



First Congregational Church of Bethel
May 31, 2020

Pentecost Sunday Order of Worship

PRELUDE

“Return, O God of Hosts”

Handel

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The spirit of imagination is a gift to all people.

People: The spirit of faithfulness is the gift of the earth.

Leader: The spirit of hope breathes in the homeless and marginalized in this city.

People: The spirit of freedom was announced by those who went before us and we proclaim it again today.

Leader: The spirit of love is a gift to the church in every age.

People: We see the flame of the Spirit of God. The spirit is dancing, moving, struggling, rising and calling to the ends of the earth.

HYMN #248

“Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove”

John B. Dykes

OPENING PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Breathe new life into us O Holy One. Help us to share this new life in all we do and say. Holy Spirit, breathe upon us as we pray, we confess that we continue to try to put You in a box. We tell others how to know You. We do not recognize or look for You in the face of others or at work in other people around us. Forgive us for thinking we have a corner on the truth. You are the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Break open our box. Tear down our walls. Breathe into us the newness of life in the Spirit. In Your name we pray. Amen.

Silence

BLESSING OF PARDON

God is always doing something new. God will open to us visions and dreams, and the promise of new life is made known all around us. We are forgiven, we are set back on right paths, and we know that we go forth with the love of Christ in our hearts. Go with this good news. Amen

RESPONSE #41

“Halle-Halle-Halleluja”

(Sung twice) Caribbean

“Halle, halle, halle”

Halle, halle, halle - lu - ja!

Halle, halle, halle - lu - ja!

Halle, halle, halle - lu - ja!

Halleluja! Halleluja!

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 2:1-21

NT page 144

SERMON

"Interpreters Wanted"

Pastor Suzanne Wagner

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

The Pastoral Prayer 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.**

CLOSING HYMN #263*"Surely the Presence of the Lord"*

(sung 2x through)

Lanny Wolfe

BENEDICTION**POSTLUDE**

"Song"

Mendelssohn-Bartholdy