

# *South Buxton and Talbot Street Pastoral Charges*

*Pentecost Sunday – June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022*

**Prelude:** “You’ve Got A Friend” – Carole King – Christie Coatsworth

## **Welcome & Announcements:**

Welcome to Talbot Street as we celebrate Pentecost Sunday.

Next Sunday June 12<sup>th</sup> is St. Andrew’s 164<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at 11 am. The Anniversary Supper of Broasted Chicken and Strawberries Take Out will be Friday June 17<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$25 each. Please call Alice at 519-689-4408 to book your ticket.

Thank you for your support of all our past services, which are posted on our websites – [Talbotstreet.ca](http://Talbotstreet.ca) and [Southbuxton.ca](http://Southbuxton.ca)

Thank you to our production crew; music by Christie Coatsworth, readings by Annette Skillings and the slides by Tracey Major. You make all the difference. Thank you!

## **Lighting the Christ Candle:**

### **Call to Worship:**

**Eric:** Come, from every corner of the earth, from every time and place, from south and north, from east and west, let us gather.

**People:** For the spirit of God is being poured out upon us, even now, in this place, upon the young and the old, the women and the men, slaves and free, upon each of us here.

**Eric:** Come, let us worship God.

### **Opening Prayer:**

**People:** As we gather today, O God, we thank you for the spirit of your love. As a wind sweeps over the plains, through mountain passes and city streets, we ask that your spirit sweep through this place, refreshing us with the breeze of your grace. As the story of your presence has swept through the pages of our history may we remember, and open ourselves to the breath of your Holy Spirit, which you offer to us all. Amen.

### **Hymn:** VU 382 “Breathe on Me, Breath of God”

1 Breathe on me, breath of God,  
fill me with life anew,  
that I may love what thou dost love,  
and do what thou wouldst do.

2 Breathe on me, breath of God,  
until my heart is pure,  
until my will is one with thine,  
to do and to endure.

- 3 Breathe on me, breath of God,  
till I am wholly thine,  
until this earthly part of me  
glows with thy fire divine.
- 4 Breathe on me, breath of God:  
so shall I never die,  
but live with thee the perfect life  
of thine eternity.

**Scripture: Acts 2: 1 - 21 “What Was That Noise?” by Brian & Kathy Authier**

The disciples sat quietly, not knowing what to say or do. It was Pentecost, which normally would have been a wonderful, exciting Thanksgiving festival. But they were not happy. If anything, they were confused.

They had so enjoyed being followers of Jesus, hearing his stories, and sharing in the wondrous ways Jesus brought God’s love alive. But now it was as though Jesus had abandoned them.

The Romans had killed him. But he came back to life at Easter, then he left again, and now they felt very, very alone.

As they were sitting there, confused and perplexed, a huge sound swept over them all. They couldn’t really describe it – years later, one of them would say it was like a great wind. Another would say it was like a fire. Whatever it was, it filled them with energy, and they felt alive – alive in the very same way Jesus had made them feel!

They began talking, all at once and in hurried voices so that it might have seemed like gibberish, but somehow they understood each other. They knew they weren’t alone, that somehow Jesus was with them even though they couldn’t see him.

Some people saw them, laughing and hugging each other and being all excited. “They’ve been drinking,” someone said disgustedly.

Peter stood up. He seemed so excited; it was almost as if he were glowing. He looked at the crowd that had gathered. “Friends, we’re not drunk. Good heavens, it’s early morning! No, we’re under the influence of something much better – the Spirit of God!

“This is what the prophet Joel was talking about, many years ago. ‘One of these days,’ Joel said, ‘God will pour out the Spirit on everyone – young, old, men, women, boys, girls – everyone. People will find ways to understand each other, get along, and be filled with hopes and dreams. And everyone – everyone (Peter looked around for a moment, to make sure everyone understood) everyone who calls on God can have a new and everlasting life.’”

**Message: “Pentecost”**

As God sends the Holy Spirit among the Church, the church comes alive. It may be like a re-birth, where we might speak and live anew. In the sending of the Holy Spirit we as Church, are renewed with all of creation. We look at creation as part of the whole of God. Receiving the Holy Spirit can send the Church out into the community in mission, much like the apostles were sent out in mission of spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ on the Day of Pentecost.

God's sending of the Holy Spirit is not a once-and-for-all event. No, sending the Holy Spirit is an ongoing gift of renewal for the Church and for Creation. Today we hear the story of how the Holy Spirit has renewed the mission of the apostles to go out into the community and share the Good News. Receiving the Holy Spirit gave the apostles extraordinary enthusiasm to open their locked doors and share the Good News with the world. The Holy Spirit would give them the words to say, and they knew they were not alone.

Pentecost was a harvest festival in Judaism. It was celebrated on the 50<sup>th</sup> day after Passover. Pentecost was one of three pilgrimage feasts that beckoned all Jews who were able, to return to Jerusalem. We hear in today's story people who understood what the apostles were saying, as they heard it in their own language. That is why others who did not understand or know the language thought they were drunk.

If we were to receive the Holy Spirit among this congregation, what would that look like? Would we be able to find words to explain what happened? In today's story we hear metaphors rather than literal assertions to describe the signs of the coming of the Holy Spirit, such as; "like the rush of a mighty wind and tongues like fire". What we do see, is the consequences of them receiving the Holy Spirit.

For our more charismatic brothers and sisters, they believe in the "speaking in tongues". Today's receiving of the Holy Spirit and the "speaking in tongues" allows the apostles to communicate in diverse languages to the equally diverse crowd gathered. In the actual scripture of Acts 2, the list of peoples and nations is an east to west flow. Adding this list to the scriptures suggests the list is extraordinary. It includes at least two nations and peoples, who are no longer in existence at this point in history. This may suggest that the Holy Spirit not only reaches beyond borders but even beyond time.

As Peter shares his sermon with all, he addresses the idea of their drunkenness as being ludicrous. The last part addresses the passage from Joel, where the sending of the Holy Spirit is linked to the "last days." The disciples had earlier raised this issue with the soon-to-be ascended Jesus. There, Jesus urged the disciples not to concern themselves with things they could not know, but to await God's Holy Spirit and the mission it would entail. What message might we as the Church see in this part of Peter's Sermon? How might we expect to see the Holy Spirit?

Maybe that's the point. We will not see the Holy Spirit until we see the consensus of the Holy Spirit being upon us. Jesus urged the disciples not to

concern themselves with things they could not know, but to await God's Holy Spirit and the mission it would entail. The Holy Spirit is sent for the sake of life. The Holy Spirit births the Christian community in Acts 2 and empowers mission. When we see that happening with our Church Community, we will know we have received the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is sent to be a companion, moving us from scattered isolation into a gathered community. The sending of the Holy Spirit may not be so much about our particular church, but as the Church as a whole. In reality, we don't really know. We are to await God's Holy Spirit and the mission it will entail.

Pentecost plays with fire. Pentecost's essential message is that Christian communities, and all creation itself, relies for life on the sending of God's Holy Spirit. Pentecost Sunday reminds us of God's extraordinary and powerful freedom. Such freedom allows God's sending of the Holy Spirit bursting across the usual boundaries – both man-made and literal boundaries. We are not alone. God is always with us. Thanks be to God.

**Reflection Hymn: VU 380 “She Comes Sailing On the Wind”**

*She comes sailing on the wind,  
her wings flashing in the sun;  
on a journey just begun, she flies on.  
And in the passage of her flight,  
her song rings out through the night,  
full of laughter, full of light, she flies on.*

- 1     Silent waters rocking on the morning of our birth,  
      like an empty cradle waiting to be filled.  
      And from the heart of God the Spirit moved upon the earth,  
      like a mother breathing life into her child. (to Verse 2)
  
- 2     Many were the dreamers whose eyes were given sight  
      when the Spirit filled their dreams with life and form.  
      Deserts turned to gardens, broken hearts  
          found new delight,  
      and then down the ages still she flew on.  
      *She comes sailing on the wind,  
      her wings flashing in the sun;  
      on a journey just begun, she flies on.  
      And in the passage of her flight,  
      her song rings out through the night,  
      full of laughter, full of light, she flies on.*

3 To a gentle girl in Galilee, a gentle breeze she came,  
a whisper softly calling in the dark,  
the promise of a child of peace whose reign would  
never end,  
Mary sang the Spirit song within her heart. (to Verse 4)

4 Flying to the river, she waited circling high  
above the child now grown so full of grace.  
As he rose up from the water, she swept down from the sky,  
and she carried him away in her embrace.  
*She comes sailing on the wind,  
her wings flashing in the sun;  
on a journey just begun, she flies on.  
And in the passage of her flight,  
her song rings out through the night,  
full of laughter, full of light, she flies on.*

5 Long after the deep darkness that fell upon the world,  
after dawn returned in flame of rising sun,  
the Spirit touched the earth again, again her wings unfurled,  
bringing life in wind and fire as she flew on.  
*She comes sailing on the wind,  
her wings flashing in the sun;  
on a journey just begun, she flies on.  
And in the passage of her flight,  
her song rings out through the night,  
full of laughter, full of light, she flies on.*

### **Invitation to Share Our Gifts:**

**Eric:** The Holy Spirit leads us to be the Church, and to give to be the Church in our community. Let us give and be the Church.

### **Offertory: VU 541 "Praise God From Whom..."**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

### **Offertory Prayer:**

**People:** We are the church restless for new way to take us exploring in community. In the Power of the Holy Spirit, we dedicate ourselves, as we give. May our gifts be the stuff that makes things happen, as it is the energy of God – the Spirit, moving across the church. We will be part of it. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

**Prayer Hymn Verse: VU 376 “Spirit of the Living God”**

Spirit of the living God, move among us all;  
make us one in heart and mind, make us one in love:  
humble, caring, selfless, sharing.  
Spirit of the living God, fill our lives with love!

**Pastoral Prayer & Lord’s Prayer:**

**Eric:** May we never forget the world, O God.

**People:** **May we never walk past what needs to be transformed, but with your spirit may we become the change.**

**Eric:** In conflict may we be peace.

**People:** **In hunger may we be bread.**

**Eric:** In prejudice may we be friendship.

**People:** **In deceit may we be truth.**

**Eric:** In community may we be justice.

**People:** **In poverty may we be empowerment.**

**Eric:** In silence may we be a voice.

**People:** **In darkness may we be light.**

**Eric:** In dogma may we be renewal.

**People:** **In faith may we be welcome.**

**Eric:** In certainty may we be questions.

**People:** **By your Spirit, O God; in your Spirit, O God; through your Spirit, O God, may we walk beside all that needs to be transformed and, in Spirit, become the change the world needs.**

**Eric:** Hear us; live in us; call us, as we offer Jesus’ 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 trespasses,  
As we forgive those who trespass against us,  
And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.*

**Closing Hymn: VU 375 “Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”**

*Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,  
blow thro' the wilderness calling and free,  
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,  
stir me from placidness,  
Wind, Wind on the sea.*

1 You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,  
then you coaxed up the mountains from the  
valleys of sleep;  
and over the eons you called to each thing:  
wake from your slumbers and rise on your wings.

- 2 You swept thro' the desert, you stung with the sand,  
and you goaded your people with a law and a land;  
and when they were blinded with their idols and lies,  
then you spoke thro' your prophets to open their eyes.  
*Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,  
blow thro' the wilderness calling and free,  
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,  
stir me from placidness,  
Wind, Wind on the sea.*
- 3 You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,  
then you whispered in silence when the whole world  
was still;  
and down in the city you called once again,  
when you blew through your people on the rush  
of the wind.
- 4 You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes,  
from the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams,  
our women see visions, our men clear their eyes,  
with bold new decisions your people arise.  
*Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,  
blow thro' the wilderness calling and free,  
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,  
stir me from placidness,  
Wind, Wind on the sea.*

**Blessing:**

**Eric:** May the Spirit journey with you, so nothing is ever taken for granted, and may the Spirit continue to tell you that you are known and loved by God, now and forever more.

**VU 429: "May the Blessing of God..."**

May the blessing of God be upon you.  
May God's love light all your way.  
May the grace of Christ enfold you  
and peace around you stay.  
May the Spirit of God dwell within you.  
May you live in joy each day.

**Amen, Amen, Amen.**

**Postlude: “Follow Me” – John Denver – Christie Coatsworth**

**Prayers:** - Please include these people in your prayers this week.

We have offered prayer for these people each Sunday morning just before the Zoom Service.  
It was suggested to share these names with the total group – as “In the Spirit We Are One”.

Cancer:	Tom	Louise
	Betty	Ingrid
	Alison	Brenda
	Nancy	Lisa
	Sarah	Larry
	Brian	Jack
	Zoe	Becky
	Francine	
	Melissa	Karen
	Jenny	Michelle
	Gary	Margaret
	Gus (Sick kids)	Dolly
	Chris	Ukraine – Allied and Canadian Forces
	Glenna	Barry
	Ann	Joe
	Jim	Lori
	Margaret	