

# Westminster Presbyterian Church

## Order of Worship for May 31, 2020

Prelude and Welcome

Words of Praise

Leader: Lord, we are gathered to worship you.  
**People: Pour out your Spirit and renew our hearts.**  
Leader: We are gathered to seek your face.  
**People: Pour out your Spirit and renew our souls.**  
Leader: We are gathered to discover your will.  
**People: Pour out your Spirit and renew our minds.**  
Leader: We are gathered to learn how to live for you.  
**People: Pour out your Spirit and renew our strength.**  
**All for your glory, Amen.**

Prayer

Song of Praise O Christ, the Great Foundation

Prayer of Confession

**Lord, your Holy Spirit is the source of our strength. Your Holy Spirit comforts us, guides us, and gives us the gifts we need for life and ministry. So, forgive us Lord, when we neglect your Spirit and try to operate on our own strength. Forgive us when we neglect to cultivate and use the gifts your Spirit has given us. Forgive us when we seek our own path instead of submitting the guidance of your Spirit. Forgive us, and teach us to rely wholly on you and walk in the power of your Spirit. (Silent Confession)**

Song of Response

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.

Time with the Children

Opportunities to Serve and the Morning Offering

Offertory

How Firm a Foundation

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson

Philippians 3:1-11

Sermon From Jail with JOY! I'd Rather Have Jesus

Song of Response Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

Blessed assurance; Jesus is mine!  
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

*Refrain:*

*This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;  
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.*

Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
angels descending bring from above  
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. [*Refrain*]

Perfect submission, all is at rest,  
I in my Savior am happy and blest;  
watching and waiting, looking above,  
filled with his goodness, lost in his love. [*Refrain*]

Affirmation of Faith

Taken from A Brief Statement of Faith (1983)

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, Come, Lord Jesus!**

**With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## Prayers of the People and 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**

## Sending Song

God be with you till we meet again;  
loving counsels guide, uphold you,  
with a shepherd's care enfold you:  
God be with you till we meet again.

## Blessing and Postlude

Leading the service today: Daniel Smoak, Pastor; Lissa Long, Pastor; Janie Bruce, Youth and Children; Robin Zemp, Music; Dee Bee Wright, Jane Warner, Nancy Parrish, and Jim Drennan, Handbells; Meg Dorsel, Video

We are glad you joined us for worship!  
We welcome questions and prayer requests. Call the church office 843-766-8311 or text 843-810-2232.

## O Christ, the Great Foundation 361

1 O Christ, the great foun-da-tion on which your peo-ple stand  
2 Bap-tized in one con-fes-sion, one church in all the earth,  
3 Where ty-rants' hold is tight-ened, where strong de-vour the weak,  
4 This is the mo-ment glo-rious when he who once was dead

to preach your true sal-va-tion in ev-ery age and land:  
we bear our Lord's im-pres-sion, the sign of sec-ond birth:  
where in-no-cents are fright-ened, the righ-teous fear to speak,  
shall lead his church vic-to-rious, their cham-pion and their head.

pour out your Ho-ly Spir-it to make us strong and pure,  
one ho-ly peo-ple gath-ered in love be-yond our own,  
there let your church a-wak-ing at-tack the powers of sin  
The Lord of all cre-a-tion his heaven-ly king-dom brings:

to keep the faith un-bro-ken as long as worlds en-dure.  
by grace we were in-vit-ed; by grace we make you known.  
and, all their ram-parts break-ing, with you the vic-tory win.  
the fi-nal con-sum-ma-tion, the glo-ry of all things.

The text was written by a leading Chinese educator, author, and editor who chaired the commission that prepared an important ecumenical Chinese hymnal, *Hymns of Universal Praise* (1936). This familiar tune invites comparison of these words with its usual text (see no. 321).

TEXT: Timothy T'ingfang Lew, 1933, alt.; trans. Mildred A. Wiant, 1966

MUSIC: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864

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AURELIA  
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## Today is Pentecost

According to 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 missing 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.

*From the Companion to the Book of Common Worship (Geneva Press, 2003, 117-119)*