



South Mecklenburg

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Service of Worship

Day of Pentecost

May 19, 2024

10:10 a.m., Sanctuary & Livestreamed

We Gather

Prelude *Tongues of Fire (Pentecost Dance)* Alfred V. Fedak

Welcome and Concerns of the Church Rebecca Guzman

The Lord be with you. **And also with you!**

Introit *As the Wind Song* No. 292
(stanza 1: Reid Cook, tenor; stanza 2: All)



1 As the wind song through the trees, as the
 2 As the rain - bow af - ter rain, as the
 1 風 之 頌, 林 中 吹 送, 輕 風
 2 彩 之 虹, 雨 後 高 懸, 生 之



stir - ring of the breeze, so it is with the Spir - it of
 hope that's born a - gain, so it is with the Spir - it of
 送, 心 中 振 動, 上 主 的 靈 如 風 吹
 盼, 人 間 再 現, 上 主 的 靈 如 風 吹



God, as the heart made strange-ly warm, as the
 God, as the green in the spring, as a
 送; 心 溫 暖, 奇 異 難 明, 風 浪
 送; 春 天 裡, 青 山 綠 水, 線 上



voice with - in the storm, so it is with the Spir - it of
 kite on a string, so it is with the Spir - it of
 中, 靜 聽 主 聲, 上 主 的 靈 如 風 吹
 繫 飛 揚 風 箏, 上 主 的 靈 如 風 吹



God. Nev - er seen, ev - er known where this wind has
 God, mak - ing worlds that are new, mak - ing peace come
 送; 眼 不 見, 心 未 明, 風 來 去 何
 送; 大 地 萬 象 更 新, 和 平 終 實



blown bring-ing life, bring-ing power to the world,
 true, bring-ing gifts, bring-ing love to the world,
 蹤, 給 世 人 賜 生 命 加 力 量;
 現, 給 世 人 帶 來 愛 和 禮 物;



as the danc - ing tongues of fire, as the soul's most deep de -
 as the ris - ing of the yeast, as the wine at the
 火 之 舌, 跳 動 飛 舞, 心 深 處, 朝 思 暮
 麵 之 酵, 悄 然 膨 升, 盛 宴 上, 醇 香 美



sire, so it is with the Spir - it of God.
 feast, so it is with the Spir - it of God.
 想, 上 主 的 靈 如 風 吹 送。
 酒, 上 主 的 靈 如 風 吹 送。

Call to Worship

Shay Soderlund

One: Come, Holy Spirit. Ignite our hearts with joy!

Many: For God has done wondrous things for us.

One: Come, Holy Spirit. Fill us with the power of rushing wind that we may faithfully serve you in all that we do.

Many: For Christ has called us and blessed us!

One: Come, Holy Spirit. Be with us today.

All: Help us to boldly proclaim that Christ is risen!

Hymn

Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us

No. 280

1 Come, O Spir - it, dwell a - mong us; come with
 2 We would raise our al - le - lu - ias for the
 3 Come, O Spir - it, dwell a - mong us; give us

Pen - te - cos - tal power; give the church a
 grace of yes - ter - years; for to - mor - row's
 words of fire and flame. Help our fee - ble

strong - er vi - sion; help us face each cru - cial hour.
 un - known path - way, hear, O Lord, our hum - ble prayers.
 lips to praise you, glo - ri - fy your ho - ly name.

Built up - on a firm foun - da - tion, Je - sus Christ, the
 In the church - 's pil - grim jour - ney you have led us
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Three in One: what

GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Cor - ner - stone, still the church is called to
 all the way; still in pres - ence move be -
 mys - ter - y! We would sing our loud ho -

mis - sion that God's love shall be made known.
 fore us, fire by night and cloud by day.
 san - nas now and through e - ter - ni - ty.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Rebecca Guzman

We aren't ready, Lord. It is easier for us to hide in the upper rooms of our lives, to let the world go by and not acknowledge your presence. But you have challenged us to come alive again with your love and words of healing mercy. Forgive our hesitant witness and our complacent spirits. Heal our fears and our wounds. Help us to be agents of healing and hope for others. Challenge and inspire us to overcome our feelings of inadequacy and remind us that you have called us beloved and have given us what we need to proclaim your Good News. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of God's Grace Rebecca Guzman

Response of Praise

Gloria Patri

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Amen. Amen.

We Hear and Respond to the Word

Church Family Moment

Rebecca Guzman

1. Today is Pentecost! [Listen to a readaloud](#) of *The Day When God Made Church* by Rebekah Hutto. There are lots of ways we can celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and the beginning of the church, like....



2. Celebrate the church's birthday. Sometimes, since this is the day when God made church, we have birthday cake and sing happy birthday to the church! If you are worshiping in person, we invite you to stay for some Pentecost trivia after the service.
3. Consider the Holy Spirit. Maybe you will fly a kite or hang a windsock and think about how the Holy Spirit is like wind. Maybe you and your

family will light a candle or have a fire and think about how the Holy Spirit is like fire. Maybe you will [make an origami dove](#) and think about how the Holy Spirit is like a dove.

4. Learn how to say “I love you” in a new language. In the story, the people were speaking different languages, but they were able to understand each other! [This video](#) teaches you how to say, “I love you!” in 60 languages.
5. Journal, considering the following:
 - a. I wonder what it was like to be a disciple that day.
 - b. I wonder what it would have been like to be able to speak another language all of the sudden.
 - c. If this happened today, I wonder what our reaction would be?
 - d. How do we hear God speak to us today?
 - e. How do we see God acting through the Holy Spirit today?

Sacrament of Baptism

Cayden Jones

Child of Nick and Bree Jones

Representing the Session: Curtis Guy

Representing the children: Caroline Angerer

Baptismal Response

***Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign,
with this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.***

***Child of joy, our dearest treasure, God's you are, from God you came.
Back to God we humbly give you: live as one who bears Christ's name.***

The children will return to join their families following the sermon.

Prayer for Illumination

Dr. Whitney Bayer

First Reading

Romans 8:22-27

Dr. Bayer

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Anthem

African Spirit Song

Victor Johnson

Chancel Choir; Sandra Carr, soloist

*Come, Holy Spirit, lead us with Your mighty power,
Fill now our hearts and souls with Your consuming fire.
Come, Holy Spirit, lead us with Your mighty power,
Come, Holy Spirit, O Holy Spirit, come!*

*O Spirit of the living God, O light and fire divine,
Descend upon your church once more, and make it wholly Thine.*

Second Reading

Acts 2:1-13

Dr. Bayer

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 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. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Come, Holy Spirit

Dr. Bayer

The Affirmation of Faith (*unison*)

From: A Brief Statement of Faith

Dr. Bayer

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!"

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Dr. Bayer

1 There's a sweet, sweet Spir - it in this place, and I
2 There are bless - ings you can - not re - ceive till you

know that it's the Spir - it of the Lord; there are
know him in his full - ness and be - lieve; you're the

sweet ex - pres - sions on each face, and I
one to prof - it when you say, "I am

know they feel the pres - ence of the Lord.
going to walk with Je - sus all the way."

Refrain

Sweet Ho - ly Spir - it, sweet heav - en - ly Dove, stay right here
with us, fill - ing us with your love; and for these bless - ings we
lift our hearts in praise; with - out a doubt we'll know that we have
been re - vived when we shall leave this place.

Charge and Benediction

Dr. Bayer

Choral Response

Jesus Loves Me

William Bradbury

(first time: Alleluia Choir; second time in English: All)

***Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.***

As part of our partnership with the OFCB School in Bayonnais, Haiti, our Alleluia Choir and the kindergarteners in Haiti have learned “Jesus Loves Me” in English and French. Our children were blessed to see and hear the children in Haiti sing this beloved hymn and, in return, a video from today’s worship will be sent to Bayonnais.

Postlude

Partita on “Ebenezer”: V. Toccata

Benjamin M. Culli

*Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE,
License #A-735003. All rights reserved.*

Worship Service Notes

Leading Worship this Morning

Dr. Whitney Bayer, Associate Pastor
Zach Bowyer, Director of Music and Organist
Rebecca Guzman, Director of Spiritual Formation
Chancel Choir
Hosanna and Alleluia Choirs
Reid Cook, soloist
Sandra Carr, soloist
Ann Carney, piano
Shay Soderlund, Caroline Angerer, liturgists

A/V Team: Brad Alford, Luke Estes

Ushers: Curtis Guy, Kara Guy, Donna Podgorny, Gwen Volker, Carol Watkins, Bob Williamson

Welcome Team: Kathy Galati, Dana Hefner, Wells Hefner

Welcome to South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church! If you are joining us in person or online, are a first-time visitor, a long-term member, or anything in between, we are glad that you are worshiping with us and we want to stay connected with you. To receive our [emails](#), sent on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, contact Nancy Metzler, Director of Hospitality and Connection, nancy@smpchome.org. These emails contain a weekly devotion and information about upcoming worship services and church activities. Also, find us on Facebook: [@southmecklenburgpresbyterian](#) and Instagram: [@southmeckpres](#).

A note to parents: We are so delighted that you and your children are here! Children are an integral part of our faith community, and we strive to support parents during worship. Here are some helpful things to know:

- Children are welcome in worship. We understand that means wiggles!
- We provide blue worship totes in the Narthex to help children engage in worship. Please return the totes after the service.
- There is a nursery located in the Palmer Building with dedicated staff who are happy to keep your infant – three-year-old safe.
- Children's Worship is provided for children ages 4 through 3rd grade. The children gather after the Church Family Moment and return after the sermon.

- A glider and changing table are available in Room 301 for mothers who wish to have privacy while nursing.
- During worship, the service is broadcast to the parlor, where there is more space to move around if your little one becomes restless.

Interested in joining South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church? Our Session will gather to welcome new members Sunday, May 26 at 11:00 a.m. To learn more, contact Nancy Metzler, Director of Hospitality and Connection, nancy@smpchome.org or 980-265-2839.

Congregational Notes (as of May 16, 2024)

Remember in Prayer

- All those caught in the crossfire of warfare in Israel and Gaza.
- All those affected by the conflict in Ukraine.
- Our mission partners in Bayonnais, Haiti, in the midst of the chaos that has enveloped their country.

To join the prayer chain or send a prayer request:

prayer@SMPChome.org.



South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church

8601 Bryant Farms Road, Charlotte, NC 28277, 704-544-0404

PO Box 79321, Charlotte, NC 28271

smpchome.org

WELCOME!

After worship, we hope you'll join us for a quick Pentecost trivia game in the sanctuary and lemonade and cookies outside between the sanctuary and chapel buildings. Come meet friends old and new! Registry pads are located on your pew. Please sign and pass to your neighbor and perhaps speak to someone you haven't met!

THIS WEEK'S CLASSES & EVENTS

today
MAY 19
5:00 p.m. -
6:30 p.m.

BAM! Bible and Music End of Year Party
Meet in the Narthex, Kindergarten-5th Grade

Celebrate our last BAM! of the school year! During BAM!, children sing, creatively engage with Bible stories, and explore various instruments in peer age groups. Note: After today, BAM! will take a break and start back on Sunday, September 8. Contact: Rebecca Guzman, rebecca@smpchome.org.

today
MAY 19
5:00 p.m. -
6:30 p.m.

SMPC Youth Summer Kickoff Party
The Bartholomew's House, 402 Marvin Road, Marvin, NC, Middle and High Schoolers

Swimming, games, volleyball and fun at the farm. We'll serve pizza, lemonade and a special dessert! Please register on Realm. Contact: Lindsey Odom, lindsey@smpchome.org.

monday
MAY 20
12:00 p.m. -
1:00 p.m.

CARE (Conversations Around Race Equity) Group
Zoom

This group is conducting a **virtual** study and discussion of a video series, *The Color of Compromise* by Jamar Tisby. New members to CARE are welcome and encouraged. Contact: Whitney Bayer, whitney@smcphome.org.

tuesday
MAY 21
10:00 a.m.

Handiworkers Group
Room 104, Palmer Building

Knitters, needlepointers, quilters, cross-stitchers and crocheters are invited - all levels! Contact: Judy Jameson, jgjamason@gmail.com.

Please note: There is no Conversations with Matt Brown on Wednesday, May 22. It will resume on Wednesday, May 29. We will discuss the scripture for the coming week's sermon. Join us! Contact: Matt Brown for the Zoom ID#, matt@smpchome.org.

thursday
MAY 23
9:00 a.m.

Men's Breakfast Group
Big View Diner, 6637 Lancaster Hwy

This group meets on the second and fourth Thursdays each month to enjoy breakfast and conversation. All are welcome. Contact: Bob Tyler, Btyler@unitedskates.com.

thursday
MAY 23
6:00 p.m.

International Dining Group
Portofino's, 9716 Redstone Drive, Indian Land, SC

Join us as we sample different cuisines around town. All are welcome. Please RSVP by Monday, May 20 to Alice Tyler, rrt1317@aol.com.



LET'S CONNECT!
Follow SMPC on social media!



@southmecklenburgpresbyterian



@southmeckpres

UPCOMING EVENTS

Men's Evening Study Group, Tuesday, May 28, 7:30 p.m., Chapel 206 - This group meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month. They are watching a video series called *Strange Book of Books* that dives into the origins of different stories in the Bible. All are welcome. Contact: Jon Myers, jonmyers2@gmail.com.



Augusta Youth Chorale, Wednesday, May 29, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary - Join us for this special guest performance! Free to attend and everyone is welcome! Contact: Zach Bowyer, zach@smpchome.org.



Learn to Play the Handbells this Summer at Beginning to Ring! Thursdays beginning June 6, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary - Learn to play the handbells with us! Led by Director of Music and Organist Zach Bowyer and SMPC Chancel Ringers Member Gayle Ireland, you will learn a ton and have so much fun along the way. No need to RSVP - just come! Contact: Zach Bowyer, zach@smpchome.org.

Roof Above "Fast Track to Serve" Orientation, Monday, June 10, 12:30-1:30 p.m., 945 N. College Street - We will tour the facility, learn more about Roof Above's mission of ending homelessness, and discover more opportunities to partner and serve with them. Ages 12 and up. Max 15 people. Register on Realm. Contact: Donna Brown, donnamatt89@gmail.com.



SMPC Golf Tournament, Thursday, June 27, 1:00-6:00 p.m., Sun-City Carolina Lakes, 23012 Kingfisher Dr, Indian Land, SC - For all levels, men, women & youth. Captain's Choice Scramble with warmups beginning at 1:00 p.m. and a shotgun start at 2:00 p.m. We'll have door prizes and prizes for team/individual accomplishments. \$50 per person. More info and register on Realm. Contact: Brett Thompson, bathomp1971@yahoo.com, or Ron Morgan, colronmorg@gmail.com.

CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE GIVING

If you are searching for the perfect way to say "thank you" to your favorite teacher, consider giving to one of the organizations SMPC supports through Alternative Giving. Alternative Giving cards are available in the Connection Center or the church office. Contact: Donna Brown, donnamatt89@gmail.com.



SERVICE OPPORTUNITY: PROCTORING AT SMITHFIELD

Smithfield Elementary is looking for proctors for end of grade (EOG) tests on May 24, May 29 and/or May 30, 7:15 a.m.-11:30 a.m. This is a stress-free and easy service opportunity. Please contact SMPC member Kathy Graham, kathyspeech@carolina.rr.com for sign up links or see our weekly email.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL/MISSION POSSIBLE



Vacation Bible School and Mission Possible, Monday, July 22-Thursday, July 25 at SMPC - VBS is for children ages 3-4th grade. Mission Possible is for rising 5th and 6th graders. Register on Realm. Contact: Adrienne Jaquith, smpcvbs@gmail.com.