

# Presbyterian Church of Easton



**Our Purpose is**  
**“To live and love like Christ”**

Rev. Dr. Barbara Johnson.....Worship Leader  
Mr. Robert Huntington.....Director of Music  
Mrs. Karen Newton ..... Office Administrator  
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# **PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF EASTON**

**Order of Morning Worship**

**Day of Pentecost**

**May 28, 2023**

**10:00 A.M.**

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## **THE CHURCH GATHERS**

### **WORDS OF GREETING**

**LITURGIST:** This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Welcome to the Presbyterian Church of Easton where our purpose is to live and love like Christ. On behalf of the officers, staff, and members of the Presbyterian Church of Easton, I welcome both those joining us by streaming and those present in our sanctuary to this morning's worship. I want to extend a special welcome to those who are visiting with us this morning. If you have questions about the programs or mission of PCE, you may talk with the pastor, officers, or other members of the church. I invite you to read all the announcements in the bulletin and call special attention to...

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION

LITURGIST: Let us pray: Like a mighty wind bringing fresh air and new life, fill us with your Spirit this day, ever-breathing God. Renew in us a passion for you, for your all-encompassing love, and for the church in which we are gathered this morning. Let us breathe in the power you offer. Set us on fire to do the mighty works you've prepared for us, even as we're energized in this time of worship. Amen.

**PRELUDE**     *Siciliano*

**ORGAN**

*Composed by G.F. Handel.  
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## CALL TO WORSHIP

LITURGIST: We worship a creative God

**ALL: who formed all living things!**

LITURGIST: We worship an abundant God

**ALL: who gives each of us different gifts!**

LITURGIST: We worship a glorious God

**ALL: who is seen in the vast array of creation! Alleluia!**

**\*HYMN**     *On Pentecost They Gathered*

PH#128

On Pentecost they gathered  
Quite early in the day,  
A band of Christ's disciples,

To worship, sing, and pray.  
A mighty wind came blowing,  
Filled all the swirling air,  
And tongues of fire a-glowing  
Inspired each person there.

The people all around them  
Were startled and amazed  
To understand their language,  
As Christ the Lord they praised.  
What universal message,  
What great good news was here?  
That Christ, once dead, is risen  
To vanquish all our fear.

God pours the Holy Spirit  
On all who would believe,  
On women, men, and children  
Who would God's grace receive.  
That Spirit knows no limit,  
Bestowing life and power.  
The church, formed and reforming,  
Responds in every hour.

O Spirit, sent from heaven  
On that day long ago,  
Rekindle faith among us  
In all life's ebb and flow.  
O give us ears to listen  
And tongues aflame with praise,  
So folk of every nation  
Glad songs of joy shall raise.

*Composed by Jane Huber, Felix Mendelssohn (MUNICH).  
Published by Jane Huber, admin. Westminster John Knox Press, 1981.  
Used with permission under OL#730921, #80923.*

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

**LITURGIST:** God pours out the Spirit upon us, but we do not always welcome God's gifts. Let us confess our doubts and fears, that we might find forgiveness and newness of life.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**ALL:** 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 daring and 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. Send the Spirit to blow on the embers of our faith and reignite us for mission and ministry.

## **SILENT PRAYER**

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**LITURGIST:** 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.

**ALL:** Thanks be to God for this most generous gift.

**\*GLORIA PATRI**     *Glory to God*

**SEE SLIDES**

Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory in the highest!  
Glory to God, glory to God,  
alleluia, alleluia!

*Composed by Taizé Community, Jacques Berthier.*

*Published by GLA Publications, 1979.*

*Used with permission under OL#A730921, #05086.*

## **THE PEACE**

**LITURGIST:** As God has given us peace through Christ, so let us pass the peace of Christ to each other.

The peace of Christ be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

*(Greet each other with a sign or handshake, whichever you are comfortable with.)*

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**LITURGIST:** Let us pray for illumination:

Spirit of God, at Pentecost you created new understanding among Jesus' gathered disciples. So, fill us with new understanding of the Scriptures this day. Energize us to act faithfully in the name of Jesus Christ, God's Living Word. Amen.

## FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 104: 24-34, 35b

**LITURGIST:** Listen for and to the word of God.

<sup>24</sup> O LORD, how manifold are your works!

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

<sup>25</sup> Yonder is the sea, great and wide,  
creeping things innumerable are there,  
living things both small and great.

<sup>26</sup> There go the ships,  
and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.

<sup>27</sup> These all look to you  
to give them their food in due season;

<sup>28</sup> when you give to them, they gather it up;  
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

<sup>29</sup> When you hide your face, they are dismayed;  
when you take away their breath, they die  
and return to their dust.

<sup>30</sup> When you send forth your spirit,<sup>[a]</sup> they are created;  
and you renew the face of the ground.

<sup>31</sup> May the glory of the LORD endure forever;  
may the LORD rejoice in his works—

<sup>32</sup> who looks on the earth and it trembles,  
who touches the mountains and they smoke.

<sup>33</sup> I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;  
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

<sup>34</sup> May my meditation be pleasing to him,  
for I rejoice in the LORD.

<sup>35b</sup> Bless the LORD, O my soul.

Praise the LORD!

**LITURGIST:** The Word of the Lord

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

**ANTHEM**    *Gracious Spirit, Dwell With Me*

**CHOIR**

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would gracious be;  
Help me now thy grace to see, I would be like thee;  
And, with words that help and heal, thy life would mine reveal;  
And, with actions bold and meek, for Christ, my Savior, speak.

Truthful Spirit, swell with me, I would truthful be;  
Help me now thy truth to see, I would be like thee;  
And, with wisdom kind and clear, thy life in mine appear;  
And, with actions brotherly, speak Christ's sincerity.

Holy Spirit, dwell with me, I would holy be;  
Show thy mercy tenderly, make me more like thee;  
Separate from sin, I would and cherish all things good,  
And whatever I can be give him who gave me thee.

Mighty Spirit, dwell with me, I would mighty be;  
Help me now thy pow'r to see, I would be like thee;  
'Gainst all weapons hell can wield, be thou my strength and shield;  
Let thy word my weapon be, Lord, thine the victory.

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would be like thee!

*Arr. K. Lee Scott.*

*Published by Augsburg Fortress Publishers, 1984.*

*Used with permission under OL#A730921, #40846.*



## SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 2: 1-21

**REV. JOHNSON:** Listen for and to the word of God.

<sup>1</sup> When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.

<sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup> Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem.

<sup>6</sup> And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each.

<sup>7</sup> Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?”

<sup>8</sup> And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?

<sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,

<sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes,

<sup>11</sup> Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.”

<sup>12</sup> All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?”

<sup>13</sup> But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

<sup>14</sup> 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.

<sup>15</sup> Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning.

<sup>16</sup> No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup> '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.

<sup>18</sup> Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;  
and they shall prophesy.

<sup>19</sup> And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

<sup>20</sup> The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

<sup>21</sup> Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

**REV. JOHNSON:** The Word of the Lord

**ALL:** Thanks be to God!

**MESSAGE "What Do We Do with the Gift?"**

**REV. DR. BARBARA JOHNSON**

## **\* FROM A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH**

*(Let us stand together and affirm our faith.)*

**ALL: We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.**

**The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.**

**In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

**\*HYMN**      *Open My Eyes That I May See*

PH#324

Open my eyes, that I may see  
Glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;

*\*Please stand, if able.*

Place in my hands the wonderful key  
That shall unclasp and set me free.

Refrain:

Silently now I wait for Thee,  
Ready, my God, Thy will to see;  
Open my eyes, illumine me,  
Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear  
Voices of truth Thou sendest clear;  
And while the wave notes fall on my ear,  
Everything false will disappear.

Silently now I wait for Thee,  
Ready, my God, Thy will to see;  
Open my ears, illumine me,  
Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear  
Gladly the warm truth everywhere;  
Open my heart, and let me prepare  
Love with Thy children thus to share.

Silently now I wait for Thee,  
Ready, my God, Thy will to see;  
Open my heart, illumine me,  
Spirit divine!

*Composed by Clara Scott (OPEN MY EYES).*

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# INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

**OFFERTORY**     *Adagio*

**ORGAN**

*Composed by G.F. Handel.*

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**\*DOXOLOGY**     *“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”*

**SEE SLIDES**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known:

Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*Composed by Brian Wren (LASST UNS ERFREUEN).*

*Published by Hope Publishing Company, 1989.*

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## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*(The offering plates come forward, take them, and place them on the table.)*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**ALL:** 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.

**\*HYMN**      *There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit*      PH#398

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,  
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;  
There are sweet expressions on each face,  
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Refrain:

Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet heavenly Dove,  
Stay right here with us, Filling us with Your love;  
And for these blessings We lift our hearts in praise.  
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived  
When we shall leave this place.

There are blessings you cannot receive  
Till you know Him in His fullness and believe;  
You're the one to profit when you say,  
"I am going to walk with Jesus all the way."

Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet heavenly Dove,  
Stay right here with us, Filling us with Your love;

And for these blessings We lift our hearts in praise.  
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived  
When we shall leave this place.

*Composed by Doris Akers (SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT).  
Published by Manna Music, 1990.  
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## **\*BLESSING**

**\*POSTLUDE**      *Concerto in B-Flat*

**ORGAN**

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*Today's flowers were given in loving memory of Janet M. Frantum (June 27, 1931 – November 4, 2016). "Happy birthday to our mother, grandmother, great grandmother, and aunt. She was one of the greatest Presbyterian Women ever!"*

*We welcome and thank our liturgist, Elaine Young, for leading us this Sunday morning.*