

Prayer for a Pentecost Tongue

Holy Spirit of life,
enflame me with passion
for the Good News.

Let my voice ring with
the hope and promise of
Christ.

Holy Spirit of love,
immerse me in
compassion and kindness.

May my words bring
comfort to those in need
of consolation and
assurance.

Holy Spirit of grace, enlighten
my mind and heart.

Fill my speech with expressions
of peace and understanding.

Amen

New Covenant Presbyterian Church
May 28, 2023 10:00am Service



1125 Jamison Corner Road Middletown, DE
(302) 378-4446 www.newcov-church.org

The Worship of God

May 28, 2023 Pentecost Sunday

Welcome and Announcements

Sharing Our Vision

Preparing Ourselves for Worship During the Musical Prelude ...



Do you know the derivation of the word “enthusiasm”? It is particularly significant that we learn this on the Day of Pentecost. It may come as a surprise to you to know that this word’s original meaning has to do with having a passion for religion, rather than being passionate or seriously interested in general. A brief explanation of the world’s etymology should clear this up.

The word “enthusiasm” entered the English language around the beginning of the 17th century. It was borrowed from the Greek “enthousiasmos” meaning “inspiration or possession by a god.” For the first two hundred or so years that it was used in English, “enthusiasm” was primarily employed to refer to beliefs or passions that related to religion. By the beginning of the 18th century, however, the word began to be used to describe having strong feelings or interest in secular matters.

For us modern day disciples of Christ, it is good for us to think of “enthusiasm” as being filled with the Holy Spirit – the gift bestowed on us at Pentecost.

Preparing to Meet God

Call to Worship

L: God will pour out the Spirit upon all flesh.

P: **And our daughters and sons will prophesy.**

L: Our old ones shall dream dreams,

P: **And our young ones shall see visions.**

A: **And all who call upon the name of the Lord shall be delivered.**

Hymn # 561

My Country 'Tis of Thee

*1-My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing;
Land where my father's died, land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountainside, let freedom ring.*

2-My native country thee, land of the noble free,
 Thy name I love;
 I love thy rocks and rills, thy woods and templed hills;
 My heart with rapture thrills, like that above.

3-Let music swell the breeze, and ring from all the trees
 Sweet freedom's song; let mortal tongues awake,
 Let all that breathe partake,
 Let rocks their silence break, the sound prolong.

4-Our fathers' God; to thee, author of liberty.
 To thee we sing.
 Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light;
 Protect us by thy might, great God, our King.

Prayer of Confession

We are your church, O God, but we fear we have made it more of an organization or club than a spiritual force empowered by you to bring about reconciliation. Forgive us when we open our lives to your love but close our hearts to the ministry for which your Holy Spirit equips us. Break through the barriers we have created and fill us with power and love to share the salvation our Lord provides for us. And now, holy God, we turn to you in a time of silent prayer.....Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

L: Hear the Good News: Everyone who invokes Jesus Christ by name shall be saved.

P: ***Jesus Christ calls us to worship him as Lord and Savior,***

L: And to serve him with all that we have and are.

P: ***Friends, believe in Jesus Christ, and serve him with your lives.***



Meeting God in the Word

Children's Message

First Lesson *Numbers 11: 24-30* *God's Servants Prophecy* *Lay Leader*

So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put



it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the

camp.' And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, 'My lord Moses, stop them!' But Moses said to him, 'Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!' And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

L: This is the Word of the Lord. **P: Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

Acts 2: 1-21

The Coming of the Holy Spirit

Carol

AND THEY
WERE ALL
FILLED
WITH THE
HOLY
SPIRIT
ACTS 2:4



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."

L: This is the Word of the Lord. **P: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Spirited Speech

Responding to the Word

Hymn # 523

God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian



*1-God the Spirit, guide and guardian,
Windspeed flame and hovering dove.
Breath of life and voice of prophets,
Sign of blessing, power of love;
Give to those who lead your people
Fresh anointing of your grace;
Send them forth as bold apostles
To your church in every place.*

*3-Great Creator, Life bestower,
Truth beyond all thought's recall,
Fount of wisdom, womb of mercy,
Giving and forgiving all:
As you know our strength and weakness,
So may those the church exalts
Oversee her life steadfastly,
Yet not overlook her faults.*

*2-Christ our Savior, Sovereign, Shepherd,
Word made flesh, love crucified,
Teacher, healer, suffering Servant,
Friend of sinners, foe of pride;
In your tending may all servants
Learn and live a Shepherd's care;
Grant them courage and compassion
Shown through word and deed and prayer.*

*4-Triune God, mysterious Being,
Undivided and diverse,
Deeper than our minds can fathom,
Greater than our creeds rehearse:
Help us in our varied callings
Your full image to proclaim,
That our ministries uniting,
May give glory to your name.*

Affirmation of Faith *The Apostles' Creed (Ecumenical Version)* p. 14, TPH
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Sharing of Joys and Concerns
Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer
The Celebration of Our Gifts

God of love and hope, we give you thanks for all the ways you touch our lives and provide for our needs. Let us not take your gifts for granted, but multiply them to be used for your honor and glory. Amen.

Going Out to Serve

Hymn # 128

On Pentecost They Gathered

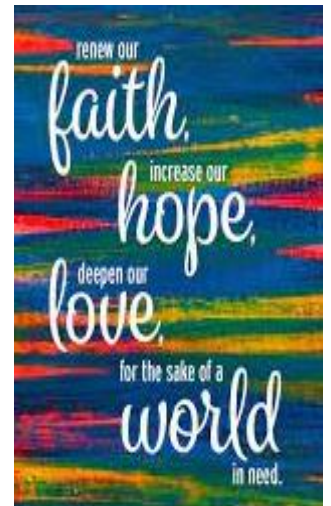
Sung to tune for *The Church's One Foundation #442*

*1-On Pentecost they gathered, quite early in the day,
 A band of Christ's disciples, to worship, sing, and pray.
 A mighty wind came blowing, filled all the swirling air,
 And tongues of fire a glowing, inspired each person there.*

*2-The people all around them, were startled and amazed.
 To understand their language, as Christ the Lord they praised.
 What universal message, what great good news was here?
 That Christ, once dead, is risen, to vanquish all our fear.*

*3-God pours the Holy Spirit, on all who would believe,
 On women, men, and children, who would God's grace receive.
 That Spirit knows no limit, bestowing life and power.
 The church, formed and reforming, responds in every hour.*

*4-On Spirit, sent from heaven, on that day long ago,
 Rekindle faith among us, in all life's ebb and flow.
 O give us ears to listen, and tongues aflame with praise.
 So folk of every nation, glad songs of joy shall raise.*



Blessing

L: Receive now the Holy Spirit,

P: ***For we are sent out by the Son, as the Son was sent by God.***

L: Do not travel alone, but go two by two and three by three,

A: ***And we will not go with empty hands, for we will carry the peace of God wherever the Spirit leads.***

L: And may the blessings...

Response *He is Lord – He is Lord. He has risen from the dead, and he is Lord.
 Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.*