortal frame  
Make our hearts an altar pyre, kindle them with your own fire  
Breathe and blow upon that blaze till our lives, our deeds and ways  
Speak that tongue which every land by your grace shall understand*

Words ~ Thomas H. Troeger, Music ~ Joseph Perry | Oxford University Press

**Pentecost Prayer**

Please join Glenna in praying the bold lines.

Spirit of God, we have gathered together in this place to pray,  
and to make ourselves ready for your coming.

Give us faith ~ **that when you come like the wind,**  
**though we do not see you, yet we may hear what you are saying to us**  
**and discern your movement.**

Give us courage, that we may not fear the tongues of flame:  
**let all that is unworthy, impure, and sinful be burned from our lives.**

**May we know that it is love that burns so brightly**  
**and love that strips away our sin.**

Give us an open mind, Lord,  
that the truth you bring may make its home with us:  
**truth to set us free; truth to guide and inform us;**  
**truth to lead us in the way of your will.**

*(Continued on the next page)*

Give us an open heart, Lord,  
**that we may seek all people for your realm**  
**and set no limits to the proclaiming of your word.**

Holy Spirit, with the whole church we wait for you  
in every place and in every generation.

**Come, wind. Come, fire. Come, truth. Come, love.**  
**In Jesus’ name, Amen.**

~ Michael J. Walker, 20<sup>th</sup> century English Baptist minister

**Song ~ The Worship Team will lead us in singing**

**“Holy Spirit”**

Verse

*There's nothing worth more that will ever come close  
No thing can compare, You're our living hope  
Your Presence*

*I've tasted and seen of the sweetest of loves  
Where my heart becomes free, and my shame is undone  
In Your Presence, Lord*

**Chorus**

***Holy Spirit, You are welcome here  
Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere  
Your glory, God, is what our hearts long for  
To be overcome by Your Presence, Lord  
Your Presence Lord***

[Repeat Verse once and chorus twice]

***Let us become more aware of Your Presence  
Let us experience the glory of Your goodness (Lord ~ 2<sup>nd</sup> time)***

[sing twice]

**Chorus**

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## Praying Together ~

**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.**

## Song ~ **“Holy Spirit, Truth Divine” (#241, blue)**

*Holy Spirit, Truth divine, dawn upon this soul of mine  
Voice of God, and inward Light, wake my spirit, clear my sight  
Holy Spirit, Love divine, glow within this heart of mine  
Kindle every high desire, purify me with your fire  
Holy Spirit, Power divine, fill and nerve this will of mine  
Boldly may I always live, bravely serve and gladly give  
Holy spirit, Peace divine, still this restless heart of mine  
Speak to calm this tossing sea, grant me your tranquility  
Holy Spirit, Joy divine, gladden now this heart of mine  
In the desert ways I sing, spring, O living Water, spring!*

Words ~ Samuel Longfellow, Music ~ Loris M. Gottschalk | Public Domain

## Song ~ **“Spirit of the Living God”**

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me  
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  
[Sing twice]*

Words and Music ~ Daniel Iverson, 1926 | Public Domain

## Sermon Introduction ~ Pastor Rebecca Sommons

### Scripture Passage ~ 1 John 5:1-13 (NIV) read by Glenna Taxter

<sup>1</sup> Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well.

<sup>2</sup> This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands.

<sup>3</sup> In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands.

And his commands are not burdensome,

<sup>4</sup> for everyone born of God overcomes the world.

This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.

<sup>5</sup> Who is it that overcomes the world?

Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

<sup>6</sup> This is the one who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ.

He did not come by water only, but by water and blood.

And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. <sup>7</sup> For there are three that testify: <sup>8</sup> the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement.

<sup>9</sup> We accept human testimony, but God’s testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son.

<sup>10</sup> Whoever believes in the Son of God accepts this testimony.

Whoever does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because they have not believed the testimony God has given about his Son.

<sup>11</sup> And this is the testimony:

God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

<sup>12</sup> Whoever has the Son has life;

whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

<sup>13</sup> I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

## Sermon ~ **“How to Know if You Have Eternal Life”**

~ Pastor Rebecca Sommons

**Song ~ “O Breath of Life” (#250, blue)**

*O Breath of Life, come sweeping through us  
Revive your church with life and power  
O Breath of Life, come, cleanse, renew us  
And fit your church to meet this hour*

*O Wind of God, come, bend us, break us,  
Till humbly we confess our need  
Then in your tenderness remake us  
Revive, restore, for this we plead*

*O Breath of Love, come, breathe within us  
Renewing thought and will and heart  
Come, love of Christ, afresh to win us  
Revive your church in every part*

Words ~ Bessie Porter Head, Music ~ Clement C. Scholefield | Public Domain

**Benediction ~ 1 John 4:13 (TPT)**

**And he has given us his Spirit within us  
so that we can have the assurance  
that he lives in us  
and that we live in him.**

**Postlude ~ Dave Cobb**