



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
SYLVA, NORTH CAROLINA

A SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

May 19, 2024

Pentecost Sunday

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude #224: *"Rejoice, the Lord Is King"*

arranged by Margaret Hale

Call to Worship: Psalm 104:31-35

Leader: May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in his works.

People: He who looks at the earth, and it trembles, who touches the mountains, and they smoke.

Leader: I will sing to the Lord all my life.

People: I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

Leader: May my meditation be pleasing to him, as I rejoice in the Lord.

People: But may sinners vanish from the earth and the wicked be no more.

Leader: Praise the Lord, my soul.

People: Praise the Lord!

***Opening Hymn #529:** *"Gather Us In"*

***Prayer of Confession** (unison)

Come, Holy Spirit. We give you our hearts that have been choked by the cares of this world. We give you our fatigue, our sin, and our struggles with apathy. Burn in us this morning. We await your fiery cleansing, with confidence in Christ. (*Silent confession*)

***Assurance of Pardon & Passing of the Peace**

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

***Hymn #238:** *"Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"* (refrain only)

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness calling and free,

Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

Children's Message

We invite children ages 3 through 2nd grade to come forward for a brief lesson, after which they may go back to their seats or on to Children's Church.

Anthem: *"This Little Light of Mine"*

FPC Children's Choir

Scripture Lesson: Acts 2:1-13

page 950 / lg print page 1678

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: *"The Presence, Power, & Possibility of Pentecost"*

Rev. Blake Daniel

***Hymn of Response #232:** *"Come, Holy Ghost"*

***Affirmation of Faith:** from *The Westminster Confession of Faith*

The Holy Spirit, the third Person in the Trinity, proceeding from the Father and the Son, of the same substance and equal in power and glory, is, together with the Father and the Son, to be believed in, loved, obeyed, and worshiped throughout all ages. He is the Lord and Giver of life, everywhere present, and is the source of all good thoughts, pure desires, and holy counsels in men... The Holy Spirit, whom the Father is ever willing to give to all who ask him, is the only efficient agent in the application of redemption. He regenerates men and women by his grace, convicts them of sin, moves them to repentance, and persuades and enables them to embrace Jesus Christ by faith. He unites all believers to Christ, dwells in them as their Comforter and Sanctifier, gives to them the spirit of Adoption and Prayer, and performs all those gracious offices by which they are sanctified and sealed unto the day of redemption. By the indwelling of the Holy Spirit all believers being vitally united to Christ, who is the Head, are thus united one to another in the Church, which is his body.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Tithes & Offerings: *"Light of Light"* by Ashley Danyew

FPC Youth Bell Choir

***Doxology #965**

**Please stand as you are able.*

***Closing Hymn #864:** *“Holy Spirit, Truth Divine”* (verses 1-3)

***Benediction**

***Congregational Response #864:** *“Holy Spirit, Truth Divine”* (verse 4)

Postlude: *“Every Time I Feel the Spirit”*

arranged by Mark Hayes

We invite you to join us for coffee fellowship in the Fellowship Hall following the service!

OUR MISSION

To make disciples who love Jesus Christ, love the church, and love their neighbors as themselves.

TO OUR VISITORS

We are glad you are here! Please write your name and contact information in the visitor pad in your pew before you leave. We would love to send you a personal note of welcome. Please notify our Pastor if you are interested in joining our congregation as a member.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Dillsboro River Company will hold their annual can drive today, May 19** to benefit United Christian Ministries. Bring 10 cans of food per person and receive a free self-guided raft trip down the Tuckasegee River!
- **This year's Community Vacation Bible School will be May 28-31 from 9am-12pm** at Bridge Park. We are partnering with other area churches to offer a fun, educational, Christ-centered start to the summer. *Can you volunteer?* We need folks to help with registration and to serve as group leaders (chaperoning kids from grades Pre-K through Middle School). You can come just one day, or more. Please contact the church office if you can help. A registration link to sign up your child or grandchild is on our website.
- **Our next Family Night Supper will be Wednesday, June 5 at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall.** Come and enjoy a simple potluck dinner with our church family. Please bring a dish or dessert to share if you are able. If not, come anyway! We would love to host you.
- **We are collecting cereal, pasta and pasta sauce for United Christian Ministries.** You can leave your donations on the Giving Tree in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Would you like to receive our weekly email newsletter, if you aren't already?** Please notify Jean in the church office (office@sylvapres.org) and she will add you to our list!
- **Remember to wear your nametags!** They are located in the bins in the entry hallway. Need a nametag? Please write your name on the form and we will make one for you.

A WORD ABOUT WORSHIP

Pentecost (meaning *fiftieth day*, for the time following the Passover) represents a new beginning. It celebrates the unleashing of the Holy Spirit on the world and the empowering of the church to reach the world with the gospel. In celebrating Pentecost, the church expresses its gratitude for the faithfulness of Christ in fulfilling his promise to send “another counselor” (John 14:16); celebrates the work of the Spirit in renewing all of creation; professes its confidence and security in knowing that the Spirit’s power is available for its mission; and grows in awareness of the importance of its calling to bear witness to Christ.

CONTRIBUTIONS: 05-09-24 / 05-15-24

Regular: \$ 3,551.46; **Organ:** \$ 25.69; **Total:** \$ 3,577.15

Online Giving: www.sylvapres.org/giving; **Attendance:** 112

SERVERS

Ushers & Greeters: Tom Tabor, Billy Noell, Sara Beth Foti

Acolyte: Isaac Daniel; **Coffee Fellowship:** Bruce & Judy Henderson

Flowers: Sara Beth Foti – *In Honor of Her Birthday*

PRAYER REQUESTS

Send prayer concerns or updates to our prayer email address: pray@sylvapres.org.

You may also call the church office at (828) 586-4256 to share a request.

Please contact our Pastor or Deacon of the Month if you or a loved one are in the hospital or in need.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor: Blake Daniel

Administrative Assistant:

Jean Chance

Music Director: Courtney Umphlett

Organist/Pianist: Margaret Hale

Children & Youth Ministry Director:

Heather Monar

Children’s Ministry Assistant:

Lilly Matheson

Treasurer: Judy Henderson

Financial Secretary: Grace Reed

Asst. Financial Secretary: Lynda Parlett

Deacon of the Month:

Tom Tabor – (828) 226-9260

Beth Baxley (alt) – (828) 399-0735

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