

Littleton United Methodist Church
May 31, 2009
The Feast of Pentecost
Service of Word and Table

Prelude *Come, Holy Ghost, Our Lord and God* J.S. BACH
During the prelude, please silently prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

The Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome and Announcements

Members and guests please sign the attendance pad located at the end of the pew.

+Introit *Surely the Presence of the Lord* Page 328

+Greeting

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen**

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: O World, come together in one place,

People: **And suddenly an almighty roar shall sound:**

Pastor: The rush of a mighty wind,

People: **A tempest from the mountaintop!**

Pastor: O World, kneel together in one place,

People: **And suddenly a fiery pillar shall rise:**

Pastor: The tongue of a fiery spirit,

People: **A flash from heaven's crown!**

Pastor: O World, come and kneel together:

People: **And the place shall be sacred; the moment, divine!**

+Entrance Hymn #539 *O Spirit of the Living God* FOREST GREEN

Prayer of the Day

Spirit of truth, come among us to guide us in the footsteps of Jesus. Amaze and astonish us with the gifts already present among us. Awaken us to the wind and tongues of fire waiting to fill us with new life and vigorous hope. May our meditations be pleasing to you and our service to others be truly helpful, that your great and glorious day may be realized in our midst. AMEN.

The First Reading *Acts 2:1-21* Gail Workman, Lay Reader

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his

own language. Utterly amazed, they asked: "Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?" Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine." Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These men are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: " 'In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. I will show wonders in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

Reader: This is the word of God for us, the people of God.
 People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalter

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b



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 whom you formed to play in it.
These all look to you,
to give them their food in due season.
 When you give to them, they gather it;
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.

R

May the glory of the Lord endure for ever,
may the Lord rejoice in his 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!

R

The Second Reading

Romans 8:22-27

We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently. In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.

Reader: This is the word of God for us, the people of God.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

Come Holy Ghost Goemanne

+Gospel Acclamation #2043

Alleluia

CELTIC ALLELUIA

+The Holy Gospel

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord, the word of God for us, the people of God.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"Veni Sancte Spiritus"

Rev. Rob Licht

+The Apostles' Creed

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Prayer of Confession

Mighty God, when your face is hidden from us, we forget that there is more to life than the daily pursuits that occupy our attention. We are weak because we have not tapped the resources you place within us. We are engaged only by what we can

see and touch and hear. Our frantic self-centeredness dries up our bones and we lose hope. Call us out of the graves in which we have chosen to live, the deep ruts that keep us from knowing the fullness of life you reveal when we welcome your Spirit. AMEN.

A Moment of Silent Confession

Words of Pardon

Pastor: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet Sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

All: **Glory to God. Amen.**

The Offertory

Spirit Of God Descend Upon My Heart

arr. Parker

A special note to our guests: The ministries and work of our church are supported by the generosity and sacrificial giving of our members and friends. You are our GUEST today. Please do not feel compelled to make a contribution. Please accept this time of worship as our gift to you. We hope that it has been meaningful and that you will worship with us again.

+The Doxology #94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Hymn (insert)

O Holy Spirit, By Whose Breath

ST. COLUMBA

The Great Thanksgiving (Alternate Musical Setting)

Laminated Sheet

The Lord's Prayer

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+Giving of the Bread and Cup

Prayer After Communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Inspire us with your Holy Spirit. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of that same Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

+Closing Hymn #2238

In the Midst of New Dimensions

NEW DIMENSIONS

+Dismissal with Blessing

+Congregational Response

Sent Out in Jesus' Name

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+Taking God's Light Into The World

+Chiming of the Trinity

+Postlude

God of Our Fathers

HUGHES

+The congregation will stand as you are able

*** Communion rail offerings are designated for the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.*

*** Printed copies of the sermon are available after the service in each narthex.*

Our Presence

Attendance last week
Worship service: 57



Today: 8:45 AM Early Casual Service
10:00 Traditional Worship Service
11:15 5th Sunday Brunch

Monday: 1:30 PM Mary Lucy Self Circle

Wednesday: 6:00 PM Bible study
7:30 PM Choir practice

Sunday (6/7): 4:00 PM Reception for new stained glass window in fellowship hall

No Family Movie Night this month - they will resume in September

Our Gifts



Offerings last week: \$1,216.00

Our Mission Statement

Littleton United Methodist Church strives to provide all-inclusive worship of God through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

We are committed to deepening our spiritual growth.

We are to minister in Christ's name to the needy, the sick, the dying, the unchurched, and to each other.

We are to be active Christians, spreading the Good News.

We are to strive to witness for Jesus in our daily lives, in our community and throughout the world.



Our Service

Serving in Worship:

Choir Director / Organist: Tom Parker
Organist emeritus: Trudi May
Acolyte: Martha Sherman
Greeters: Betsy Medlin (west)
Peg Fowler (east)
Ushers: Sherman Merchant (west)
Lee Reinhardt (west)
Matt Johnston (east)
Nursery: Jean Houston
Maj Johnston
Sound: Dick O'Sullivan
Ed Angel

2009 Committee Chairpersons:

Administrative Council: Richard Sherman
Congregational Care: Jean Houston
Shepherding: Elizabeth Solovieff
Discipleship: Helen Burtchell
Age Level: TBA
Outreach: Helen Burtchell
Missions: Richard Sherman
Finance: Mike Herman
Pastor-Parish: Sherman Merchant
Lay Leadership: Rob Licht
Trustees: Shirley Anschutz
Kitchen: Marie Fields
Membership: Marj Prescott
Scholarship: Marvin Newsom III
Memorials: Matt Johnston
Newsletter: Susan Merchant
Sunday School Superintendent: Jean Jarvis

Serving in our Church, Community and World

If you are interested in knowing more about our mission projects, our church, or becoming a member, please call Pastor Rob at 252 586-5385.

Please join us in the Chapel for our **5th Sunday Fellowship Brunch**, immediately following today's worship service. This is a special opportunity to say goodbye and recognize, honor, and thank **Josh Hardy's** for his accomplishment in being accepted to West Point, and to thank him for serving our country.

The **Mary Lucy Self Circle** will meet on Monday at 1:30 in the board room. Pat Zeismann will lead a Bible study on 1 John 14:15-27.

For the summer, the **choir has a revised practice schedule**. They will practice on the first Wednesdays of June, July and August.

Family Movie Night for June has been **canceled**. Our movie nights will resume in September.

Next Sunday (6/7), there will be a **dedication reception for the new stained glass window** in the fellowship hall. Please see the invitation insert for more info.

On June 10th, the Outreach Committee will be serving **Breakfast for the Teachers** at McIver School. If you would like to help with serving and/or providing breakfast foods, please contact Helen Burtchell.

Our summer worship schedule will continue through Labor Day. Throughout the summer, **Early / Casual Service will begin at 8:45 AM** and as always our **Traditional Service will begin at 10:00 AM**.

*****Note—the side door will be locked during the worship service.**