

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PALO ALTO

Pentecost Sunday



Sunday, May 31
10:45 service

Welcome

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Prelude

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

arr. David Nevue (b. 1965)

Hymn

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

UMH 500

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart,
wean it from earth, through all its pulses move.
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art,
and make me love thee as I ought to love.

I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,
no angel visitant, no opening skies;
but take the dimness of my soul away.

Hast thou not bid me love thee, God and King?
All, all thine own, soul, heart and strength and mind
I see thy cross; there teach my heart to cling.
O let me seek thee and O let me find!

Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh;
teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,
to check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh;
teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

Teach me to love thee as thine angels love,
one holy passion filling all my frame:
the kindling of the heaven-descended Dove;
my heart an altar, and thy love the flame.

Life of the Community

Chuck Hebel, Pamela Cutkosky

Call to Worship

With tongues of flame, the Holy Spirit descends to burn in our hearts anew.

Unite us, Holy Spirit!

Like the rush of wind, we sense God's presence blowing afresh throughout the world.

Unite us, Holy Spirit!

Across the barriers of language and culture, Christ's message of love and grace is heard.

Unite us, Holy Spirit!

Divine Advocate, we seek your guidance as we search for the Spirit of Truth.

Unite us, Holy Spirit! Let us worship God!

Children's Moment

Reverend Ann Duncan

Invitation to the Offering

Reverend Ann Duncan

Offertory Prayer

Reverend Ann Duncan

Holy God, thank you for sending your Spirit, the Spirit of the risen Christ, from heaven. Help us to be like the early disciples, praying patiently as we wait for your guidance and power. Fill our hearts and minds with your gifts of faith, hope, and love. May our conversations with people of every language and culture around us witness to your grace and mercy. We dedicate ourselves and our offerings to your good purposes in the world through our church's mission by the power of your Spirit. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Offertory

Prelude on "Amazing Grace"

Ikuko Weller (b. 1962)

Doxology

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH No. 94

Pastoral Prayer

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Dear Lord, the prophet Jeremiah prayed:

"Oh that my head were waters
And my eyes a fountain of tears,
That I might weep day and night
For the slain of the daughter of my people!"

Today we cry... We hear the mothers cry for the dead all over the world. Lord we cry for the 100,000 COVID-19 deaths and the thousands killed by excessive police force. Hear our cries for the millions of lost futures because of low or no income, no healthcare, inadequate educational resources or opportunities for advancement.

Lord, we cry out for the falsely accused and incarcerated. We bemoan the inequity in judicial sentencing and access to representation. We scream aloud because of the violation of human rights - no clean water and no protection from disease. We cry out for those businesses who lose their property to looting and rioting. We cry out for those civil servants who are honest, who put themselves in harms way daily to protect and serve justly. We mourn when they lose their lives. We cry out for those who are blind to greed and privilege and substitute human safety for profits.

We cry out for the death of our global society. We ask, Lord, can this dead society live? Only you know.

Therefore, we ask for your fire from heaven to rain down upon us and clean our hearts and our minds, our tongues and our lands, so that we may live resurrected to a new life here, understanding one another, united by your words of peace. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Creator, 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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Special Music Presentation *I Been in Da Storm Too Long*
Nicholas Davis, Baritone, Minnesota Opera House

Scripture *Acts 2:1-21* Diane Allen

Medley *Medley of Hope* Reverend James Smith

Message *Vaccinations for the Coronavirus: Holy Spirit*
Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Closing Hymn *The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve* FWS 2241

The spirit sends us forth to serve; we go in Jesus' name to bring glad tidings to the poor, God's favor to proclaim.

We go to comfort those who mourn and set the burdened free: where hope is dim, to share a dream and help the blind to see.

We go to be the hands of Christ, to scatter joy like seed and all our days, to cherish life, to do the loving deed.

Then let us go to serve in peace, the Gospel to proclaim. God's Spirit has empowered us; we go in Jesus' name.

Benediction Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Alleluia UMH 186

Postlude *Trumpet Voluntary* Gordon Young (1919-1998)

