

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
May 28, 2023
Pentecost Sunday



Preparation: “Walter Gretzky told the peewee hockey team he coached—which included his son, Wayne—to “skate to where the puck is going, not to where it has been.”... Churches are notoriously tardy to the party. We spend a lot of our time skating to current trends, only to find that the puck has already slid somewhere else. We spend way too much time looking backward, playing catch-up, instead of preparing for what lies ahead.” -- Rev. Julian DeShazier

Prelude *Come, Holy Ghost, Our Lord and God* F.W. Zachau
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organ

Invitation to our Shared Ministry Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Call to Worship Ewen Todd, Liturgist

One: Come, Holy Spirit, with your language of wonder:

All: so we may mingle our words together to scatter the gospel of grace to all around us.

One: Come, Holy Spirit,

All: to rattle the windows of our souls: to burst through the closed doors of our hearts, and dance with us in the fire of renewal.

One: Come, Holy Spirit, we pray!

All: Come, Holy Spirit, to us this day!

* **Hymn #289** *On Pentecost They Gathered*, vs. 1-4
[Munich]

Prayer of Confession Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: We still don't get it - this gift called grace, this mercy called forgiveness. So, we want more signs, more proof, more evidence that God loves us. Yet, all we have to do is what Jesus did - trust in God: completely, foolishly, daringly. Let us pray, telling God how hard such trust is for us, hoping that God's gracious Spirit will dance in our hearts.

All: We look for tongues of fire to dance upon us, God of Pentecost, but hold only the ashes of our broken promises. We long to speak simply and clearly so that everyone, everywhere, might understand your love for them, but we scatter our words to the wind with our inability to care for others. We want you to show us the secrets of the kingdom, never noticing they are revealed in the songs of children, the memories of older folks, the dreams of the young all around us. Have mercy on us, and pour out your Spirit, God of amazing days. When we pull the shutters of our souls shut, fling them open with the breath of wonder. When we turn out all the lights and huddle in the shadows of fear, illumine our hearts with the dancing flames of the Spirit's joy. When we find it impossible to come up

with the language of love, pour your Word, Jesus Christ, into our emptiness so we may fill others. Amen.

Promise of the Gospel

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: Hear the good news for us. God pours the Spirit upon us in these moments - the Spirit which comforts us, which encourages us, which transforms us through God's grace.

All: **Thanks be to God! The Spirit brings us peace, comforts our hearts, and fills us with hope. We are forgiven and made new. Amen.**

Passing of the Peace

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: As a forgiven people, let us greet each other, sharing the peace of Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.** *Please greet your fellow worshippers in ways you feel comfortable.*

*** Act of Praise #581**

Gloria Patri

Children's Sermon

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

No Children's Worship Experience Today

Prayer of Illumination

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Holy Spirit, we ask you to be with us this morning. As long ago you inspired and astonished people calling them to service, come to us now to fill our ears with the sound of your breath, fill our eyes with the brilliance of your presence in each other, fill our hearts with your good Word. Still in us any voices but your own. Amen.

Scriptures

Acts 2:1-6; 14-17 and Numbers 11:24-30

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Sermon

Insider Knowledge

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Special Music

Largo [Andante sostenuto]

Vivaldi

Sonata No. 4

Dr. Barbara Fretwell-Cooke, cello

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, piano

Offering

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Invitation

Offertory

Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

Kristina Langlois

Dr. Barbara Fretwell-Cooke, cello

Based on "In Babilone"

Dutch Folk Tune

*Doxology #606

*Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

Ewen Todd, Liturgist

One: Lord in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

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]

* Benediction

Responsive

One: We have heard the voice of God, who scatters us to gather the world into the community of grace and hope.

All: **We will go to fill the emptiness of others, to bring fresh air into all the stagnant places of our neighborhoods and world.**

One: We have heard the words of Jesus, who calls us to share the whispers of healing, of reconciliation, of renewal.

All: **We will go to comfort those hiding in shadows, to be the breath of kindness to the ridiculed, to share in the silence of the broken and grieving.**

One: We have heard the rush of the Spirit's wind, who would shatter our complacency, and give us voices for justice and righteousness.

All: **We will go to sing songs of strength to the weak, to whisper words of love to those who know only hate, to shout for the renewal of all people everywhere.**

Postlude

Allegro (vivace)

Vivaldi

Dr. Barbara Fretwell-Cooke, cello

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, piano

* *Please rise in body or spirit*

This Morning's Fellowship Team: *Thank you to Barbara & Morrie Hoevel and Shirley & Dave Rumminger for providing snacks and to Edward Ennen for preparing coffee.*

Ushers: *Keith Caman, Tom Schaberg*

Education Time: There will be no education hour for children, youth or adults this morning.

Next Week's Scripture: Matthew 18:1-5, Luke 18:15-17

Our liturgy this morning is adapted from a Pentecost liturgy written by the Rev. Thom M. Shuman and published at Lectionary Liturgies. It is available online at <https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2019/06/liturgy-with-communion-for-june-9-2019.html>

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Dr. Colleen Chester, Choir Director
Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director
Edward Ennen, Sexton
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