



May 23, 2021

Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ

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Pastor

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Pianist

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Sunday Meditation

Breathe in me O Holy Spirit
that my thoughts may all be holy;
Act in me O Holy Spirit
that my works, too, may be holy;
Draw my heart O Holy Spirit
that I love but what is holy;
Strengthen me O Holy Spirit
to defend that is holy;
Guard me then O Holy Spirit
that I always may be holy.

**St. Augustine of Hippo
(AD 354-430)**

Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ
Mt Hope 8:30am Greenfield 9:50am
Day of Pentecost

May 23, 2021
Grace 11:00am

Community News

Prayer List and Prayers of the People

Prelude/Lighting of the Candles

* *Call to Worship*

Here we gather for song and scripture, seeking comfort and hope, seeking to be inspired as well as challenged.

Here we gather to retell the ancient tales and wonder how God's story continues to unfold.

Today we tell the story of Pentecost, the story of the Holy Spirit rushing in like a wild wind and dancing like flames upon each of the disciples,

And we will ask ourselves where we see the Holy Spirit present in our world today.

Today we tell a story of the Holy Spirit igniting hope again. We will hear Peter claim his identity, tell his story, and inspire others to see the Holy at work in the world.

And we will ask ourselves if we are ready to share our own stories.

Friends, welcome. Welcome to this place with all questions, doubts, wonders, and find here an invitation to experience something ancient and something new. May we be open to the Spirit. May we be open to learning and learning from one another. May we grow in faith, hope, and love.

Amen.

* *Opening Hymn*

"Take Time to be Holy"

Mt Hope VH #354

Greenfield CH #656

Grace VH #354

Gathering Prayer

Wind of God, present since before creation, fall on us now.
Whisper to us. Shout to us. Comfort and guide us. Alight on us
anew, and revive our own spirits to love and serve.

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we do not often listen for your Holy Spirit.

**We turn from your guidance and your inspiration. The
whispers and the shouts do not penetrate the noise of our
daily lives. We silence the wisdom available to us through
your Spirit of Truth. Open our lives to your holy whispers
and shouts, that our very lives may testify to unseen hope.
Amen.**

Words of Assurance

In the name of Jesus Christ, who sent us the Spirit of Truth, you
are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Epistle Lesson

Acts 2:1-21 NIV

The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one
place. ² Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from
heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ They saw
what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each
of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak
in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

⁵ Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every
nation under heaven. ⁶ When they heard this sound, a crowd came
together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language
being spoken. ⁷ Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are
speaking Galileans?" ⁸ Then how is it that each of us hears them in our
native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of
Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and
Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from
Rome ¹¹ (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we
hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" ¹² Amazed
and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

¹³ Some, however, made fun of them and said, “They have had too much wine.”

Peter Addresses the Crowd

¹⁴ Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. ¹⁵ These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It’s only nine in the morning! ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ ““In the last days, God says,
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,
your young men will see visions,
your old men will dream dreams.

¹⁸ Even on my servants, both men and women,
I will pour out my Spirit in those days,
and they will prophesy.

¹⁹ I will show wonders in the heavens above
and signs on the earth below,
blood and fire and billows of smoke.

²⁰ The sun will be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood
before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

²¹ And everyone who calls
on the name of the Lord will be saved.’

* *The Reading of the Holy Gospel* **John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15 NIV**
Gloria Tibi (Glory be to Thee, O Lord.) **TH #497**

The Work of the Holy Spirit

²⁶ “When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father—he will testify about me. ²⁷ And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning.

^{4b} I did not tell you this from the beginning because I was with you, ⁵ but now I am going to him who sent me. None of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ ⁶ Rather, you are filled with grief because I have said these things. ⁷ But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸ When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹ about sin, because people do not believe in me; ¹⁰ about righteousness, because I am going

to the Father, where you can see me no longer; ¹¹ and about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.

¹² “I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. ¹³ But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. ¹⁵ All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you.”

* *Gloria Patri*

Children's Message

* *Meditation Hymn* “*Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*”

Mt Hope VH #150

Greenfield CH #390

Grace VH #150

Today's Message

* *The Apostle's Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hades; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic/Christian church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

* *The Lord's Prayer*

**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.**

* *Sung Response* “Hear Our Prayer, O Lord” TH # 501

The Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Statement

Offertory

* Doxology

* Offertory Prayer TH # 551

**When we do not know how to pray, your Holy Spirit prays
for us in sighs too deep for words. Hear our prayers for
goodness in the world. Receive these gifts, that they may
help answer the Holy Spirit’s hope for all creation. Amen.**

* *Closing Hymn* “Standing on the Promises”
Mt Hope VH #171 *Greenfield* CH #410 *Grace* VH #171
All verses vs 1,2,5 vs 1,2,4

* *Benediction*

That Pentecost day, with the Spirit in the air, the disciples were suddenly clear about their stories and their intention to share their stories with the world. Maybe it was the rushing wind that had jolted them out of complacency. Maybe it was the dancing tongues of fire that landed on each one that ignited them to action. Maybe it was the hope that comes with having the Companion, the Advocate, nearby. Whichever it was, the disciples found their authentic voices and soon after discovered they had a story to share with the world.

Go forth into this day, with the Spirit in the air, to share your stories of God’s love with the world.

Go forth into the world in the name of God, the one who creates you; go in the name of the Jesus who shows us the way; and go in the name of the Holy Spirit, who is with us now and always.

* *Three-Fold Amen* TH # 558

* *Postlude/Extinguishing of the Candle*