

Northminster Presbyterian Church

Welcomes You to Worship

May 31, 2020

Day of Pentecost

10:00 a.m.

Ministers: Everyone in the Congregation

The Reverend Dwight McCormick II, Pastor

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Prelude

*Call to Worship

Leader: No great flowing fabrics of red hanging from sanctuary ceilings, yet this is still the day we celebrate grace's breath shattering the shutters of our hearts.

People: **On this day, clad in our pajamas, sitting at home may we continue to let the Spirit of new life breathe upon us!**

Leader: From near empty sanctuaries, through video worship, we gather with our sisters and brothers, proclaiming that we are God's Pentecost.

People: **On this day, we would touch (virtually) all who remain sheltered in place, safe in God's grace.**

Leader: There will be no birthday cakes, no balloons released, no butterflies emerging from cocoons, yet in the days to come, we will continue to speak of God's love and the Spirit's peace for all.

People: **So that even apart, people know they are not alone, so that when that day comes, and we know it will, people will find a community awaiting them, even for hiding in fear behind closed doors.**

Hymn No. 315

"Every Time I Feel the Spirit"

Blue Hymnal

Call to Confession

Yes, we remain isolated. Yes, our hopes are shuttered. Yes, our souls are filled with fear. Yet, on this day, we remember that God comes to such people. On this day, we celebrate that the Spirit breathes new life. On this day, we affirm that Jesus restores us to new hope. Behind closed doors, hiding from our fears let us speak of our lives as we pray together, saying,

Unison Prayer of Confession

O Pentecost's Spirit – if only we could tell of your wonders in our lives, yet social media and other ways we communicate is filled with anger, bitterness, and political arguments.

If only we could share how you have transformed our lives, but we are stuck in our living spaces, hiding from what is seeking to do us harm. If only we could pour you out on all those who are lonely, and afraid, and worried about tomorrow, but we are fearful of stepping outside our doors. Even in the closed rooms of our hearts, even with our shuttered souls, you continue to move, to live, to breathe upon us with your mercy and your grace, God of this day.

Now, in this moment, breathe your peace, upon us and a fearful world, so that we might be the balm for all the anger around us. Now, on this day, breathe your hope upon us, and a desperate world, so that we might drop it off on the porches of all huddling in their homes. Now, in the moments and days to come, continue to breathe your love upon us, and an uncaring world, so that we might transform grudges into generosity, foolishness into common sense, and rejection into being as welcoming as Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Silence is kept for individual confession sins

Leader: Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Listen! It is not an old story, but ours. It may not happen with a mighty wind, but with a soft whisper. But this is our Pentecost. This is our reminder that God forgives us and fills us with all things new.

People: **Thanks be to God! God gives us new hope in endless days of despair, new joy in never-ending moments of grief, and new life when we seem to have lost even the simple ability to breathe – this day and in all the days to come. Amen. Amen.**

Prayer of Illumination

First Reading

Old Testament Lesson

Numbers 11:24-30

Leader: Hear now what The Spirit is saying to The Church

People: **Thanks be to God**

Second Reading

New Testament Lesson

Acts 2:1-21

Leader: Hear now what The Spirit is saying to The Church

People: **Thanks be to God**

Special Music

Sermon

Communion (please refer to the liturgy insert)

Invitation
Great Prayer of Thanksgiving
Words of Institution
Communion
Prayer after Communion

Hymn No. 513

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

Blue Hymnal

Benediction

Leader: The shutters of our hearts have been flung open by the fresh breath of God!

People: **We will go to offer God’s love to everyone around us even if only from our living room or porch.**

Leader: Our souls have been set on fire by the justice of the Brother of the poor.

People: **We will go to share visions of hope, to listen to the dreams of the oppressed, even if only through social media, a text, or a phone conversation.**

Leader: Our loneliness and fears will be set aside by the Spirit of inclusion creating community.

People: **We will speak words of peace to all we meet even while maintaining a safe distance, we will open ourselves to the gifts of others even as we cocoon in place because we love them.**

Closing Chorus

“Go Now in Peace”

BESIG

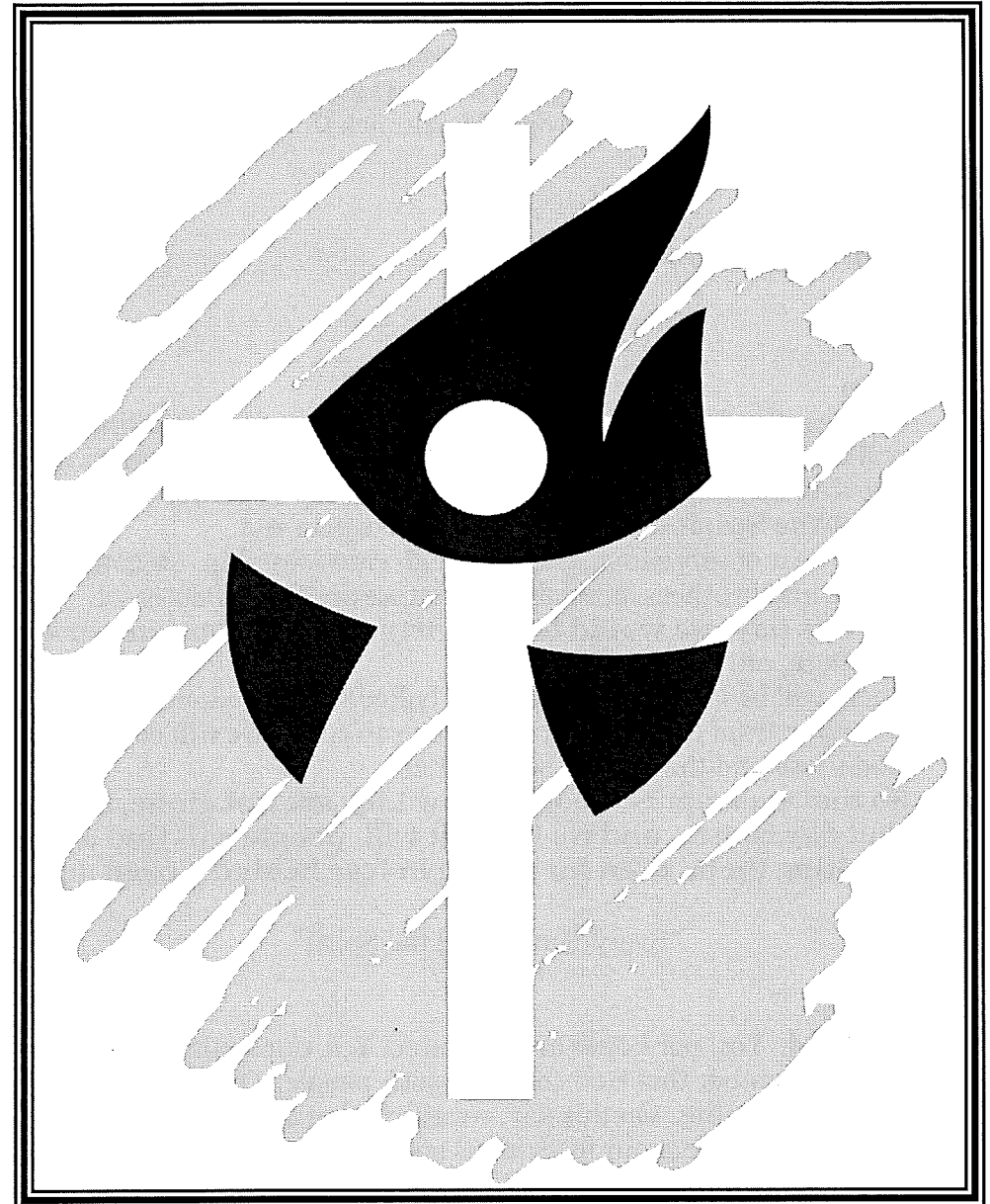
Thank you to David Hapner and Dawn White for leading us in song

Special thanks to Rev. Thom M. Shuman of
www.lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com for today’s liturgy

Please visit these links as we continue to be the Body of Christ in new ways:

www.northminsterspringfield.org

www.facebook.com/northminsterpresbyterianspringfieldohio



NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, May 31, 2020