

FIRSTPRESBYTERIANCHURCH

MAY 28, 2023

11:00 a.m.

PENTECOST SUNDAY

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Let us prepare our hearts and minds to worship God.

GATHERING MUSIC: Holy Spirit.....Brian and Katie Torwalt

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

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

Let us become more aware of Your Presence Let us experience the Glory of Your Goodness

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

Welcome & Announcements...... Jill Duffield





This 20th-century text was written by a Presbyterian layperson and poet, who in her later years became interested in writing hymns for the seasons of the church year and prepared a collection of them for her congregation. It pairs effectively with this sturdy Welsh tune.



* CALL TO WORS	SHIP	Rachel Fitch
Leader: All:	Remember the promise of the Lord: God will pour out the Spirit on all flesh.	
Leader: All:	The Spirit helps us in our weakness, interceding with sighs too deep for words.	
Leader: All:	The Spirit of God renews the earth. Bless the name of the Lord!	

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN: No. 280 - Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us EBENEZER

* CALL TO CONFESSION and PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples creating bold tongues, open ears, and a new community of faith. We confess that we hold back the force of your Spirit among us. We do not listen for your word of grace, speak the good news of your love, or live as a people made one in Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit and fill us with a flaming desire to be your faithful people, doing your will for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A brief period of silence is observed for personal confession.

* Assurance of Pardonn

- * THE PEACE
 - Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of Christ be with you.
 - People: And also with you.
- * PASSING OF THE PEACE

* Response to the Assurance of Pardon: Psalm 67......Wendell Kimbrough

Let the nations sing and be glad For the Lord is coming with justice. Let the nations sing and be glad For our God is coming with peace. Now let all the ends of the earth Fill with holy wonder and joy For our God is coming to reign as King!

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE WORD READ: Acts 2:1-21..... Sarah Parrish and Gay White

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."

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.""

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord. Congregation: Thanks be to God.

A MOMENT OF GODLY PLAY FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES Lisa Witherspoon

Like the murmur of the dove's song, Like the challenge of her flight, Like the vigor of the wind's rush, Like the new flame's eager might: Come, Holy Spirit, come. To the Body, To the branches of the Vine, To the Church in faith assembled, To her midst as gift and sign: Come, Holy Spirit, come. With the healing of division, With the ceaseless voice of prayer, With the pow'r to love and witness, With the peace beyond compare: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

THE WORD READ: 1 Corinthians 12:1-13 Jill Duffield

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord. Congregation: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION: Hymn No. 288 – Spirit of the Living GodLiving god

THE WORD PROCLAIMED: Variety of Gifts, Same SpiritJill Duffield



Both the words and the music of this prayer-song were written by a Presbyterian minister from Tarboro, North Carolina. The words were initially inspired by Jeremiah 18:1–6; a friend helped him set them to music during an evangelistic meeting in Orlando, Florida, where the song was first sung.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn of Response: No. 291 – Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness			
* Affirmation of FaithDoug McLeroy			
We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls people to all ministries of the church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,			
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" – A Brief Statement of Faith			





As the author/composer reminds us in the refrain, the Spirit is both gentle and restless. The stanzas reinforce a sense of the Spirit's activity through a wide range of verbs, initially in the past tense; but they become more urgent in the present tense of the fourth stanza.



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE concluding with the Lord's Prayer:

In each thought and deed and attitude

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.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING...... Doug McLeroy

You may also participate in the offering using the QR code on the back page of this bulletin. Information for giving by other options, including text, app, and regular mail, can be found there as well.

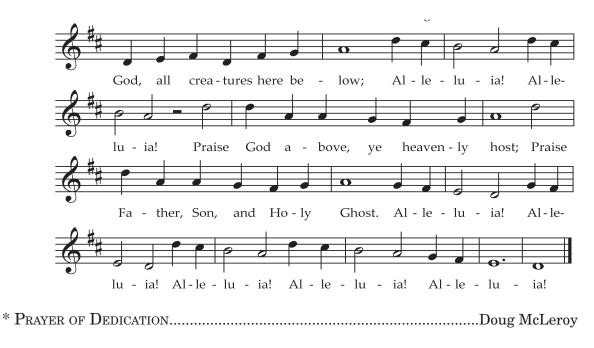
OFFERTORY: Holy Spirit			
Rejoice! Ensemble			
Holy Spirit living Breath of God Breathe new life into my willing soul Let the presence of the risen Lord Come renew my heart and make me whole Cause Your word to come alive in me Give me faith for what I cannot see Give me passion for Your purity Holy Spirit breathe new life in me	Kindness to the greatest and the least Gentleness that sows the path of peace Turn my strivings into works of grace Breath of God show Christ in all I do Holy Spirit from creation's birth Giving life to all that God has made Show Your power once again on earth Cause Your church to hunger for Your ways		
Holy Spirit come abide within	Let the fragrance of our pray'rs arise		
May Your joy be seen in all I do	Lead us on the road of sacrifice		
Love enough to cover ev'ry sin	That in unity the face of Christ		

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN



May be clear for all the world to see



* CHARGE AND BENEDICTIONJill Duffield

RECESSIONAL HYMN: No. 289 - On Pentecost They GatheredDuke street

VOLUNTARY: Komm, Gott Schöpfer Heiliger BMV 631

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

John Alexander, organ

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Jill Duffield, Senior Pastor Rachel Fitch, Sid & Cathy Batts Pastoral Resident Doug McLeroy, Parish Associate for Pastoral Care Lisa Witherspoon, Director of Children's Ministry Sarah Parrish and Gay White, Lay Readers Zoë and Sebastian Upton, Acolytes John Alexander, Director of Music and Principal Organist Robert Wells, Director of Chancel Choir Will Edwards, Director of Music for Rejoice! Chancel Choir Rejoice! Ensemble

* Let us rise in body or spirit.

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This narrative and interpretive text was written to fill what the author perceived as an unfortunate gap in available hymns concerning the Holy Spirit in general and Pentecost in particular. The setting of a 17th-century German tune is from Mendelssohn's oratorio *Elijah*.

WE WELCOME YOU to the worship of God and to our community of faith. We are a church of growing disciples believing that worship is at the center of all we are and do as Christians.

We seek to be God's changemakers for good in the world. FPC is a Matthew 25 church, and our creation care and hunger ministries have been recognized by the Presbyterian Church USA.





TAKING ATTENDANCE: The QR code, left, directs you to an online form; just open your smartphone camera, hold it over the code, and follow the prompts. If you do not have a smartphone, you can pick up a physical copy of an attendance card as you enter the Life

Center or Sanctuary. If using the paper form, place it in the offering at the end of the service. On the back of the card is a prayer request form. Your submitted prayers will be prayed for by staff members and kept in strict confidence.

THE LITURGICAL COLOR *RED* seen through the parament on the lectern and the pastors' stoles signifies the work of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost.

NURSERY CARE IS PROVIDED for infants through age 4 on the first floor of Mullin Life Center. Our Child Protection Policy helps ensure our care is safe, loving and appropriate.

PASTOR ON CALL: When church offices are closed and you have an emergency, call 336.908.8615. Leave a message with your phone number and the pastor on call will be in touch with you.

INTERESTED IN BEING A LAY READER THIS FALL? Please email Bubba Judy (bjudy@beesonhardware.com) or Anne Albert (aalbert@fpcgreensboro.org).

FOR MORE INFO ON CHURCH SCHOOL, UPCOMING SERVICES, AND OTHER EVENTS • Check out the "Coming Up" insert in your bulletin • Subscribe to our e-news and Sunday preview emails at fpcgreensboro.org/connect • Visit fpcgreensboro.org/digital-formation

FIND FIRST PRESBYTERIAN ON SOCIAL MEDIA -

Members are sharing great photos, comments and more! Follow and Like us on Facebook f (search "First Presbyterian Church of Greensboro"), YouTube ("fpcgreensboro") and Instagram ("1stpresgso") to get more of our posts in your newsfeed. **ABOUT TODAY'S FLOWERS:** The chancel flowers are given by Wade and Louise Denny Britt to the glory of God and in loving memory of Louise's parents, Harry Calvin Denny and Mary Alice Futrelle Denny, and in memory of Wade's parents, Edgar (Ed) Martin Britt and Elizabeth (Betty) Jones Britt.

ABOUT THE ROSEBUDS IN THE CHANCEL – The rosebuds in the sanctuary celebrate the births of Anderson Thomas Mills, born May 23, 2023; and Daylan Neil Ndayisenga, born May 25, 2023.

Anderson is the son of Ryan and Ashley Mills, and joins siblings Mac and Wilson. The family resides at 2302 Red Forest Road, Greensboro, N.C. 27410.

Daylan is the son of Felix and Angel Ndayisenga, and joins siblings: Daniel, Gretchen, Deborah, Davet and Doxa. The family resides at 411 Montrose Drive, Apt B, Greensboro, N.C. 27407.

WAYS TO GIVE: In addition to the in-person offering, you may also give by mail, web, app, or text. Scan the QR code

(*right*) to give online. You can also go to fpcgreensboro.org/give/web-app-text to download the FellowshipOne Giving mobile app (Apple € or Android ♥) and for instructions for giving via text. You may also mail your gift to the church at 617 N. Elm St., Greensboro, NC 27401.



Go to fpcgreensboro.org/give for more ways to give.

IN MEMORIAM

Anne Penn Adams May 20, 2023

John B. Russell May 19, 2023

E O M I N G U P A T F I R S T P R E S B Y T E R I A N

WEEK BEGINNING MAY 28, 2023 • FPCGREENSBORO.ORG

For regular weekly events, please refer to the calendar at FPCGREENSBORO.ORG

DO IT TODAY OFFERING OF LETTERS TO END HUNGER concludes today in the Welcome Center. See back for more info.

LEAVE HYGIENE & CLEAN-UP

KITS in the red wagons around the church. Concludes Wednesday. *See back for more info.*

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

MON, MAY 29

• CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED, Memorial Day.

FRI, JUNE 2

- RSVP DEADLINE -
- Planning Your 4th Quarter: Planning Your Funeral & Writing Your Obituary. RSVP by noon to Debby Foster, DFOSTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG or 336.478.4702. Workshop is June 7, 5 pm, Garden Room.
- NEW! FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE couple's gathering, 7-8:30 pm at home of Kate & Tom Gillespie. This is a new small group that plans to meet monthly. Contact Yolanda Baxter, YBAXTER@ FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.

NEXT SUNDAY, JUNE 4

- TWO WORSHIP SERVICES: 9 am Rejoice! in the Life Center and 11 am Sanctuary, (livestreamed). Jill Duffield preaches.
- THANK DEBORAH CONNER for her work with us as Interim Associate Pastor for Outreach during a reception at 10 am in the Welcome Center.
- SUMMER CHOIR BEGINS. All singers welcome rehearse in the sanctuary at 10 am, sing at 11 am.

CHURCH SCHOOL, 10 AM

- No children's or youth classes.
- Series begins 9 Questions Jesus Asks Us: This study will explore some of the questions Jesus raises in the Gospel of Luke. We will think about the ways in which his questions challenged the status quo of the religious community then and the way those same questions continue to serve that function now. Led by Professor Sandie Gravett in Redhead Hall. Continues Sundays in June at 10 am, and in July at 9 am (in July we will have one service at 10 am).
- Seekers continues a study of the *Gospel of John* in M125.

REGISTER NOW FOR SUMMER CAMPS! JULY 31 - AUGUST 3



Monday-Thursday, 9 am to noon. Vacation Bible School for ages 3 through rising

2nd-graders. *Kids Disciple Club*, for rising 3rd-5th graders. More info: FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP.





SUMMER READING SUGGESTIONS

Recommended by members and staff: Get the list at FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/DIGITAL-FORMATION

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HUNGER AND OUTREACH EFFORTS

• ENDING TODAY: OFFERING OF LETTERS TO END

HUNGER: Congress soon will renew food and farm programs through the Farm Bill. A key provision supports the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) that is a lifeline for low-income children,



families, and seniors. Stop by the Welcome Center and participate in an Offering of Letters we are doing in partnership with Bread for the World. Pick up a postcard and consider adding a note about our hunger ministries or share why ending hunger means something to you as a person of faith! If you would rather send an email, get the link at FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP.

- ENDING WEDNESDAY: HYGIENE & CLEAN-UP KITS: Help people who are homeless or dealing with disaster by donating Hygiene Kits and Emergency Cleanup Buckets for Church World Service. Outreach is collecting kits through May 31. Find the shopping list and directions at FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP. (Do not include the processing fee.) Leave completed kits in the red wagons around the church. We provided 124 kits last year and would like to top that!
- **ONGOING:** *OUR WEDNESDAY FOOD DRIVE-BY*: Our canned food collection for Urban Ministry is on track for a record year! Drop off canned goods in the red wagons on Sunday mornings, or at the Elm Street circle Wednesdays 10 am-2 pm. Be part of the effort to sign up to be a Wednesday greeter for two hours, go to FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP.

IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS ...

- MEET AND GREET MATT BUSSELL, Sunday, June 11, 10-11 am in Welcome Center.
- RSVP DEADLINE: by noon, Friday, June 16, to Debby Foster, DFOSTER@ FPCGREENSBORO.ORG OT 336.478.4702, for Planning Your 4th Quarter: Unfinished Family Business. Workshop is June 21 at 5 pm, Garden Room.
- RSVP DEADLINE: by noon, Friday, June 16, to Martha Holt, MARTHA.HOLT@ATT.NET OR 336.908.7745, for Fork & Faith monthly women's luncheon, June 21 at noon, cost will be \$10.
- BACKPACK & SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION: Help fill 100 backpacks for immigrant
- families. *Look for sign up in July.* • SUNDAY, JULY 2 – Summer
- worship begins, one service at 10 am in the sanctuary; continues until Sunday, August 6.
- SUNDAY, AUGUST 27 FALL KICKOFF. Our newest class of elders will be ordained and installed. One combined service, 11 am in the sanctuary.