



Living by Faith, Known by Love, A Voice of Hope



First Church in Windsor, UCC
May 23, 10 a.m.

John Warham Sunday

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: Why have we gathered?

People: We have gathered in honor of Pentecost to give witness to the presence of God's Spirit in our time.

Leader: The Spirit has moved Christ's disciples throughout the centuries to proclaim Christ with the intensity of fire.

People: Christ's disciples were people set on fire by the coming of God's Spirit.

Leader: We pray for the same new Spirit to move among us.

People: May it transform that which is dormant or dead, and rekindle our faith and action with the flame of Pentecost.

Opening Hymn

Surely the Presence

Words and music by Lanny Wolfe

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**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face;
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.**

**There's a holy hush around us as God's glory fills this place.
I've touched the hem of his garment, I can almost see his face.
And my heart is overflowing with the fulness of his joy.
I know without a doubt that I have been with the Lord.**

**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face;
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.**

Prayer of Invocation

O God, the Spirit calls each of us, but we are often reluctant to heed the call. The wind of the Spirit blows, at times fiercely, and draws us onward. Yet sometimes we cling to the past, to what seems like a safer harbor. Help us to risk letting go, to stand free as your servant people. Help us to capture the visions of the future, so that we may truly be the church. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Prayer of our Savior

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

Children's Moment

Scripture

Acts 2:1-21

When 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:

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.

²⁰ The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

²¹ Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Sermon

"Faith in a Seed: The Beginning of the Church"

Pastor Nicole

Hymn

Every Time I Feel the Spirit
African American spiritual
Public domain

**Every time I feel the Spirit
moving in my heart I will pray.
Yes, every time I feel the Spirit
moving in my heart I will pray.**

**Upon the mountain my God spoke,
out of God's mouth came fire and smoke.
Looked all around me, looked so fine
I asked my God if all were mine.**

**Every time I feel the Spirit
moving in my heart I will pray.
Yes, every time I feel the Spirit
moving in my heart I will pray.**

**Oh, Jordan river, chilly and cold,
it chills the body, not the soul.
There's only one train on this track;
it runs to heaven, then right back.**

**Every time I feel the Spirit
moving in my heart I will pray.
Yes, every time I feel the Spirit
moving in my heart I will pray.**

**Every time I feel the Spirit
moving in my heart I will pray.
Yes, every time I feel the Spirit
moving in my heart I will pray.**

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Reception of Members of the John Warham Society

2020

Marcus Hudson
Heidi Kelsey
Marillyn Loomis
George & Judith Merrick
Pamela Pickens Monroe
Marilyn Neuschaefer
Michael Novak
Penelope Richard

2021

Dorothy Benko
Bonnie Hoddinott
Carol Napiorkowski
Laurel Pepin
Claire Spitler

Prayer Response

In the Bulb There is a Flower

Words and music by Natalie Sleeth
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**In the bulb there is a flower, in the seed an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.**

Announcements

Offering Plates are on the tables back of the church. We encourage you to give online [here](#).

Benediction

Benediction Response

You Shall Go Out with Joy

Words by Steffi Geiser Rubin
Music by Stuart Dauermann

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**You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace,
The mountains and the hills will break forth before you.
There'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field
Will clap, will clap their hands.**

**And all the trees of the field will clap their hands,
The trees of the field will clap their hands,
The trees of the field will clap their hands,
While you go out with joy.**

Postlude

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

arranged by Mary McDonald

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