



# First United Methodist Church

## *Pentecost Sunday*

### *The Wonder of the Spirit*

Acts 2 is one of the most important and inspiring chapters of the Bible. It is our birthday story. Read the words with anticipation and joy.

*Pentecost* is a Greek term for the Jewish Feast of Weeks, which fell on the fiftieth day after the festival of the barley sheaf in Passover.

Pentecost was one of the great days of the Jewish liturgical calendar. People from all over the ancient world filled Jerusalem. The followers of Jesus were all together in one place - obeying Jesus' word to wait in Jerusalem for the Spirit.

A series of powerful word clues begins with Acts 2:2. The word *suddenly* bothers many people. We prefer words like *gradually*, *slowly*, *annually*, and *quadrennially*. *Suddenly* suggests something not in the bulletin. *Suddenly* suggests the action of God acting in God's time. This idea is reinforced by "the rush of a violent wind." This sound must have made the disciples think of Ezekiel 37 and the vision of the moving of God's *ruach* (breath) to give life to a defeated army. Perhaps the disciples recalled the great words of Ezekiel 37:14: "I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live."

"Tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them." God's spirit broke the barriers of distance and privilege. The fire symbol of God's presence had always been remote and distant. Through the Spirit, the fire was present over each disciple's head! What a candlelight service!

"All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability." The Spirit reverses the separation of languages brought about at the Tower of Babel (Gen. 11:1-9). A new community is created and empowered to continue the presence and ministry of Jesus.

*Prayer: Breathe on me, breath of God. Amen*



*Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly dove  
Kindle a flame of Sacred Love*

# WORSHIP SERVICE

Pentecost Sunday  
May 20, 2018

Prelude	“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”	Converse
<b>Welcome &amp; Announcements</b>		
<b>*Passing of the Peace</b>		
<b>*Choral Call to Worship</b>	“Surely the Presence of the Lord”	(see insert) Praise Team
<b>*Invocation</b>	“An Invitation to the Holy Spirit”	#335
<b>*Opening Hymn</b>	“God of Grace and God of Glory”	#577
<b>Psalter Reading</b>	“Psalm 111”	#832
<b>New Testament Lesson</b>		Acts 1:1-9
<b>Children’s Lesson</b>	“Where Is God?”	Rev. Ott
<b>Anthem</b>	“All My Hope”	Praise Team
<b>Prayers of the Church Family</b>		
<b>*Hymn of Prayer</b>	“Holy Ground”	(see insert) Praise Team
<b>Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer</b>		
<b>Offertory</b>	“Holy Spirit, Truth Divine” <b>Soloist: Jerri Turbeville</b>	Longfellow/Gibbons
<b>*Doxology</b>	“Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow”	#95
<b>Sermon Text</b>		Acts 2:1-12
<b>Sermon</b>	“Holy Spirit Power Changes Things”	Rev. Ott
<b>**Invitational Hymn</b>	“Spirit of Faith, Come Down”	#332
<b>Benediction</b>		
<b>*Benediction Response</b>	“Spirit Song” (no refrain)	#347
<b>*Postlude</b>	“Postlude in C”	Edmonds

*\*\*You are invited to come to God’s altar as you feel led*

# IN OUR PRAYERS

**Shut Ins:** Jewell Wall, Joyce Coleman, Marian Pittman, Dot Redfearn,  
Barbara Newell, Ann Hooks, Pearl Jackson

**Mullins Nursing Center:** Hazel Snipes

**Methodist Manor:** Elnita Vaught, Betty and James Atkinson

**Presbyterian Nursing Center:** Evelyn Huggins

**Southland Nursing Center:** Mildred Strickland

**Serving in the Military:** Joey McGrath

**Our College Students** - Wesley Edwards, Emme Godbold, Caroline Klauber, Mary Klauber,  
Polly Scott, Haley Scott, Coleman Ott, Sally Ott, Grace DeMarco, Hannah Maddox

**Celebrations in the Church Family:** **BIRTHDAYS:** 5/21: Sarah Elizabeth Edwards  
5/25: JD Dozier 5/26: Bill Wallace **ANNIVERSARY:** 5/20: Mike & Jean Griffie

**Other Prayer Needs:** David Edwards, Barbara Newell, Brian Strange, Billy Wallace,  
Mary Bruce Grantham

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WE WANT A PICTURE OF YOU!** Last day to sign up for directory pictures is May 21.  
Please help us have a complete directory by getting your picture made.

Scholarship Awards will be presented at our May 27th worship service. The recipients of both  
the Inez Edwards and Bud Davis Scholarships are Wesley Edwards and Cami Godbold. Join us  
in congratulating our students.

Our college students will be changing their addresses over the summer, so any correspondence  
you’d like to send them should go to their parents until the fall.

Upcoming this week: 5/21 - Last day to sign up for church directory pictures  
5/22 - 11:00 am Golden Favorites  
5/23 - 5:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal  
7:00 pm LAST Choir Rehearsal til 9/5/18

*Rev. Burton Ott may be contacted  
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# Surely The Presence Of 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 angel's wings.  
I see glory on each face.

Surely the presence of the Lord is  
in this place.

**REPEAT**

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# Holy Ground

We are standing on holy ground.

And I know that there are angels all  
around.

Let us praise Jesus now.

We are standing in His presence on  
holy ground.

**REPEAT**

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