



Celebrate

The Freedom to be Filled

Pentecost Sunday

June 8, 2025

First
Church

Celebrate June 8, 2025

We Gather

PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Scott Hines

CENTERING WORDS

Leader: Today is a special day known as Pentecost, the birthday of the church! Throughout this Easter season, we have been remembering stories of the early church and exploring ways that we can carry on that legacy of new life and liberation here and now. We give thanks to God who was, is, and always will be at the center of our freedom.

[sung by leaders]

I will take the cup of freedom and call on the name of God.

I will take the cup of freedom and call on the name of God.

Leader: We celebrate the birth of the Body of Christ filled with the Holy Spirit alive in the world in and through us, the disciples of Jesus. The presence of Christ through "the Advocate," as promised, is always real. We turn to see each other, to know each other, as Beloved of God. This is the source of our peace and our freedom. I invite you to rise in body and/or spirit and let us sing together!

[sung by congregation]

ALL: I will take the cup of freedom and call on the name of God.

I will take the cup of freedom and call on the name of God.

HYMN

"Arise, Your Light Is Come!" ~ See Insert

OPENING PRAYER

God of Freedom, we gather today to celebrate because we know you are still speaking. Set our tongues ablaze with your praise so that all may know freedom in you. We come to you in this moment, cups running over with thanksgiving. Amen!

We Proclaim

THE MESSAGE TO YOUNG DISCIPLES

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Acts 2: 1-21

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.

They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard

their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked:
“Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!”
Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this mean?” Some, however, made fun of them and said, “They have had too much wine.” Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd:
“Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It’s only nine in the morning! No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:
“‘In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke.
The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’”

Leader: The Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

"The Freedom to Be Filled"
Pastor Duane Carlisle

MESSAGE IN MUSIC

"Pentecost"
Words and Music by Mitch Wong and Krissy Nordhoff

We Respond

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD’S 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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

<https://onrealm.org/FUMCWL/-/form/give/now>

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMANDS AND NEW MEMBERS

See insert

We Go Forth

CLOSING HYMN

"In the Midst of New Dimensions" Vs. 1, 2, 5, & 6

THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Scott Hines

744 Arise, Your Light Is Come!

1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God, which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap - tives' lib - er - ty, good ti - dings to the poor.
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

Echoing imagery from Isaiah 61:1–2 and other passages, this text was created as an inclusive-language alternative to an older hymn using this late 19th-century tune. Because it is a song of encouragement rather than a song of praise, it is not directed to God but to people.