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IMPACT PARTNERS**

*On this Pentecost
Sunday we want to give
thanks for and pray
for our ECBC Global
Impact Partners serving
Christ throughout the
world, spreading the
Gospel of peace.*

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RESPONSE SONG FOR PENTECOST

COME, HOLY SPIRIT, COME

*Come, Holy Spirit, come, and let Your light arise;
Dispel the sorrow from our minds, the darkness from our eyes.
Convince us of our sin, then lead to Jesus' blood,
And to our wand'ring view reveal the secret love of God.*

*Come, Holy Spirit, come and melt our frozen hearts;
Your pow'r alone can pour fresh life on ev'ry part.
So come and make us whole and sanctify our souls,
Come, Holy Spirit, come and shine your light!*

*Enlarge our stingy hearts and move us toward the poor,
Then may our gifts and deeds reveal the source of mercy's store;
And give them ears to hear the message of the cross
For Jesus came to seek and save the needy and the lost.*

*Come, to the nations bring Your Christ-exalting rays
And turn our prayers to win their hearts into their songs of praise;
Our plans, and hopes, and tears to see the lost repent
Can never change one sinner's heart until Your light is sent.*

HYMN FOR PENTECOST

JESUS SHALL REIGN

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY

PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY • ECBC ORCHESTRA

CONGREGATIONAL GREETINGS

MORNING SERMON

CONRAD "BUSTER" BROWN, SENIOR PASTOR

RESPONSE SONG

THERE IS A REDEEMER

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

CELEBRATING PENTECOST

RYAN GRIFFITH

If it weren't for Pentecost, we wouldn't know about Easter. For most of us, [this Sunday] isn't flagged on our calendars as Pentecost Sunday. But it is a big deal for Christians, and there are at least three reasons why it's a day worth celebrating.

THREE REASONS TO CELEBRATE

How, then, is Pentecost important for us?

1. Pentecost fulfills Jesus' promise to never forsake his own.

As painful as the parting at the ascension might have been, Jesus assured the disciples that it was to their advantage that he would go away, *"for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. . . . When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."* (John 16:7, 13-14)

The fulfillment of the promise of Jesus was the outpouring of the gift of the Holy Spirit on the disciples and, as Peter proclaimed, on all of God's people in this new era (Acts 2:38).

The promises of the new covenant are ours through the indwelling Spirit (Jeremiah 31:33ff; Ezekiel 36:26ff). Jesus did not end his work on earth with the ascension — he continues it now through his Spirit-indwelt church. We, therefore, can take fresh courage in Jesus' words, "Behold, I will be with you always, even to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20).

2. Pentecost launches the global proclamation of the gospel.

Jesus' death at Passover and his mighty resurrection three days later signaled the "firstfruit" of God's victory over sin and death (1 Corinthians 15:20-24). Jesus had accomplished everything necessary for the gospel to run and triumph (Hebrews 2:14-15; cf. Revelation 20:1-3) and the outpouring of the Spirit at Pentecost signals that the greater harvest has begun.

The three thousand souls added to the church on Pentecost hailed from all corners of the Roman world. They, in turn, would carry the gospel to their families and communities. The narrative arc of Acts follows the Spirit-indwelt disciples as they carry the gospel from Jerusalem to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8). You heard about Easter because of Pentecost. The fields are white with harvest and, as part of the church of the risen Christ, we too can "go, therefore, and make disciples" (Matthew 28:18).

3. Pentecost signals the coming of fuller restoration and a greater celebration.

At Pentecost, Peter proclaims that the prophecy of Joel 2:28-31 has come to pass. Intriguingly, this prophecy of the eschatological gift of the Spirit comes immediately after another striking promise from God in Joel 2:25-27:

I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent among you. You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the LORD your God and there is none else. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

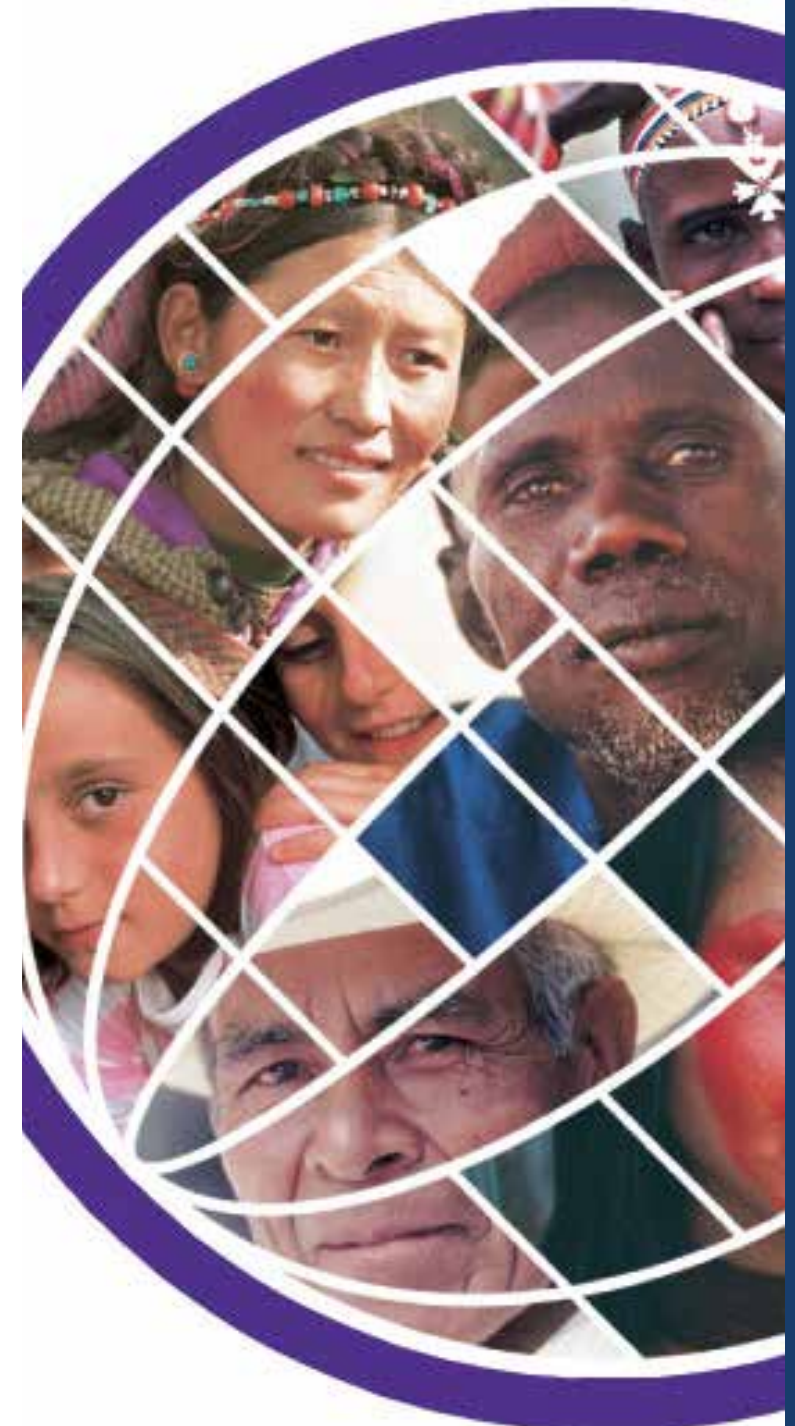
While Jesus' reign is secure and eternal, it has yet to come to its fullest expression on the earth. While death has been decisively defeated, it has yet to be put to a final end (1 Corinthians 15:24-26). Paul reminds us that creation longs for its final restoration and that even we ourselves, who "have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies" (Romans 8:23).

Pentecost is a pointer that history is inexorably moving towards the restoration of all things. The bridegroom has come; his bride is making herself ready. We await the greatest celebration of all. *And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb." And he said to me, "These are the true words of God."* (Revelation 19:9)



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**PENTECOST
SUNDAY**

**THAT ALL PEOPLES
MAY KNOW HIM**



WORSHIPGUIDE



The Church in Corporate Worship | JUNE 4, 2017

Please use the following prayer to prepare your hearts for worship:

Spirit of the Living God; as we worship You this day, we thank You for the freedoms we enjoy in this nation to worship and serve You.

Give us a heart for the nations and the blessings of seeing Your hand at work through the Holy Spirit in the hearts of men here and around the world for the glory of Jesus Christ.

Spirit of the Living God fall fresh on me. Break me, melt me, mold me, fill me.

Amen.

COVER PHOTO: Today's bulletin cover art and the flags displayed in our Sanctuary are for Pentecost Sunday, representing our desire as a church to follow the Biblical mandate of our Lord to proclaim the glories of Christ to all nations.

This morning we give thanks for the many blessings of God in our lives, and especially, on this Pentecost Sunday, for the promised gift of the Holy Spirit. Through the power of the Holy Spirit we are molded into the image of Christ, and into a church that brings glory and delight to our God.

REFLECTION THOUGHTS FOR WORSHIP PREPARATION

GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT, That which I know not, teach thou me, Keep me a humble disciple in the school of Christ, learning daily there what I am in myself, a fallen sinful creature, justly deserving everlasting destruction; O let me never lose sight of my need of a savior, or forget that apart from him I am nothing, and can do nothing.

Open my understanding to know the Holy Scriptures; Reveal to my soul the counsels and works of the blessed Trinity;

Instill into my dark mind the saving knowledge of Jesus; Make me acquainted with his covenant undertakings and his perfect fulfillment of them, that by resting on his finished work I may find the Father's love in the Son, his Father, my Father, and may be brought through thy influence to have fellowship with the Three in One.

O lead me into all truth, thou Spirit of wisdom and revelation, that I may know the things that belong unto my peace, and through thee be made anew.

Make practical upon my heart the Father's love as thou has revealed it in the Scriptures;

Apply to my soul the blood of Christ, effectually, continually, and help me to believe, with conscience comforted, that it cleanseth from all sin;

Lead me from faith to faith, that I may at all times have freedom to come to a reconciled Father, and may be able to maintain peace with him against doubts, fears, corruptions, temptations.

Thy office is to teach me to draw near to Christ with a pure heart, steadfastly persuaded of his love, in the full assurance of faith,

Let me never falter in this way.

A PURITAN PRAYER
from The Valley of Vision

We may say the gospel is for all the nations, but people won't buy it unless we live it.

Daniel Oh

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Pentecost represents God's gracious, enabling presence actively at work among His people, uniting, calling and enabling them to live out in dynamic ways the witness of being His people.

The word "pentecost" means "fiftieth day," and is celebrated in most Christian traditions 50 days following Easter Sunday.

For Christians, Pentecost Sunday is a day to celebrate the blessings of God and our hope, a hope evoked by the knowledge that God through His Holy Spirit is at work among His people.

It is a celebration of newness, or recreation, of renewal of purpose, mission and calling as God's people.

It is both a remembrance of the gift of the Holy Spirit outpoured on His people at Pentecost (enabling them to proclaim the glories of God to the world), and a celebration of God's ongoing work in the world. Yet, it is also a recognition that His work is done through His people as He pours out His presence upon them.

THE PRELUDE

ELENA CRUDGE, ORGANIST

THE MORNING WELCOME

AND ANNOUNCEMENTS VIDEO

THE CALL TO PRAISE

FROM ALL THAT DWELL BELOW THE SKIES • ECBC CHOIR

*From all that dwell below the skies,
Let the Creator's praise arise;
Let the Redeemer's name be sung
Through ev'ry land by ev'ry tongue.*

*Eternal are Thy mercies Lord;
Eternal truth attends Thy Word;
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore
Till suns shall rise and set no more.*

CALL TO PRAISE FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY

ACTS 2:1-8; PSALM 72:17-19

LEADER: Acts 2 :1-8 (The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost)

CONGREGATION: May the name of the LORD endure forever; may it continue as long as the sun. All nations will be blessed through him, and they will call him blessed. Praise be to the LORD God, the God of Israel, who alone does marvelous deeds. Praise be to his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory!

O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING

AZMON

▶ 1. O for a thou-sand tongues to sing My great Re-deem-er's praise,
▶ 2. Je - sus! the name that charms our fears, That bids our sor - rows cease,
▶ 3. He breaks the pow'r of can-celled sin, He sets the pris - oner free;
4. Hear Him, ye deaf; His praise, ye dumb, Your loos-ened tongues em-ploy;
▶ 5. My gra-cious Mas - ter and my God, As - sist me to pro - claim,

The glo-ries of my God and King, The tri-umphs of His grace.
'Tis mu - sic in the sin-ner's ears, 'Tis life and health and peace.
His blood can make the foul - est clean; His blood a - vailed for me.
Ye blind, be - hold your Sav - ior come; And leap, ye lame, for joy.
To spread thro' all the earth a - broad, The hon - ors of Thy name.

FOR THE NATIONS

As the Spirit was poured out at Pentecost (Acts 2), enabling those gathered to declare His praises in native tongues, so we are empowered by the Holy Spirit to continue to proclaim to all nations the glories of the One who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

"When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Now there were sitting in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his own language... we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!"

Acts 2:1-6,11

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL NAME

HILLSONG WORSHIP

You were the Word at the beginning
One With God the Lord Most High
Your hidden glory in creation
Now revealed in You our Christ
What a beautiful Name it is
What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a beautiful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a beautiful Name it is The Name of Jesus

You didn't want heaven without us
So Jesus, You brought heaven down
My sin was great, Your love was greater
What could separate us now
What a wonderful Name it is
What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a wonderful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a wonderful Name it is The Name of Jesus

Death could not hold You, the veil tore before You
You silenced the boast, of sin and grave
The heavens are roaring, the praise of Your glory
For You are raised to life again
You have no rival, You have no equal
Now and forever, Our God reigns
Yours is the Kingdom, Yours is the glory
Yours is the Name, above all names

What a powerful Name it is
What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a powerful Name it is
Nothing can stand against
What a powerful Name it is The Name of Jesus

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

OUR WORLD BELONGS TO GOD

LEADER: What does Pentecost mean for Christians?

ALL: At Pentecost the Holy Spirit was given to the church. In pouring his Spirit on many peoples God overcomes the divisions of Babel; now people from every tongue, tribe, and nation are gathered into the unity of the body of Christ.

Jesus stays with us in the Spirit, who renews our hearts, moves us to faith, leads us in the truth, stands by us in our need, and makes our obedience fresh and vibrant.

The Spirit thrusts God's people into worldwide mission. He impels young and old, men and women to go next door and far away into science and art, media and marketplace with the good news of God's grace.

The Spirit goes before them and with them convincing the world of sin and pleading the cause of Christ.

The Spirit's gifts are here to stay in rich variety—fitting responses to timely needs. We thankfully see each other as gifted members of the fellowship which delights in the creative Spirit's work. He gives more than enough to each believer for God's praise and our neighbor's welfare.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYERS

FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

On this Pentecost Sunday, we want to spend time this morning in prayer together

... for our neighbor ... for our world ... for ourselves.

seeking the Lord for His hand of forgiveness and blessings on us and others, asking that His Spirit might fall fresh on us and that we might be a light to our city and to the nations.

**Thank You, O my Father, For giving us Your Son;
And leaving Your Spirit 'til the work on earth is done.**