

PENTECOST SUNDAY
Worship from Home
First Congregational Church of Blue Hill, UCC
MAY 31, 2020

GATHERING & WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP (Julian Ibarra Zapata, 20th cent. Mexican Pastor)

LEADER:

I want to be counted among those
who are in the upper room waiting,
contrite of heart, singing together
and unanimous in prayer.

PEOPLE:

**I want to be counted among those
who are ardently desiring
that on this day of Pentecost
that the Burning Flame of the Spirit of God
descend upon you, upon me ... that both our hearts
be entirely burned and thus purified:**

LEADER:

Free from anger, hatred and passion;
free from ill will, jealousy and envy;
free from transgression, criticism and gossip;
free from malice, animosity and grudges ...

PEOPLE:

**God, here are my knees, my heart, and my tears.
So, here I will wait that with your Holy Spirit
you may light my life. Amen.**

HYMN “Sweet Delight, Most Lovely” (*Paul Gerhardt, 1648; Transl.
 Madeleine Forell Marshall, 1993*)

Sweet delight, most lovely, shining, faithful friend in love and grief,
Holy Spirit, all divining, ever with us, our relief:
As the rainfall comes, descending, wash and bless us with your grace;
All creation comprehending, sanctify our human race.

Wise and careful, you have counted each electron, all the sands.
All embracing, you have bounded space and time in your kind hands.
Source of life and every blessing, come in answer to our prayer –
As you came, our sin redressing, came to save us from despair.

When I fail you, please exhort me to return to righteous ways.
 When I stagger, please support me through the long and painful days.
 Save me, hold me, ever steady, now in life and after death;
 Consolation, ever ready, everlasting vital breath.

INVOCATION (Hildegard of Bingen, 12th century)

**Holy Spirit, making life alive,
 moving in all things,
 root of all created being,
 cleansing the cosmos of every impurity,
 effacing guilt, anointing wounds.
 You are lustrous and praiseworthy life,
 you waken and re-awaken everything that is. Amen.**

MEDITATION WITH SCRIPTURE READINGS

Out From Behind Closed Doors (see separate document)

SHARING

A TIME OF PRAYER

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Debts)

SONG OF BLESSING "Wind Who Makes All Winds That Blow"
(Thomas H. Troeger, 1983)

Wind who makes all winds that blow – gusts that bend the saplings low,
 Gales that heave the sea in waves, stirrings in the mind's deep caves –
 Aim your breath with steady power on your church, this day, this hour.
 Raise, renew the life we've lost, Spirit God of Pentecost.

Fire who fuels all fires that burn – suns around which planets turn,
 Beacons marking reefs and shoals, shining truth to guide our souls –
 Come to us as once you came: burst in tongues of sacred flame!
 Light and Power, Might and Strength, fill your church, its breadth and length.

Holy Spirit, Wind and Flame, move within our mortal frame.
 Make our hearts an altar pyre, kindle them with your own fire.
 Breathe and blow upon that blaze till our lives, our deeds and ways
 Speak that tongue which every land by your grace shall understand.

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

