

# Living Stones

*“You yourselves are being built like living stones into a spiritual temple.” (1 Peter 2.5)*

Mason First Presbyterian Church

*To be added to or removed from this list, please notify Bill.*

**SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2020 + PENTECOST SUNDAY**



*I encourage you to set aside some time today for personal worship using these or other resources.*

*An audio recording of this entire service is available at [www.masonpresbyterian.org](http://www.masonpresbyterian.org).*

*You are welcome to share this with your friends.*

## **Prayer of the Day**

God our creator, earth has many languages, but your gospel proclaims your love to all nations in one heavenly tongue. Make us messengers of the good news that, through the power of your Spirit, all the world may unite in one song of praise; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## **New Testament Lesson: Acts 2:1-4**

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.

## **Call to Worship**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

Remember the promise of the Lord:

*God will pour out the Spirit on all flesh.*

The Spirit of God renews the earth.

*Bless the name of the Lord!*

Let us worship God!

*(Romans 1:7; Acts 2:17; Psalm 104:30, 35)*

## **Hymn: “Come Down, O Love Divine”**

Come down, O Love Divine; seek out this soul of mine,  
and visit it with your own ardor glowing.

O Comforter, draw near; within my heart appear,  
and kindle it, your holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn, till earthly passions turn  
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming.

And let your glorious light shine ever on my sight,  
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long,  
shall far outpass the power of human telling.  
For none can guess God's grace, till Love creates a place  
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

*(lyrics: Bianco da Siena, c. 1367; trans. Richard Frederick Littledale, 1867, alt.)*

### **Call to Confession**

Jesus says: "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me. Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water."  
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.  
*(John 7:37-38)*

### **Prayer of Confession**

Almighty God, you poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples creating bold tongues, open ears, and a new community of faith. We confess that we hold back the force of your Spirit among us. We do not listen for your word of grace, speak the good news of your love, or live as a people made one in Christ.

Have mercy on us, O God. Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit, and fill us with a flaming desire to be your faithful people, doing your will for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Through Christ, God has poured out the Holy Spirit upon us for the forgiveness of sins.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
*Thanks be to God! Amen.*  
*(John 20:22-23)*

### **Hymn: "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"**

Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free.  
Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

You moved on the waters; you called to the deep;  
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valley of sleep;  
and over the eons you called to each thing,  
"Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings."

Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free.  
Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

You swept through the desert; you stung with the sand;  
and you goaded your people with a law and a land.  
When they were confounded with idols and lies,  
then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes.

Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free.  
Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

You sang in a stable; you cried from a hill;  
then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still.  
And down in the city, you called once again  
when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind.

Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free.  
Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

You call from tomorrow; you break ancient schemes;  
from the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams.  
Our women see visions; our men clear their eyes.  
With bold new decisions your people arise.

Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free.  
Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

*(lyrics by James K. Manley, 1975, alt.)*

### **Litany for Pentecost**

Maker of all things,  
in the beginning, you created heaven and earth.  
In the fullness of time, you restored all things in Christ.  
Renew our world, in this day, with your grace and mercy.  
*Lord, hear our prayer.*

Life of the world,  
you breathed life into the flesh you created.  
Now, by your Spirit, breathe new life into the children of earth.  
Turn hatred into love, sorrow into joy, and war into peace.  
*Lord, hear our prayer.*

Lover of concord,  
you desire the unity of all Christians.  
Set aflame the whole church with the fire of your Spirit.  
Unite us to stand in the world as a sign of your love.  
*Lord, hear our prayer.*

God of compassion,  
through your Spirit you supply every human need.  
Heal the sick, and comfort the distressed.  
Befriend the friendless, and help the helpless.  
*Lord, hear our prayer.*

Source of peace,  
your Spirit restores our anxious spirits.  
In our labor, give us rest;  
in our temptation, strength;  
in our sadness, consolation.  
*Lord, hear our prayer.*

*(brief silence)*

Come, Holy Spirit!  
Rain upon our dry and dusty lives.  
Wash away our sin  
and heal our wounded spirits.  
Kindle within us the fire of your love  
to burn away our apathy.  
With your warmth bend our rigidity,  
and guide our wandering feet;

through Christ our Lord we pray. *Amen.*

### **Prayers of Intercession**

In the communion of the Holy Spirit,  
we call on the name of the Lord, saying:  
*By your Spirit, O God, transform our lives.*

*(You are invited to lift up your own prayers to God.)*

Gracious God, continue to pour out your power  
in the church, in the world, and in our daily lives,  
so all will know that you are at work among us;  
through Jesus Christ, our living Lord. *Amen.*

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

God of all might and power,  
we praise you that  
you forged your church in the fire of the Spirit,  
and breathed life into your people  
that we might be the body of Christ.  
We rejoice that our Lord came to rescue us from sin  
and to deliver us beyond the grave  
to a rebirth and newness of life.  
By your Spirit,  
refine our hearts with your flame of faith,  
fill us with the breath of zeal,  
inspire us with the witness of martyrs and saints,  
and send us forth into your world  
to live Christ's life in power and compassion.  
Take us, O God,  
and shape us according to your will,  
in the service of Jesus Christ,  
our Lord and Savior,  
now and forever. *Amen.*

### **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.*

### **Invitation to Offering**

How does God's love abide in anyone  
who has the world's goods  
yet refuses to help a person in need?

Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

*(1 John 3:17)*

**Offertory Response: “Spirit of the Living God”**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

*(lyrics by Daniel Iverson, 1926)*

**Prayer for Illumination**

God of power and grace,

fill us with the wisdom of your word

and the understanding of your Spirit

so that we may be your church:

a people with dreams and visions

at work in all the world;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**New Testament Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13**

No one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit.

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

**Gospel Lesson: John 7:37-39**

*(This brief story takes place when Jesus visited Jerusalem for the Festival of Tabernacles, a harvest festival in the fall.)*

On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, ‘Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water.’” Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

**Anthem: “The Spirit of Christ”**

*(You can listen to the anthem [here](#).)*

Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit.

Spirit of the risen Christ, sent as promised to His church,

Make of us through gospel might, one new body o’er the earth.

Holy Spirit, breath of life, blow through us for others’ good.

Spirit of the risen Christ, do through us the things You would.

Spirit of the loving Christ, promised comforter and friend,

Help us feel another's plight; help us comfort, stoop and mend.  
Holy Spirit, Breath of Life, blow through us for others' good.  
Spirit of the loving Christ, do through us the things you would.  
Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit, Spirit of the risen Christ.  
Spirit of the giving Christ, source of all the gifts we share,  
Help us shine with Jesus' light, as we teach and serve and care.  
Holy Spirit, Breath of Life, blow through us for others' good.  
Spirit of the giving Christ, do through us the things You would.  
Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit of Christ.

*(words by Chris Anderson; music by Richard A. Nichols)*

**Sermon: “Out of the Believer’s Heart...”**

*The sermon is available in printed form at [www.masonpresbyterian.org](http://www.masonpresbyterian.org), or attached to this email.*

*An audio recording of the sermon is also available at [www.masonpresbyterian.org](http://www.masonpresbyterian.org).*

**Hymn: “Breathe on Me, Breath of God”**

Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life anew,  
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,  
until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thing,  
until this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.

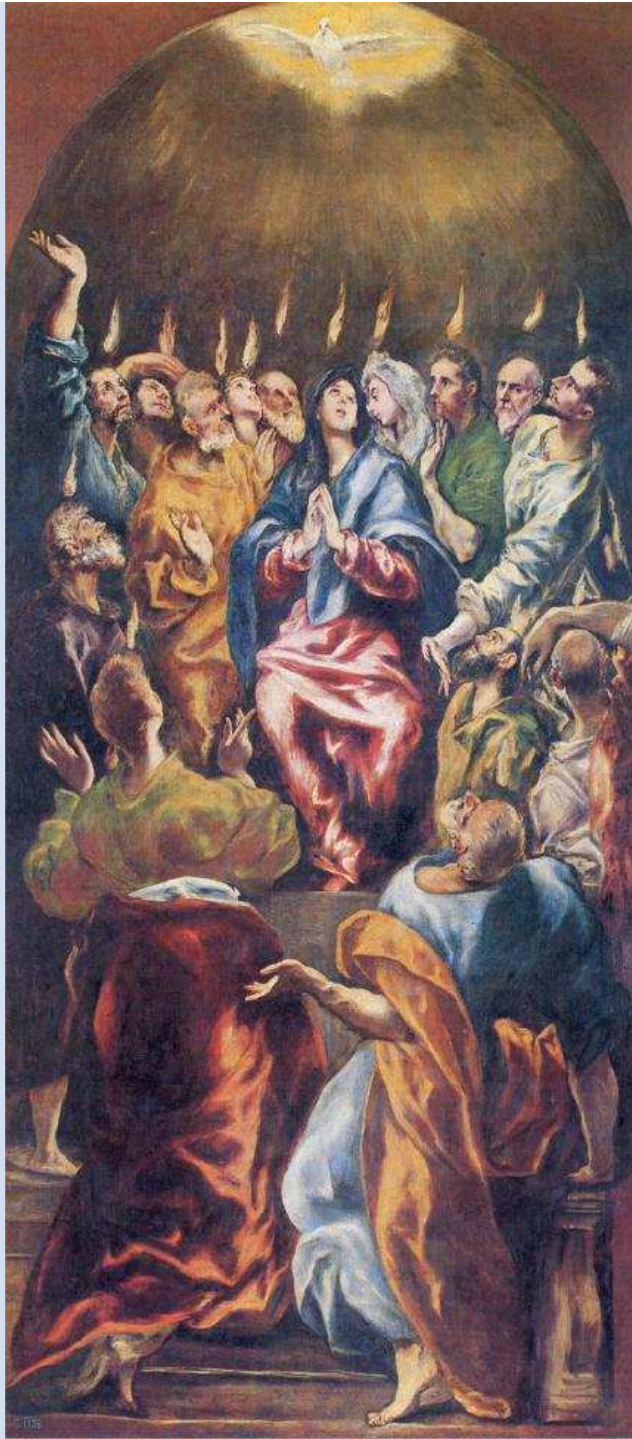
Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die,  
but live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.

*(lyrics by Edwin Hatch, 1878)*

**Blessing**

Beloved children, may the love  
of the holy triune God—  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—  
abide with you forever. *Alleluia!*

*(1 John 4:13-16)*



*The Pentecost by El Greco, c. 1600*

(source: [http://www.joyfulheart.com/pentecost/images/elgreco\\_pentecost430x978.jpg](http://www.joyfulheart.com/pentecost/images/elgreco_pentecost430x978.jpg))

**Credits**

*Prayers courtesy of the PC(USA)'s 2018 Book of Common Worship*

*Scripture passages are from the New Revised Standard Version*

*Special thanks to Deb for anthem suggestions and Darlene for some hymn suggestions*