

Mount Vernon United Methodist Church
MORNING WORSHIP

May 19, 2024

PRELUDE “Spirit, Come Dispel Our Sadness” (arr. Vicki Collinsworth) *Juliet Cho*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, Holy Spirit. Inspire our hearts with your fiery presence!

Let your flame burn within us, stirring us to action.

Come, Holy Spirit. Energize our lives to work for God.

Let your wind of hope swirl around us, lifting and moving us from complacency.

Come, Holy Spirit. Pour your blessing on us.

Let your presence challenge us to proclaim God’s presence and love in everything we say and do.

*OPENING HYMN 500 “Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart”

1. Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
wean it from earth; through all its pulses
move;
stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art,
and make me love thee as I ought to love.

2. I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,
no angel visitant, no opening skies;
but take the dimness of my soul away.

3. Hast thou not bid me love thee, God and
King?
All, all thine own, soul, heart and strength

and mind.

I see thy cross; there teach my heart to cling.
O let me seek thee, and O let me find!

4. Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh;
teach me the struggles of the soul to bear.
To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh,
teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

5. Teach me to love thee as thine angels love,
one holy passion filling all my frame;
the kindling of the heaven-descended Dove,
my heart an altar, and thy love the flame.

*MORNING PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Holy Spirit came to Jesus’ disciples, hidden in an upper room in Jerusalem. A violent wind and tongues of fire were the symbols of a new thing happening in their lives. May your Holy Spirit burst into our lives today, encouraging and inspiring us to proclaim boldly the good news of Jesus Christ who offers healing and hope to all people. Amen.

ANTHEM “Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart” (Robert Lau) *Aldersgate Choir*

CHILDREN’S SERMON *Beth Bauman*

*HYMN 328

“Surely the Presence of the Lord” (*repeat twice*)

**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.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 2: 1-13

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 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. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, ‘Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.’ All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, ‘What does this mean?’ But others sneered and said, ‘They are filled with new wine.’

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Experiencing and Proclaiming the Unexpected”

Jae Cho

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 881

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 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at 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 Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

* GLORIA 70

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

“Holy, Holy, Holy” (arr. Mark Hayes)

Juliet Cho

*DOXOLOGY 94

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We aren't ready, Lord. It is easier for us to hide in the upper rooms of our lives, to let the world go by and not acknowledge your presence. But you have challenged us to come alive again with your love and words of healing mercy. Forgive our hesitant witness and our complacent spirits. Heal our fears and our wounds. Help us to be agents of healing and hope for others. Challenge and inspire us to overcome our feelings of inadequacy and remind us that you have called us beloved and have given us what we need to proclaim your good news. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

**Don't be afraid! God's Holy Spirit brings you healing comfort and hope.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Glory to God. Amen.**

*CLOSING HYMN 539

“O, Spirit of the Living God”

**1. O Spirit of the living God,
thou light and fire divine,
descend upon thy church once more,
and make it truly thine.
Fill it with love and joy and power,
with righteousness and peace;
till Christ shall dwell in human hearts,
and sin and sorrow cease.**

**2. Blow, wind of God! With wisdom blow
until our minds are free
from mists of error, clouds of doubt,
which blind our eyes to thee.**

**Burn, winged fire! Inspire our lips
with flaming love and zeal,
to preach to all thy great good news,
God's glorious commonweal.**

**3. Teach us to utter living words
of truth which all may hear,
the language all may understand
when love speaks loud and clear;
till every age and race and clime
shall blend their creeds in one,
and earth shall form one family
by whom thy will is done.**

**4. So shall we know the power of Christ
who came this world to save;
so shall we rise with him to life
which soars beyond the grave;**

**and earth shall win true holiness,
which makes thy children whole;
till, perfected by thee, we reach
creation's glorious goal!**

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE "I'm Gonna Sing When the Spirit Says Sing" (arr. Mark Hayes) *Juliet Cho*