

# The Presbyterian Church of Okemos

May 23, 2021

Pentecost Sunday



**Preparation** “The beginning of knowing about God is simply paying attention, being fully present where you are.” Medieval Bible Commentary

## Prelude

*Tongues of Fire*  
[Pentecost Dance]  
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

Alfred V. Fedak

## Greetings and Announcements of the Church

Rev. Peggy Huston

## Introit

*Veni Creator Spiritus*  
Dr. Connor Koppin, soloist

## Call to Worship

Matt Pearson, Liturgist

One: God who moved over the deep in a holy breath,

**All: Come to us this day - Pentecost. Arrive in the wind.**

One: God who spoke in a bush that was burned but not consumed,

**All: Come to us this day - Pentecost. Arrive in a holy flame.**

One: God who is present each time we gather at the table,

**All: Come to us this day - Pentecost. Arrive in bread and wine,  
conversation and connection.**

One: Pour out your Holy Spirit. Set us aflame, but do not consume us. Fill us with holy nourishment.

**All: We have arrived this day - Pentecost. We have come to  
worship.**

## Prayer of Confession

Matt Pearson, Liturgist

Holy God, You call us to be your voices in this world and we stay silent. You call us to be your hands in this world and we keep them hidden. You call us to be your feet in this world and we go our own way. When we meet those who are doubting and say nothing, forgive us. When we meet those who need your touch and do nothing, forgive us. When we are called to take up your cross and carry nothing, forgive us.

Breathe life into these bones bring freedom to these lives that we might declare with heart and soul and voice that you are our Lord and our God. Amen

*(silent confession)*

## **Promise of the Gospel**

Matt Pearson, Liturgist

One: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: Amen. Thanks be to God.

## **Hymn #289**

*On Pentecost They Gathered*, vs. 1-4

[Munich]

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

## **Children's Sermon**

Rev. Peggy Huston

## **Scripture Lesson**

Numbers 11: 24-30

Rev. Peggy Huston

## **Sermon**

“Eldad, Medad and the Unexpected Pentecost Moment”

Rev. Peggy Huston

## **Affirmation of Faith**

Matt Pearson, Liturgist

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.**

**The spirit justified 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 women and men 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!”**

**With believers in every time and place,  
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death  
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen**

**From The Brief Statement of Faith**

## Special Music

*Sing Me To Heaven*  
Dr. Connor Koppin, soloist

Daniel Gawthrop

## Minute for Mission

### Father's Day Tool Drive

PCO's youth will be collecting new or used (clean) tools on Father's Day, June 20, from 2-4 p.m. in the church parking lot. The Mission Committee volunteers will then take the donated tools to Detroit's Cass Community Social Services, which is creating a tool library for people who live in the "tiny homes". Any kind of tool for home maintenance or repair, yardwork, or even car/bicycle repair will be welcome! Please see a fuller list of tools on the Okemos Church webpage.

## Appreciation of Sunday School Teachers, Choir Members and Handbell Members:

### Sunday School Teachers/Youth Leaders

Barbara Fretwell-Cooke	Pre-school
Christine Meland	Elementary
Tanya Stokes	Elementary
John Juarez	Middle School
Mike Townley	High School
Roy Meland	High School
Ben Baldwin	Youth Group
Jennifer Gordon	Substitute
<b>Sue Schnackenberg</b>	<b>CE Director</b>

### Choir Members

Kathi Cook	David Cook
Terri Grady	David Jones
Nancy Kanistanaux	Emmie McKillips
Doug Paterson	Matt Pearson
Zarina Qurashi	Kathy Richardson
Jill Schaberg	Irene Shutt
Ewen Todd	Gary Vankempen
Beth Weidenaar	Gary Weidenaar
Paula Zichi	<b>Director: Dr. Connor Koppin</b>

### Handbell Choir

Sally Belloli	Jeff Conroy-Krutz	David Cook	Kathi Cook
Linda Cravotta	Lou Cravotta	Barbara Fretwell-Cooke	Betty Grzesiak
Joanne Hubbard	Mary Kimball	Sue Knapp	Beth Layhe
Sarah Mayhew	Cathy McCarthy	Marian McCollum	Michael Moore
Lydia Morgan	Sacha Roennecke	Carolyn Sherrill	Helen Taylor
Ewen Todd	Zora Todd	<b>Director:</b>	<b>Irene Shutt</b>

## Offering

Matt Pearson, Liturgist

## Prayers of the People

Matt Pearson, Liturgist

**Refrain: One**

**All:**

The Lord's Prayer "...forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors..."

## Hymn#282

*Come Down, O Love Divine*, vs. 1-3

[Down Ampney]

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

## Benediction

Rev. Peggy Huston

**One:** As people of faith we have gathered for worship.

**All:** **As people of faith we now return to the world.**

**One:** Go out to share the story of faith,  
the story of life, with the world around you.

**All:** **We share the faith in word and in deed,  
in speech and in action.**

**One:** As you go out to give a living witness,  
as you go out to testify to God's love active in the world,  
go knowing that God goes with you,  
sharing the laughter and the hope, the fears and the tears.

**All:** **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## Response

*Veni Creator Spiritus*

Dr. Connor Koppin

## Postlude

*Fantasy on "Veni Creator"*

Denis Bédard

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker

## Music Notes

The Introit and Response for this Pentecost Sunday are stanzas from one of the most widely used hymns of the church, *Veni Creator Spiritus* (Hymnal #278). This ancient hymn or chant is believed to have been written by Rabanus Maurus, Archbishop of Mainz, in the 9th century and the translation-paraphrase by John Cosin was included in *The Book of Common Prayer* in 1662. It has become known as the Pentecost hymn, but is also used in a variety of Roman Catholic and Anglican sacraments including ordination, communion, and dedication. Countless composers such as J.S. Bach, Berlioz, Bruckner, Mahler, and Duruflé have used this hymn in their compositions.

The organ prelude by American composer Alfred Fedak mimics the dance-like lapping of the Pentecostal tongues of fire and is interrupted by a short paraphrase of *Veni Creator Spiritus*. The postlude is a festive setting of the hymn by Canadian composer Denis Bédard.

***The Presbyterian Church of Okemos***

2258 Bennett Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864

(517) 349-9536

Website: <https://okemospres.org>

Email: [office@okemospres.org](mailto:office@okemospres.org)

<https://twitter.com/okemospres>

<https://facebook.com/OkemosPresbyterian>



*Rev. Peggy Casteel-Huston*, Interim Minister

*Rev. Alice Fleming Townley*, Assistant Pastor

*Dr. Marlene Brewbaker*, Organist

*Dr. Connor Koppin*, Choir Director

*Irene Shutt*, Handbell Choir Director

*Sue Schnackenberg*, CE Director for Youth & Children

*Edward Ennen*, Sexton

*Anna Thiel*, Office Manager

*Ben Baldwin*, Video Editor

*Yusuf Sultani*, Technology Coordinator