

Celebrating Pentecost

June 12, 2022

United Church of Christ, Neillsville

Pastor Gary Wilner



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PRELUDE *"Sinfonia"* *"Fuga"*
 J.S. Bach Karen Mohr

RINGING OF THE BELLS
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*"No Matter Who You are,
or Where You are on Life's Journey,
You are Welcome Here!!"*

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Leader: To a world dry and thirsty
People: God has poured out Living Water;
Leader: To a world fainting and breathless
People: God has stirred a mighty wind;
Leader: To a world cold and dark
People: God has ignited the flame
of the Spirit;
Leader: Let us worship for the Spirit has
come
All: The Spirit has come – hallelujah!

OPENING HYMN

"This is the Day of New Beginnings"
#417 NCH Brian Wren

**This is a day of new beginnings,
time to remember and move on,
time to believe what love is bringing,
laying to rest the pain that's gone.**

**For by the life and death of Jesus,
God's mighty Spirit, now as then,
can make for us a world of difference,
as faith and hope are born again.**

**Then let us, with the Spirit's daring,
step from the past and leave behind
our disappointment, guilt, and grieving,
seeking new paths, and sure to find.**

**Christ is alive, and goes before us to show
and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings -
our God is making all things new.**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

**God of Life and all living things Your
breath fills the universe and makes it
alive.
We praise You, O God, for the gift of Your
Spirit Your love blows through all creation
and makes it one;
We praise You, O God, for the gift of Your
Spirit, Your Presence fills every corner,
Your Voice fills every silence, and Your
heartbeat lives within every living thing;
We praise You, O God, for the gift of Your
Spirit. Amen**

**PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER,
LORDS 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.

READING OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

Reader	Dave Harnisch
1 st Reading	Acts 1: 1-8
2 nd Reading	John 14: 15-18
3 rd Reading	Acts 2: 1-18
4 th Reading	Romans 8: 14-17

(Pastor Intro)

The first lesson for the day is from the book of Acts chapter 1: verses 1 through 8
Jesus Taken Up Into Heaven

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days, you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

The second reading is from John 14: verses 15 to 18

Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit
"If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

The third reading is from Acts 2: 1 through 18

The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost
When the day of Pentecost came, they (the disciples) 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 their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our 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.”

Peter Addresses the Crowd

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 people 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.

The last reading is from Romans 8: verses 14-17

For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

Here ends the reading of this portion of our family history.

HYMN **Spirit of the Living God**
(Sing Two times through) Karen Mohr

**Spirit of the Living God,
Fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the Living God,
Fall afresh on me.
Break me, melt me, mold me, fill me.
Spirit of the Living God,
Fall afresh on me.**

SERMON *“The Power of Pentecost”*
Pastor Gary Wilner

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR GIFTS
***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)**

As the spirit moves through us Lord, we give you our gifts from the heart. Along with our gifts and our hearts, we commit our time and talent to carrying out your ministry here on earth, reaching out to all your creation with love. Amen

PARTING HYMN

“Let There Be Peace on Earth”

Karen Mohr

**Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me
Let There Be Peace on Earth
The peace that was meant to be**

**With God as our Parent
Brothers/Sisters all are we
Let me walk with my brother/sister
In perfect harmony.**

**Let peace begin with me
Let this be the moment now.
With every step I take
Let this be my solemn vow**

To take each moment and live
Each moment in peace eternally
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

(You are invited to stay seated for Postlude)

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS



WELCOME

We welcome you to our service of worship!
We are glad that you have joined us
in-person, through the internet or on the radio.
We pray that you will hear God's call,
seek to follow Jesus, led by the Holy Spirit.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RADIO BROADCAST

**11 AM Sunday radio broadcast on WCCN
98.5FM and 1370AM**

**This week's radio broadcast is
sponsored by
Glenna Rhoades
In loving memory of husband,
Herb Rhoades**



- **Wednesday, June 15th**
9 am – Search Committee Meeting
2 pm – Stewardship Meeting