
St. James'-Rosemount United Church

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God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith



May 23rd, 2021 – Pentecost
Worship Leader: Rev. Chris Fickling

Welcome!

Welcome to worship! We're glad you're here!

WE GATHER IN GOD'S HOPE

VU: Voices United

MV: More Voices

*We acknowledge that we are on the Haldimand Tract,
traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnaabeg, and
Haudenosaunee peoples.*

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship

One: Today is a special day!

All: Today is Pentecost!

One: Today is the church's birthday!

All: Today is Pentecost!

One: Today we celebrate God's love shown to us
through the promise and presence of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Red is the colour of Pentecost! Red is the colour
of love! God loves us and we love God! Alleluia!**

Song A Mighty Wind is Blowin'

Opening Prayer adapted from a prayer by Teri

One: O God, you who are always doing a new thing,
we confess that we sometimes close windows
against the fresh air of new ideas,
against the noise of other people's worries,
against the winds of change.

God of every place and time,
we confess that we often draw the curtains
against people who are different,
against world news or community concerns.

Forgive us our insulation in our locked homes,
our shuttered churches,
the security systems on our hearts.
Help us feel safe enough in your presence,
enough to up our lives,
and let your Spirit blow through. Amen.

Opening Hymn Spirit of Life VU 381

*Spirit of Life, come unto me.
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.* Repeat

Story Time

Hymn Wa wa wa Emimimo/Come, Holy Spirit VU 383

*Wa wa wa Emimimo
Wa wa wa Alagbara
Wao, wao, wao*

*Come, O Holy Spirit, Come
Come, Almighty Spirit, come
Come, come, come*

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Minute for Mission

Readings from Scripture (Message) Acts 2:1-21

When the Feast of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Without warning there was a sound like a strong wind, gale force—no one could tell where it came from. It filled the whole building. Then, like a wildfire, the Holy Spirit spread through their ranks, and they started speaking in a number of different languages as the Spirit prompted them.

There were many Jews staying in Jerusalem just then, devout pilgrims from all over the world. When they heard the sound, they came on the run. Then when they heard, one after another, their own mother tongues being spoken, they were blown away. They couldn't for the life of them figure out what was going on, and kept saying, "Aren't these all Galileans? How come we're hearing them talk in our various mother tongues?"

Parthians, Medes, and Elamites; visitors from Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia... Egypt and the

parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene; immigrants from Rome, both Jews and proselytes; even Cretans and Arabs!

“They’re speaking our languages, describing God’s mighty works!” Their heads were spinning; they couldn’t make head or tail of any of it. They talked back and forth, confused: “What’s going on here?” Others joked, “They’re drunk on cheap wine.”

That’s when Peter stood up and, backed by the other eleven, spoke out with bold urgency: “Fellow Jews, all of you who are visiting Jerusalem, listen carefully and get this story straight. These people aren’t drunk as some of you suspect. They haven’t had time to get drunk—it’s only nine o’clock in the morning. This is what the prophet Joel announced would happen:

“In the Last Days,” God says,
“I will pour out my Spirit
on every kind of people:
Your sons will prophesy,
also your daughters;
Your young men will see visions,
your old men dream dreams.
When the time comes,
I’ll pour out my Spirit
On those who serve me, men and women both,
and they’ll prophesy.
I’ll set wonders in the sky above
and signs on the earth below,
Blood and fire and billowing smoke,
the sun turning black and the moon blood-red,
Before the Day of the Lord arrives,
the Day tremendous and marvelous;
And whoever calls out for help
to me, God, will be saved.”

Anthem

Reflection

Song

A Change Would Do You Good

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE

Invitation to Offering Be the Change You Want to See

Offertory *We Didn't Start the Fire*

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer *adapted from a
prayer by Joanna Harader*

One: Flaming God of Pentecost, in this birth of the church
you remind us you hear all voices, for the unique spirit
blesses each, holding each life sacred.
As we pray, let us listen and speak with words of love.

Let us speak in tongues of comfort
for those in mourning who struggle to say goodbye,
those from whom this pandemic has taken much,
those who cannot see anything but loss.

Let us speak in tongues of courage
to those living in fear
of simmering conflict boiling over into war,
those afraid of what tomorrow brings, those who
cannot sleep at night.

Let us speak in tongues of condemnation
against laws and policies that promote violence,
prioritizing the preferences of some over the lives of
others.

Let us speak in tongues of care
for the most vulnerable in our world—
human beings, animals, and ecosystems.

Let us speak in tongues of love
for you and for all your people,
that your language might be our language.

And when our tongues are still,
when we have no words to speak,
let our hearts burn with your fire,
let our ears hear your words in our own native tongue,
let our skin feel the wind of your Spirit—
a mighty wind, blowing where it will. Amen

Lord's Prayer (*read and prayed slowly together*)

All: 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us
from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and
the glory. For ever and ever. Amen.

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

Hymn Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness VU 375

Refrain *Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow thro' the wilderness calling and free,
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness,
Wind, Wind on the sea.*

1 *You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains from the
valleys of sleep;
and over the eons you called to each thing:
wake from your slumbers and rise on your wings.* Refrain

2 *You swept thro' the desert, you stung with the sand,
and you goaded your people with a law and a land;
and when they were blinded with their idols and lies,
then you spoke thro' your prophets to open their eyes.*
Refrain

3 *You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,
then you whispered in silence
when the whole world was still;
and down in the city you called once again,
when you blew through your people on the rush
of the wind.* Refrain

4 *You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes,
from the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams,
our women see visions, our men clear their eyes,
with bold new decisions your people arise.* Refrain

Commissioning *written by Nora Vedress*

One: So now we leave this space of worship
And while so much of the road ahead is uncertain,
the path constantly changing,
we know some things that are as solid and sure
as the ground beneath our feet,
and the sky above our heads.

We know God is love.
We know Christ's light endures.

We know the Holy Spirit this there,
found in the space between all things,
closer to us than our next breath, enlivening our lives,
binding us to each other, until we meet we again,

Go in peace.

* **Choral Benediction** ("Go Now in Peace" Written by Besig & Price 1988)

***Go now in peace, never be afraid
God will go with you each hour of every day
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true
Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe
Reach out to others so all the world can see
God will be there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith and in love.***

Postlude

Announcements

May 23rd – Pentecost

May 30th – Trinity Sunday

June 6th – Communion

June 13th – Celebrate our Children – In addition to our regular
Youtube Service – we'll have a Zoom gathering
with kids at 11am! Link to follow–watch your email!

June 20th – Father's Day and First Nations Sunday

June 27th – Hymn Sing Sunday – Zoom link will be provided!

Monica Place – It is hoped congregational members, during this time span, will be able to purchase cherished items required to support the women and children under the care of this wonderful organization. As

usual typical items for donation would be diapers (newborn to 6) diaper wipes, diaper rash cream, new clothing for babies and toddlers, gift cards. Cash donations are obviously greatly appreciated. If paying by cash make sure you identify yourself, and the purpose of the donation. If paying by cheque, once again clearly identify the purpose, but make the cheque out to SJRUC. All financial donations can be dropped into the church mail slot anytime during the time span of this fundraiser. **We are currently holding off announcing yet-another-rescheduled drop off.**

Shared Summer Services - Over the month of July and August, we are partnering with local churches in the area to share services. We will host a wide variety of preachers in order that we can travel the region from the comfort of our couches! We are grateful for all those joining with us together in worship – as we share the faith that unites us! Rev. Chis will be off for the month of August, with Rev. Tim Graham providing pastoral coverage during this time.

