



# Wesleyan Vile-tality



## More Vile

Sunday, May 24, 2026

Pentecost Sunday

[www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org](http://www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org)

## WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Gathering Music

*Allemande*  
Flute Ensemble

Joseph Boden de Boismortier  
Public Domain

### Call to Worship

One: The Spirit of God is on the move, pouring out prophetic fire on all who will receive it.

**All: Come, Holy Spirit, come!**

One: The Spirit of God gathers us here, but will not let us stay here. God's love was never meant for the sanctuary alone.

**All: Come, Holy Spirit, come!**

One: On the day of Pentecost, the Spirit moved through locked doors and spoke in every tongue. Today, the Spirit calls us beyond our comfort, beyond our respectability, into the open fields where God is already at work.

**All: Come, Holy Spirit, come!**

One: Moses said, "Would that all the Lord's people were prophets!" Peter proclaimed, "God will pour out the Spirit on all flesh." People of God, the Spirit is here. Will you receive all that the Spirit has to offer?

**All: We come to receive the Spirit's abundant and gracious gifts, that we might be a people who go where we are led, even when it looks foolish, even when the world calls it vile. Amen.**

### Congregational Introit

*What Does the Lord Require of You*

Jim Strathdee  
CCLI License # 456859

What does the Lord require of you?  
What does the Lord require of you?  
Justice, kindness, walk humbly with your God.

To seek justice and love kindness  
and walk humbly with your God.  
To seek justice and love kindness  
and walk humbly with your God.

**Welcome** – (*Welcome, attendance cards & prayer requests, flowers in loving memory of Donald John Leiffer's birthday by parents Murray & Dorothy Leiffer through a perpetual gift made to LJUMC Foundation.*)

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***Peace of Our Praying*

W &amp; S 3022

**WE HEAR THE LOVE OF CHRIST****Scripture**

Acts 2:1-21 (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? Parthians, Medes, and Elamites; as well as residents of Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the regions of Libya bordering Cyrene; and visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism), Cretans and Arabs—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.  
And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.*

Numbers 11:24-30 (NRSVue)

So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord, and he gathered seventy of the 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, 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.

### Scriptural Response

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

All: **Thanks be to God! Amen**

### Anthem

*Blades of Grass and Pure White Stones*

Arr. Keith Christopher  
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### Message

*More Vile*

Rev. Bob Rhodes

## WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

### Response to the Word

### Invitation to the Offering

### Offertory

*Badinerie (from Suit for Orchestra No. 2)*  
Flute Ensemble

J.S. Bach  
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### † Doxology

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

UMH 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

### Prayer of Confession

All: **Holy God, we confess that we have spent generations closing those doors on your Spirit. We have feared anything different. We have chosen respectability over faithfulness, comfort over calling. We have decided who belongs and who does not, and we have called that judgment wisdom. You, O God, have the power to turn us around, to make us a people willing to go where respectability will not go, to love**

**those who are overlooked. Give us the courage to be more vile for the sake of your gospel. Give us the energy, intelligence, imagination, and love to be your people in all we say and do. Amen.**

One: Hear the good news: the same Spirit that rushed through the upper room rushes toward us still, blessing the foolish, the disreputable, and the willing. Everyone who calls on the name of God has been saved, is being saved, and will be saved. 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**

*How Majestic Is Your Name*

Michael W. Smith  
Setting by Peggy Bettcher  
©2001 Meadowgreen Music

**Liturgical elements from *Discipleship Ministries (UMC)* and *The Abingdon Worship Annual*.**

- Flowers:** In loving memory of Donald John Leiffer's birthday by parents Murray & Dorothy Leiffer through a perpetual gift made to LJUMC Foundation
- Liturgist:** Sal Butera
- Organist:** Bob Wuertz
- Pianist:** Rebecca Cosford
- Flute Ensemble:** Sue Boles, Judy Howarter, Rosalind Richards, Cara Shapiro, Sally Strobl
- Ushers:** Cindy Rushing, Gail Chatfield, Ann Davis, Ann Gonsalves, Janet Lind, Leigh Kramer, Jean Thomas, Betsy Witt
- Tech Team:** AJ Prat, Cam Rhodes

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**LJUMC Ministry Team**

Pastor Bob Rhodes, Lead Pastor; Pastor Rob Shearer, Director of Children & Youth Ministries  
Bob Wuertz, Music Ministries Director; Theresa Erb, Office Manager;  
Emilio Valente, Information Technology Director; Erin Wyer, NS Executive Director