

Welcome / Announcements

Land Acknowledgement

We recognize that the land where we gather for worship belongs to God, as does all of creation. We also acknowledge that the Lkwungen people – the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSÁNEĆ – lived here before settlers of European descent claimed ownership of it and displaced those for whom this land was home. As we pursue our goals to dismantle racism and attend to growing diversity, we lament this injustice in our history and commit ourselves to just and respectful relationships within our congregation and our neighborhood.

□ ***Dance with the Spirit (repeat)***

156 (More Voices)

Call to Worship

Breathe upon us, Holy Spirit,

and inspire our worship with your truth.

Stir in our hearts, Holy Spirit,

and fill us with your love.

Strengthen us, Holy Spirit,

and move us to act with your power.

Breathe in us, Holy Spirit,

and receive our prayers and praise.

Let us come together in prayer...

□ ***Let every Christian pray [Laudes Domini 438]***

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Gathering Prayer / Womanist Lord's Prayer / Words of Hope

As our worship begins, O God, we pause. We breathe deeply and try to be still within – hoping to know you – trusting that in the stillness there is dancing – trusting that as we open our hearts to you, your Holy Spirit enters.

We confess that pausing and stillness can be difficult for us. We confess that we resist the life you offer – we are scared to move forward – unsure of your direction – denying your lead.

Forgive us, O God. Breathe your spirit within us again and make us new. We pray this version of the Lord's Prayer together in Christ's name... **Our Mother (or Father/Parent/Source) who is in heaven and within us, we call upon your names. Your wisdom come. Your will be done, in all the spaces in which you dwell. Give us each day sustenance and perseverance. Remind us of our limits as we give grace to the limits of others. Separate us from the temptation of empire but**

deliver us into community. For you are the dwelling place within us, the empowerment around us, and the celebration among us, now and forever. Amen

In Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven. Be at peace with God, with yourself and with one another. Thanks be to God for God's steadfast love and mercy!

□ *Breathe on me, breath of God*

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Prayer for Understanding

God of hope, breathe into us that we may live. Fill us with your sacred Word as we open ourselves to the scriptures today. May your Holy Spirit be our guide, our comfort, and our truth. Amen

Scripture **Psalm 104: 24-34, 35b** responsive/displayed

O LORD, how manifold are your works!

In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

Yonder is the sea, great and wide,

creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great.

There go the ships, and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.

These all look to you to give them their food in due season; when you give to them,

they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

When you hide your face, they are dismayed;

when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. When you send

forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground.

May the glory of the LORD endure forever;

may the LORD rejoice in all these works –

who looks on the earth and it trembles,

who touches the mountains and they smoke.

I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

May my meditation be pleasing to the Lord, in whom I rejoice.

Bless the LORD, O my soul. Praise the LORD!

Romans 8: 22-27 [NT 158]

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Acts 2: 1-21 [NT 119]

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."

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: *In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.*

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Message

Offering and Prayer

At Pentecost, God poured out gifts of the Spirit upon the Church, to equip Christ's followers to bear witness to him throughout the world. We offer our gifts and our lives to God, so that the witness of the Church will continue with the blessing of the Holy Spirit in this generation and beyond.

□ *Praise God from whom all blessings flow*

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Spirit of grace and power, bless the gifts we offer so that they may accomplish surprising things in Jesus' name. Bless our lives, too, so that our words and actions bear witness to Jesus' love and mercy each and every day. Amen

Pastoral Prayers

(response: Wind of the Spirit, blow through us **and renew our faith and hope.**)

Wind of the Spirit, blow through your whole church on this day of Pentecost – blow through us and renew our faith. Re-awaken our love for God. Let the flames of your love warm our hearts with trust in Jesus Christ. Dare us to do great things in Jesus' name. Wind of the Spirit, blow through us **and renew our faith and hope.**

Wind of the Spirit, blow through us and give us energy to serve you as the body of Christ working in the world. Open our eyes to recognize needs for ministry and mission around us. Open our hearts to welcome newcomers and meet those we don't yet know. Open our hands to share in tasks that need doing, and open our lips in prayer and praise. Wind of the Spirit, blow through us **and renew our faith and hope.**

Wind of the Spirit, blow through us and give us understanding for all those whose lives seem so different from ours...

for those facing situations we've never encountered...

for those with whom we've disagreed...

for problems and challenges we experience at home, at work, and in the world facing so much turmoil...

Wind of the Spirit, blow through us **and renew our faith and hope.**

Wind of the Spirit, blow through us and bring healing for all who face pain or illness, discouragement or disappointment...

for all who know sorrow, sadness or grief...

for those who feel pressure in these uncertain times...

Wind of the Spirit, blow through us **and renew our faith and hope.**

Wind of the Spirit, blow through us and bring us the compassion we see in Christ Jesus

to serve the world you love in Jesus' name. Blow through us and refresh us as faithful followers. Unite us across our differences. Wind of the Spirit, blow through us **and renew our faith and hope. Amen**

□ *When the spirit of the Lord moves in my soul*

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Blessing

May our lives be transformed by God's forgiveness and grace – may our actions be informed by the wisdom of Word and Spirit – may the love of Jesus be at the heart of all we do. And may the grace of the Risen Christ, the love of God and the nurturing community of the Holy Spirit go with us all.

□ *Go now in peace, never be afraid*