

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Spirit of God, we build walls and barriers. We assume and stereotype. We devalue difference and stick with what is known and familiar. Forgive our lack of courage. Embolden us to cross boundaries of difference. Fill us with your Holy Spirit that gathers us together and calls us to community. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

THE WORD

TIME WITH OUR YOUNG CHURCH

Chip Stapleton

BAPTISM Audrey Elise Stevick and Ethan Michael Stevick
(Children of Katy & Michael Stevick)

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

THE BAPTISM

BAPTISMAL HYMN #498

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

NEW TESTAMENT READING Acts 2:1-21

ANTHEM Come Down, Lord Pethel

GOSPEL READING John 14:8-17

MESSAGE Surprise (The Unexpected Acts of God),
week 7: Ultimate Surprise Party
Rev. Chip Stapleton

RESPONSE

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

COMMUNION

Call to Communion
Breaking of the Bread
Prayer after Communion

COMMUNION MEDITATION

Holy Spirit, Rain Down Fragar
(Chris Jackson, soloist)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart arr. Tornquist

†DOXOLOGY **“Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him, above Ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.”**

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING

†HYMN #398 **There's A Sweet, Sweet Spirit**

†BLESSING & BENEDICTION

†POSTLUDE Spirit of God Callahan
†All who are able, please stand

Worship Leaders

Rev. Chip Stapleton, Senior Minister
Pam Langston, Dir. of Music Ministries
Jen Jammer, Dir. of Children's Ministry
Chris Jackson, Dir. of Youth Ministry

USHERS NEEDED

Serving as an usher is a wonderful opportunity to welcome others to our time of worship at Highland Presbyterian Church. Ushers also pass the collection plate during the service. Volunteers are needed - no experience necessary! So, if you are middle school age or older and are looking for a way to serve, please contact Suzanne Beekman at sbeek106@centurylink.net or call 910-867-0431 (home), or 910-366-2364 (cell).



If you weren't sure, Vacation Bible School is NEXT WEEK!

Crafts, songs, snacks, and all-around fun will be had by all. Join us on Sunday, June 12th for our Vacation Bible School Unified Service at 11:00 in the Sanctuary. (Sunday school will be at the regular 10 o'clock hour). The VBS children will sing during worship and after the service, you will be encouraged to go to the Fellowship Hall to admire their artwork from the week (and perhaps enjoy a sweet treat as well!). We look forward to seeing you!

~~~PASTORAL CONCERNS~~~

We ask that you keep our home-bound in your thoughts and prayers.

P.W. and Martha Jessup
Jean Robinson
Lisa Hitt
(daughter of Gayle McDonald)
Charlotte Ingram
June Marie Smith
Gayle McDonald
Noel Harris
Steve & Orion Gaynos
Madie Rae Locklear
("Grandma" to the Guy Family)
Lib Yarborough
Bill Johnson
Patsy Thames

Please let us know if you have concerns that you think the church should know about. Please limit to close-extended family. We will put their names (and relation to you if you desire) in the email update. The names will be removed after a few weeks unless requested otherwise. Thank you.

Kelli Lujan 401-0928 or email kellilu@gmail.com

Hello Highlanders,
Today is Pentecost Sunday, and although it is one of the most important days in our church year, it is also a day that brings with it some persistent confusion about what it really is, and what it means for us. I am sharing with you, from our PC(USA) mission agency, a succinct description of what Pentecost is and what it means for us.
Sharing God's Love,
~Chip

Day of Pentecost

On the Day of Pentecost we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit descending in a mighty rush of wind and flame to inspire the church's proclamation of Christ's rising and to empower its mission and ministry to the world. (See Acts 2:1-13; see also Joel 2:28-32.) The notion of Easter as a season of 50 days ending at Pentecost is patterned after the ancient Jewish festival of seven weeks that extended from the beginning of the barley harvest (on the second day after the beginning of Passover) to the end of the wheat harvest at the Festival of Weeks or Shavuot (see Deuteronomy 16:9-12). The Festival of Weeks later came to be called Pentecost ("50th day") by Greek speaking Jews. In Jewish tradition, Shavuot also marks the giving of the law to Moses at Sinai; this liturgical link may inform Paul's discussions of the law and the Spirit (see Romans 8, 2 Corinthians 3, Galatians 3).

Pentecost is new creation

An excerpt from the Companion to the Book of Common Worship (Geneva Press, 2003, 117-119): According to the Day of Pentecost story in Acts 2:1-13, God gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to empower witnesses to the resurrection. Sounds from heaven, cosmic language, the rush of a mighty ruach (wind, spirit, breath) invaded the house in which the apostles gathered, and appeared to them as a burning fire. Tongues of fire touched their nerve centers. A power — the unseen power of God — moved among them and gripped them. The Holy Spirit is unseen, like the wind, which is why the Old Testament calls it ruach YHWH, "the wind, or breath, of God" (cf. John 3:8). The Spirit is the "unseenness of God" working among us. According to Joel (2:28-29) the ruach is to open everybody to God's future. People young and old will dream and will have visions of hope; they will be able to loose themselves from the way things are now, because God is establishing a whole new economy of creation. The Holy Spirit breaks us out of our preoccupation with ourselves and frees us to serve neighbors, loosens our grasp on possessions, and sets us to loving people. New creation is what Joel is talking about. Pentecost is new creation.

The book of Acts tells the story of the outcome of Pentecost's new creation: people witness in word and in deed to the risen Christ. At the outset, the newborn church immediately tumbled out into the streets to witness to God's mighty works in the languages of people all over the world. By the end of the story, a tiny, Spirit-filled community of faith that broke from its present order has spread across the continents with incredible power to bring new things into being. With the gift of the Spirit, all things are possible... Therefore, on the Day of Pentecost, we celebrate God's gift of Holy Spirit which draws us together as one people, helps us to comprehend what God is doing in the world, and empowers us to proclaim, in word and in deed, God's plan of reconciling all people in the name of Christ (Ephesians 1:10). Without the gift of the Spirit, Christ's church dries up and withers away, and we are left with only our broken selves. With the gift of the Spirit, all things are possible. A spirit-filled community of faith opens eyes to needs in the world and sees its mission as God's new people. The Day of Pentecost is the climax of the Great Fifty Days of Easter, celebrating as it does the gift of the Spirit to the body of Christ — the church.

Summer Schedule Summer Schedule NO SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH DURING SUMMER

Wednesday June 8 5:30 pm

Slip n Slide and Cookout in Learning Center Side Yard
All Rising 6th graders invited to join us for their first Youth Group activity!
Anyone willing to help with grilling or set-up/ teardown, contact Chris!

WOODPECKERS GAME - Sunday, July 10 2:00pm

Cost: FREE (We have 20 seats available, contact Chris to reserve yours!)

ASP - June 26- July 2

Our team will be working in Breathitt County, KY
All participants are asked to join us for a meeting on June 18 @ 6:00pm
NEW WILMINGTON MISSION CONFERENCE - July 15-22
Join Pastor Chip for a week of worship, fun, and mission opportunities. It's a great chance to meet youth from all across the US and grow in faith together.

More info: nwmcmmission.org/nwmc-2022/

WHITEWATER RAFTING - August 5-7

It's a last hoorah for Summer before our minds have to turn to Back-to-School. Please contact Chris if you are interested in participating or want more info. Registration deadline is Sunday, June 19. Estimated cost: \$200

We are waiting to make reservations until we have a headcount, so the sooner the better if you want to participate!

Music Notes with Pam...

I always look forward to the music (and red paraments) of Pentecost! As worship begins, a processional banner will be carried in to celebrate this festival day when we commemorate the receiving of the Holy Spirit by the early church.

Processional Introit: "Holy Spirit, Come to Us" is a song from the ecumenical Taizé community. Choir/congregation will sing it together while soloist Richard Butler sings a longer related text.

It is in the 2013 Presbyterian Hymnal.

Opening Hymn 139: "Come, Thou Almighty King" is a hymn of praise & invocation published anonymously in 1757. God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, and the mystic combination of the Trinity are all addressed in separate verses.

Anthem: "Come Down, Lord"...this piece with the words, "Send your Spirit, O Lord we pray" has a perfect message for Pentecost. Stan Pethel composed it in 1984, and it remains on the All-Time Best Sellers List of Hope Publishing.

Offertory: "Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart" is a poem written by Rev. George Croly while working in the slums of London in 1854. He wrote this prayer asking God to teach us how to love as we ought to love.

Communion Meditation: "Holy Spirit, Rain Down" will be sung by Chris Jackson. May this prayer for renewal deepen our communion experience while we enter into a time of reflection as the elements are shared.

Closing Hymn 398: "There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit" expresses in simple, heartfelt language the work of the Holy Spirit as it works in the life of the church. I hope we can "sing it like we mean it" as our worship service comes to an end.

Postlude: "Spirit of God" by Charles Callahan, one of my favorite composers, is a lovely, quiet reflection played on a single 8' flute organ stop.
Spirit of God, descend upon our hearts...

~Pam



JUNE 5, 2022

11:00AM

SHARING GOD'S LOVE

GATHERING

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

PROCESSIONAL INTROIT

Holy Spirit, Come to Us
(Richard Butler, soloist)

Berthier

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Spirit of the living God, visit us again on this day of Pentecost.

All: Come, Holy Spirit.

One: With rushing wind that sweeps away all barriers,

All: Come, Holy Spirit.

One: With tongues of fire that set our hearts aflame,

All: Come, Holy Spirit.

One: With speech that unites the Babel of our tongues,

All: Come, Holy Spirit.

One: With love that overlaps the boundaries of race and nation,

All: Come, Holy Spirit.

One: With power from above to make our weakness strong,

All: Come, Holy Spirit.

OPENING PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

†HYMN #139

Come, Thou Almighty King

CALL TO CONFESSION