May 26, 2024

"The Untamed Spirit of Pentecost"

FORT COLLINS MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

300 E. Oak Street, Ft. Collins, CO 80524

Pastor: Steve Ramer

Cell: 970-412-7510



SEASON OF PENTECOST

"Tongues of fire came and rested upon each one of them and they were filled with the Holy Spirit!"

1. GATHERING

Musical Prelude (Stan)

Call to Worship: #877 (Liz)

Worship: 10:00 AM

All: Come, Holy Spirit,
Leader: enter our silences.
All: Come, Holy Spirit,
Leader: into the depths of our longing.
All: Come, Holy Spirit,
Leader: unmask our pretending.

Enter our trusting, enter our fearing, enter our letting go, enter our holding back. All: Come, Holy Spirit, Leader: embrace and free us.



Opening Prayer: #992 (Liz)

Sovereign Majesty,

we pray for the continued outpouring of your Spirit upon the church so that the first of Pentecost may anoint us to take the gospel of Jesus Christ to all the world. Help us to release the anointing of the Holy Spirit which dwells within us. Let us pour your blessing into the lives of others. Let us lift up the name of Jesus with power from on high. — Amen

Congregational Singing (Stan)

Welcome and Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you. **People:** And also, with you.

All: Let us offer one another signs of peace, reconciliation, and love.

"The Spirit is as operative today in communicating the gospel to all who seek the truth as it was on the day of Pentecost anciently" — Joseph B. Wirthlin"

"Preservation of one's own culture does not require contempt or disrespect for other cultures." — Cesar Chavez

2. HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture: Acts 2:1-12

1 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.

2 And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.

3 Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.

4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

5 Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. 6 And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each.

SERMON: "The Untamed Spirit of Pentecost!"

7 Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?

8 And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?

9 Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretans and Arabs-in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power."

12 All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?"



Today, we'll hear a recorded sermon by Amy Zimbelman, Mountain States Mennonite Conference Minister, discussing Pentecost – the day when people speaking many languages from many cultures could suddenly understand one another. She will explore the idea that when you learn a new language, you learn about a culture. And, when a language is no longer spoken, it is as if an entire culture and its people no longer exist.

"We need to give each other the space to grow, to be ourselves, to exercise our diversity. We need to give each other space so that we may both give and receive such beautiful things as ideas, openness, dignity, joy, healing, and inclusion." — Max de Pree

— Desmond Tutu

"Isn't it amazing that we are all made in God's image,

and yet there is so much diversity among his people?"

3. Responding to God's Word

Congregational Singing (Stan)

Response

Joys and Concerns

Offering & Music (Stan)

In a world where we so often dwell on what we lack, you are a God of abundance. In the face of hunger, you call us to share food. In the face of poverty, to share resources. In the face of despair, to share hope. Accept these offerings as a sign that all we have is yours. We trust in your abundant love that flows in us and through us. — Amen

Sending: #1067 (Liz)

God of power, may the boldness of you Spirit transform us, may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us, may the gifts of your Spirit be our goal and our strength, now and always. - Amen