

A graphic of red smoke or fire rising from the bottom left corner, filling the left side of the page. The smoke is semi-transparent and has a glowing effect.

A white logo featuring a cross inside a circle, topped with a decorative arch.

**LA JOLLA
UNITED METHODIST**

**Breathing
Fire**

Sunday, May 28, 2023

Pentecost Sunday

www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Prelude

Andante Cantabile

Joseph Haydn/Arr. Hal H. Hopson
©2006 Hope Publishing Co.

Introit

Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit

Arr. William Dawson
©1973 William L. Dawson

Welcome

† Opening Hymn

America the Beautiful

UMH 696

1. O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain;
for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.
2. O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,
who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!
America! America! May God thy gold refine,
till all success be nobleness, and every gain divine.
3. O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years
thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,
confirm thy soul in self-control,thy liberty in law.

Blessing for Young Hearts

Prayers of the People

*A Pastor will begin a time of prayer and name those for whom our congregation is praying.
Online Worshipers may type prayer requests in the Live Chat, taking care for privacy.*

Pastoral Prayer

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 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. Amen.

Prayer Response

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

Arr. Donald Moore
©1996 Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp.

WE HEAR OF THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Scripture

Acts 2:1-8, 11b-20 (CEB)

When Pentecost Day arrived, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound from heaven like the howling of a fierce wind filled the entire house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be individual flames of fire alighting on each one of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them to speak.

There were pious Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. When they heard this sound, a crowd gathered. They were mystified because everyone heard them speaking in their native languages. They were surprised and amazed, saying, "Look, aren't all the people who are speaking Galileans, every one of them? How then can each of us hear them speaking in our native language? ...we hear them declaring the mighty works of God in our own languages!" They were all surprised and bewildered. Some asked each other, "What does this mean?" Others jeered at them, saying, "They're full of new wine!"

Peter stood with the other eleven apostles. He raised his voice and declared, "Judeans and everyone living in Jerusalem! Know this! Listen carefully to my words! These people aren't drunk, as you suspect; after all, it's only nine o'clock in the morning! Rather, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

In the last days, God says,
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.
Your sons and daughters will prophesy.
Your young will see visions.
Your elders will dream dreams.
Even upon my servants, men and women,
I will pour out my Spirit in those days,
and they will prophesy.
I will cause wonders to occur in the heavens above
and signs on the earth below,
blood and fire and a cloud of smoke.
The sun will be changed into darkness,
and the moon will be changed into blood,
before the great and spectacular day of the Lord comes.

John 20:19-23 (CEB)

It was still the first day of the week. That evening, while the disciples were behind closed doors because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them. He said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they were filled with joy. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you." Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven; if you don't forgive them, they aren't forgiven."

Scriptural Response

Liturgist: The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Anthem

Blades of Grass and Pure White Stones

Hatch, Alexander, Naish
©2006 Sony/ATV Tunes LLC

Message

"Breathing Fire"

Rev. Bob Rhodes

WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Response to the Word

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

Basse Et Dessus De Trompette

Louis-Nicolas Clerambault
Arr. Hal H. Hopson
©2006 Hope Publishing Co.

† Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 94

Prayer of Confession

All: Refreshing wind of God, whisper the truth of your love to us. Where we are breathless with sin and regret, breathe new life into us through your mercy and your grace. Where we stand firm in our divisions, re-mold us with your mighty power, that we might rise in unity and love. Renewing wind of the Spirit, help us recognize our gifts, that we may use them for your glory. For we yearn to proclaim your presence in all that we say and in all that we do. In your holy presence, we pray. Amen.

One: All who call upon the name of God are saved. By calling on God and confessing our sins, the Holy Spirit re-creates us anew and saves us by Christ's grace. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

WE FOLLOW CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

† Closing Hymn

Spirit of God

TFWS 2117

1. Spirit of God, bright Wind,
breath that bids life begin,
blow as you always do;
create us anew.

Give us the breath to sing,
lifted on soaring wing,
held in your hands,
borne on your wings.

Refrain

Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come!
Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come!

2. Spirit of God, bright Dove,
grant us your peace and love,
healing upon your wings
for all living things.

For when we live your peace,
captives will find release,
held in your hands,
borne on your wings.

Refrain

Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come!
Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come!

3. Spirit of God, bright Hands,
even in far-off lands
you hold all the human race
in one warm embrace.

No matter where we go,
you hold us together so,
held in your hands.
borne on your wings.

Refrain

Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come!
Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come!

4. Spirit of God, bright Flame,
send us in your holy name,
the power to heal, to share
your love everywhere.

We cannot fail or fall,
or know defeat at all,
held in your hands,
borne on your wings.

Refrain

Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come!
Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come!

5. Spirit of God in all,
we gladly hear your call,
the life in our hands that sings,
the power of your wings.

Born of your grace we rise,
love shining in our eyes,
held in your hands,
borne on your wings.

Refrain

Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come!
Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come!

† **Benediction**

Postlude

Allegro

Domenico Scarlotti/Arr. Hal H. Hopson
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Liturgical elements from *The Abingdon Worship Annual* and *The United Methodist Hymnal*

Flowers: from Gail Chatfield in memory of all those we have loved and lost
Liturgist: George Ann Wurster
Organist: Robert Wuertz
Pianist: Rebecca Cosford
Ushers: Cindy Rushing, Gail Chatfield, Ann Gonsalves, Leigh Kramer
Tech Team: AJ Prat, Cam Rhodes

Special thanks for Scout Troop 506 for processing and recessing the wreath
and taking it to Mt. Soledad to share with the community after worship.

LJUMC Ministry Team

Rev. Bob Rhodes, Lead Pastor; Rev. Tara Limbaugh, Pastor of Connexion;
Bob Wuertz, Music Ministries Director; Theresa Erb, Office Manager;

Emilio Valente, Information Technology Director; Erin Wyr, NS Executive Director