

**Mennonite Church of Normal
Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 2021**

Worship Focus: We are all controlled by something or someone. Of all those possibilities, only one is guaranteed to always have our total well-being at heart--the Holy Spirit. Pentecost (and the rest of Acts) is the story of Jesus' followers who allowed themselves to be controlled by the Spirit. At Pentecost, 120 followers were filled with the Spirit, not just The Twelve.

Gathering in God's Presence

Prelude: A mighty fortress is our God
Faith of the martyrs arr Burkhardt
There is a balm in Gilead arr J Clemens
Dorothy Loepf

Welcome/Congregational Life Lynette Miller
Call to Worship
Opening Prayer

Praising God Together

Songs of Praise VT 57 Holy Spirit, Come with Power (HWB 26)
VT 374 There Are Many Gifts

\ **Hearing God's Word**

Children's Story Spring Neely
Scripture Reading: Acts 2:1-21; John 15:26-27; 16:7-15 Joe Jantze
Sermon: *Under the influence of the Holy Spirit* Gary Martin

Receiving God's Grace

Response Song: VT 737 Breathe on Me Breath of God (HWB 356)

Service of Communion: Gary Martin

Affirming our Faith VT 740 Spirit of the Living God (HWB 349)

Sharing Joys & Concerns; Prayer Lynette Miller

Sent in the Spirit's Power

Benediction Lynette Miller

Postlude: I've got peace like a river. Arr Callahan Dorothy Loepf

Acts 2:1-21

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. 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?" ¹³ But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

¹⁴ But 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. ¹⁵ Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ 'In 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.

¹⁸ Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹ And 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.'

John 15:26-27; 16:7-15

"When the Advocate^[a] comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. ²⁷ You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

⁷ Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate^[a] will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸ And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about^[b] sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹ about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰ about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; ¹¹ about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

¹² "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵ All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.