

KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STRATFORD

Pentecost Sunday May 28th, 2023

We continue to be mask friendly: it is a personal decision. Thank you.

PRELUDE: For Ukraine: "Let there be peace on Earth"

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:

Breathe upon us, Holy Spirit,

and inspire our thoughts and actions.

Stir in our hearts, Holy Spirit,

and fill us with energy to spread joy in the world.

Breathe upon us, Holy Spirit,

and refresh our commitment to serve.

Stir in our hearts, Holy Spirit,

as we worship and witness to God's coming reign in this world and the next.

PRAYER OF APPROACH (Together):

Spirit of God, Your energy moves in us and through us so that we can face each new day.

You are as close to us as our breath, giving us life.

You refresh us like the breeze on a hot afternoon.

Holy Spirit, open our eyes to the wonder of God's mystery,

and open our hearts to the warmth of Christ's mercy.

To you, with God our Creator and Christ our Redeemer,

we offer our prayers and praise in love and loyalty.

Make us one in worship and witness by your grace and power. Amen.

HYMN: #65 All people that on earth do dwell

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Together):

God of wind and flame, at Pentecost your Spirit inspired Jesus' followers to dare great things in his

name. But we confess that we lack courage and we try to ignore the flame of your Spirit among us.

Forgive us for the sins we have committed by our actions and the sins we have committed by failing

to act. Lighten our minds and hearts and dispel the sadness that lurks there. Please send the Spirit

to blow on the embers of our faith so that we have enthusiasm for mission and ministry and real

hope for the world. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (Minister):

The mercy of our God is from everlasting to everlasting. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free to live in the renewing power of the Spirit. Thanks be to God for this most generous gift.

PASSING OF THE PEACE:

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you

Congregation: And also, with you

* Please turn and greet one another

ANTHEM

STORY: Knox and the Tower of Babel. (The sign)

HYMN: #384 O Breath of life, come sweeping through us Verses 1,3, and 4.

SCRIPTURE READINGS (Page 771 in the Pew bible)

Acts 2:1-21

Acts 5: 12-16 and Verse 42

SERMON: "Secret Spiritual Power"

OFFERING AND DOXOLOGY #306 - Offering brought forward.

Your offering can be left on the plates upon entering the service.

**Thank you for your gifts and prayers
for the mission and outreach of Knox Stratford.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Together): Spirit of grace and power, bless these gifts today so that they accomplish surprising things in Jesus' name. We offer ourselves, too, so that our lives may proclaim the Good News with your grace and power. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

PRAYER FOR PENTECOST (Together):

Wind of the Spirit, blow through us on this day of Pentecost and renew our faith.

Re-awaken our love for God.

**Let your flames warm our hearts with trust in Jesus Christ
and dare us to do great things in his name.**

Spirit of Power and Promise,

Blow through us and renew our faith.

Wind of the Spirit, blow through us and give us energy to serve you in Christ's Church.

**Open our eyes to recognize needs for ministry and mission, and to equip us to meet new challenges
in ways we haven't dared before.**

Open our hearts to lives caught up in stressful situations.

**Open our hands to share in the tasks that need doing,
and open our lips in prayer and praise.**

Spirit of Power and Promise,

Blow through us and renew our faith.

Amen.

HYMN: #321 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

BENEDICTION

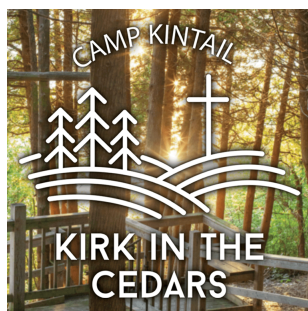
POSTLUDE: Now thank we all our God (Hymn 457)

**** Join us for refreshments following the service ****

**The next Sacrament of COMMUNION will take place
on Sunday, June 25 at the 10:30am service.**



Thank you for your support in the Change Her World - Underwear Challenge the Knox Outreach project for the month of May.



All are invited and welcome to a new monthly worship service at Camp Kintail called "Kirk in the Cedars." Kirk is simply a Scottish word for church, and everyone will gather in the cedars of the outdoor chapel.

* Worship is at 4PM, dinner to follow.

Dates: June 18th September 24th
 July 30th October 22nd
 August 27th November 19th

*The Knox congregation is planning on attending on June 18!

Search Committee Update: We continue to offer prayers in the process of searching for a full time minister to come to Knox Stratford.

Notice from Session and Huron Perth Presbytery

Rev. Dr. David Thompson is beginning Interim Ministry for our congregation on June 1. He will be connecting with our membership roll and available for Pastoral Care visits and phone calls. We will share his office hours when he begins.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Supply Minister: Rev. Dr. David Thompson
Music Director: Suzanne Strahan **Treasurer:** Shannon Archer
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