

Pentecost Sunday
May 31, 2020
Shawnee Presbyterian Church
Led by Rev. Rhonda Kruse

Call to Worship

L: Come, Holy Spirit! Ignite our hearts with joy and confidence!

P: For God has done wondrous things for us.

L: Come, Holy Spirit! Fill us with the power of the rushing wind that we may faithfully serve you in all that we do.

P: For Christ has called each of us and blessed us!

L: Come, Holy Spirit! Be with us today.

P: Help us to boldly proclaim Christ Risen. AMEN.

Prayer of Confession:

Lord God, you know us so well. You know that we would be like the disciples after the crucifixion and even after the resurrection. We would rather hide and mutter and weep than proclaim the power of your love. The world is a scary place. We fear so much. We want people to like us, and so we hold back on our proclamation of our faith. We don't want to offend anyone. But your love and presence are not offensive. They are empowering and healing. Bring your holy fire upon us this day to ignite a spark of joy in our hearts and our voices. Bring the power of your rushing wind through our spirits that we may be turned in new directions for service and witness. We pray this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

Assurance of Pardon:

Hear the Good News! God's amazing love is offered to us even when we are fearful or unsure of our faith. Know that God is with you. Be not afraid. Hallelujah!

Scripture Reading:

Acts 2:1-21

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?' ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts

of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes,
¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds
of power.’ ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, ‘What does this
mean?’ ¹³But others sneered and said, ‘They are filled with new wine.’

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, ‘Men of
Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.
¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning.
¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷In the last days it will be,
God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your
daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall
dream dreams. ¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour
out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. ²⁰The sun shall be
turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and
glorious day. ²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’ “

Sermon: Seeing Visions, Dreaming Dreams

Pentecost—“graduation” of the disciples into something new

Breaking in of the Holy Spirit

Peter’s commencement speech

The lift of a driving dream...what is the church’s driving dream?

Church lacks a vision—why?

1. We don’t take the Spirit’s power seriously
2. Vision is a community endeavor
3. Not enough dreamers

Visionaries and dreamers will lead the church in a changing world

Pentecost is not a one-time event

Prayers of the People & the Lord’s Prayer

Blessing & Benediction

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! Wear a crash helmet!

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord be kind and gracious to you.

May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.