

**Congregational Church
of Westminster West
A United Church of Christ**

May 28, 2023

Pentecost!

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude “Allegro from Sonata in F” (HWV 378) *G. F. Handel*

*Call to Worship



Leader: O for a thousand tongues to sing sweet praise!

People: O rushing wild spirit of God

pour out the fire of love upon us!

Unfurl your language upon our lips,

Unlock our minds to embrace all possibility

Unleash our hearts so Your justice flows freely.

L: O for a thousand tongues to sing sweet praise!

P: O rushing wild spirit of God

pour out the fire of love upon us!

May your breeze bring health and wholeness,

May your breath heat our resolve,

May your Spirit storm the earth with mercy and grace.

L: O for a thousand tongues to sing sweet praise!

P: O rushing wild spirit of God

pour out the fire of love upon us!

Set us free from self-doubt,

Make us listeners as we seek awareness,

Shake us awake when we forget our privilege.

L: O for a thousand tongues to sing sweet praise!

**P: O rushing wild spirit of God
pour out the fire of love upon us!
Amen. Amen. Amen.**

*Hymn No. 262 “Hail, O Festal Day!” (Pentecost version)

Refrain:

*Hail, O festal day! Blessed day that all ages will cherish:
Day when God shone with grace, over the whole wide earth.*

*God to the faithful returned:
the Spirit in image of fire;
those gathered tell of Christ’s deeds,
in every language on earth.*

*Hail, O festal day! Blessed day that all ages will cherish:
Day when God shone with grace, over the whole wide earth.*

*Now to our lips the bright coal touch gently
so we, too, are kindled –
your love aflame in our hearts
lit from your own endless love.*

*Hail, O festal day! Blessed day that all ages will cherish:
Day when God shone with grace, over the whole wide earth.*

*God the Almighty, you fill
the cosmos and all you created;
cleanse us within, make us pure,
that we your vessels may be.*

Refrain:

*Hail, O festal day! Blessed day that all ages will cherish:
Day when God shone with grace, over the whole wide earth.*

*O Christ, Redeemer of all,
our Savior, the Author of goodness,
Only Begotten of God,
touch us with your healing grace.*

Refrain:

*Hail, O festal day! Blessed day that all ages will cherish:
Day when God shone with grace, over the whole wide earth.*

*We praise you Spirit of life,
O Fount, the sustainer of all things,
O radiant, livegiving Light,
renewing life with your grace.*

Refrain:

*Hail, O festal day! Blessed day that all ages will cherish:
Day when God shone with grace, over the whole wide earth.*

*Sovereign of all that is good,
your sweet balm of peace pour upon us;
give us the wisdom that guides
the universe on its way.*

Refrain:

*Hail, O festal day! Blessed day that all ages will cherish:
Day when God shone with grace, over the whole wide earth.*

Prayer of Confession (*seated*)



**All: O God, who sent gifts
of the Holy Spirit to those first saints,
We know you continue to send gifts to us,
even though we do not always truly claim them.
We confess that we have not always opened our gifts.
We have often chosen to keep them packed away or buried.**

**Move us, by your Spirit,
to pick up our presents that you so freely give,
to open them and to spend them lavishly
on the stewardship of your world.**

**We confess to you how often our thoughts and motives are confused,
both individually
and when we are together as your people,
and that this confusion has often blinded us
to your interest in our lives.**

**Break in on our confusion,
and astonish us anew, O God!
Our prayer is that you will claim us again
and silence within us our desire
to always have words for every occasion,
that we might hear the whisper of the wings of your Spirit dove.**

**In the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, we pray.
Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

One: ...

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Gloria No. 756

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis deo.
Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!*

Prayers of the People

L: May the Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

Joys and Concerns

Silence

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father/Mother/Creator, 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 let us not fall into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Scripture Lessons

Acts 2: 1-4

Romans 8: 14-39

Matthew 28: 16-20

*Hymn No. 64

“Fire of God, Undying Flame”

*Fire of God, undying Flame, Spirit who in splendor came,
let your heat my soul refine, till it glows with love divine.*

*Breath of God, that swept in power in the Pentecostal hour,
Holy Breath, be now in me source of vital energy.*

*Strength of God, your might within conquers sorrow, pain, and sin.
Fortify from evil's art all the gateways of my heart.*

*Truth of God, your piercing raise penetrate my secret ways,
may the light that shames my sin guide me holier paths to win.*

*Love of God, your grace profound knows not either age or bound.
Come, my heart's own guest to be; dwell forevermore in me.*

Sermon

Offertory
Turle

“Two Chant Settings”

J.L.Roechel / James

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Praise God, all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that Love has done.

Creator, Christ and Spirit, One.

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn No. 267

“Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us”

*Come, O Spirit, dwell among us, come with Pentecostal power;
give the church a stronger vision, help us face each crucial hour.*

*Built upon a firm foundation, Jesus Christ the Cornerstone,
still the church is called to mission that God's love shall be made known.*

We would raise our alleluia for the grace of former years;

*for tomorrow's unknown pathway, hear, O God, our humble prayers.
In the church's pilgrim journey you have led us all the way,
still in presence move before us, fire by night and cloud by day.*

*Come, O Spirit, dwell among us; give us words of fire and flame.
Help our struggling voices praise you, glorify your holy name.
Good Creator, Savior, Spirit, Three in One: what mystery!
We would sing our loud hosannas now and through eternity.*

***Commissioning and Benediction**

Postlude “Heer, U bent mijn leven...”
Evert-Jan van Laar (Gezang 161 intro Gert van Hoef)



**indicates that all who are able shall stand
Please join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments downstairs following
the worship service.*



Worship Participants:

Musician: Fred Gray Technician:

Deacon: Trustees: Guy Payne, chair

Minister to the Congregation: Rev. Susie Webster-Toleno

Ministers to the World: The Congregation

Church and Community Notes

/Our pastor, Rev. Susie Webster-Toleno, welcomes visits and calls, and is also happy to visit YOU in your home, workplace, hospital room or wherever. In this post-Covid-Isolation world, as we all assess what was and was not working prior to the shut-down, she is still figuring out the best way to make herself available. She sets Thursday afternoons aside for church work for sure, and is available at other times by appointment. Susie can be reached at the church at **387-2334** if it's not an emergency, but the fastest ways to reach her are via cell **802-579-8356** or email

susiewt@gmail.com. She reserves Mondays as her Sabbath day, holding that day aside as non-working time.

Upcoming Events:

June 4: Susie preaching, Fred Gray music; Holy Communion

June 11: *tba*; Eric Robinson music; Manna Offering

June 18: Susie preaching, Amy Cann music

June 25: **Interfaith Pride Union Service**, Guilford Community Church ~
10 AM

✧Attributions: Our Pentecost call to worship was written by Rev. Karla Miller, Minister of Community Life at Old North Church in Marblehead, MA. Posted on RevGalBlogPals. <https://revgalblogpals.org/2018/05/19/saturday-prayer-speaking-in-tongues/>. Our Confession comes from the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand website. <http://presbyterian.org.nz/for-ministers/worship-resources>.

