



Blowin' In the Wind
Pentecost Sunday
May 28, 2023

MEDITATION

"When the winds of change blow, some people build walls, other build windmills." –Chinese Proverb

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING WORDS

P: And now may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you. **All: And also with you.**

PRELUDE

"Whispering Hope"

Alice Hawthorne

CALL TO WORSHIP

Melessa Fox, Deacon

L: Fling wide the doors! Open the windows! Let God's Spirit pour in!

All: Come, Holy Spirit, come! Hear us calling you!

L: Open your eyes! Embrace the new day!

All: Come, Holy Spirit, come! Hear us calling you!

L: Get ready, God's Spirit comes sailing on the Wind

All: Come, Holy Spirit, come! Hear us calling you!

L: Hang on, God's whirlwind is blowing new life into this church.

All: Come, Holy Spirit, come! Hear us calling you!

L: God's fiery glory sweeps through our lives renewing our passion.

All: Come, Holy Spirit, come! Hear us calling you!

L: Let your hearts burn with gratitude and joy at this wondrous Gift!

All: Come, Holy Spirit, come! Hear us calling you!

SONG OF THANKSGIVING

"Rejoice in the Lord Always" 2x

(in the pews)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Melessa Fox, Deacon

We aren't ready, Lord. It is easier for us to hide in the upper rooms of our lives, to let the world go by and not acknowledge your presence. But you have challenged us to come alive again with your love and words of healing mercy. Forgive our hesitant witness and our complacent spirits. Heal our fears and our wounds. Help us to be agents of healing and hope for others. Challenge and inspire us to overcome our feelings of inadequacy and remind us that you have called us beloved and have given us what we need to proclaim your Good News. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Rev. Christina Williams

Don't be afraid! God's Holy Spirit brings you comfort and hope. You are being prepared to serve God in some mighty ways. Rejoice! God's Holy Spirit is with you always. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

"Let Every Christian Pray"

Black 261

WORD FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

ANTHEM

"Have Thine Own Way Lord"

words by Adelaide A. Pollard,

music by Libby Tilson, sung by the choir

NEW TESTAMENT READING ONE | JOHN 20:19-23

Melessa Fox, Deacon

NEW TESTAMENT READING TWO | ACTS 2:1-21

Rev. Christina Williams

L: The word of God for the people of God. **All: Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTION

"Blowin' In the Wind"

Rev. Christina Williams

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

L: We believe in God the Spirit,

All: Who is the giver and renewer of all life.

L: We believe in God the Spirit,

All: Who sends wind and fire to transform our lives.

L: We believe in God the Spirit,

All: Who blows through the Church to revitalize and inspire.

L: We believe in God the Spirit,

All: Who moves us to faith, leads us in truth, and binds us together as one.

UNISON PASTORAL PRAYER AND JOY & CONCERNS

After the pastoral prayer, you are invited to share your joys and concerns. When names are spoken out loud, we are all invited to respond, "O Lord, hear our prayers."

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 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 and the power and the glory forever. (Sung Amen, Black 812)

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC "Loving Savior, Hear My Prayer" Music by Gabriel Faure,
text and arrangement by John Bertalot, sung by the choir

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessing flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love had done:
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One Amen.

***UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Gracious God, for all you have given, for all we have received, we give you thanks. We bring before you our gifts of substance and the gift of our lives. Bless them and bless us. Renewed by your Spirit, we bring our passion, joy, and surprise, our visions and dreams. May they refresh and enliven this church and this community, as the wind of your Spirit did long ago. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN*"Every Time I Feel the Spirit"**

Black 282

Background: This song dates to before the Civil War. Words of spirituals often had multiple meanings. These meanings were understood by the target audience. For example, the line that reads, "There ain't but one train on this track; It runs to heaven..." possibly refers to the Underground Railroad or another road to freedom, a message easily recognized and of comfort to those enduring slavery.

BENEDICTION

May the God who shakes the heavens and earth,
Whom death cannot contain,
Who lives to disturb and heal us,
Bless you with power to go forth,
To be the Church in faith and joy.

POSTLUDE

“Doctor Gradus ad Parnassum”

Claude Debussy

**Stand in body or spirit as you are able.*

Ministering to us today

Melessa Fox, Deacon and Rev. Christina Williams are leading us in worship today. We are grateful to our music director, Stephanie Miles and the Chancel Choir for providing the music, and to Faith Duffy, our technical staff for today. A big thank you to Hank Bertsch & Cindy Kaleskas for offering hospitality. Thank you for ministering to us in these ways.

Music covered under One License # A-728849



**Today's altar flowers are given by Cindy & Emily in
celebration of Janet King's birthday.**