

WELCOME TO  
THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF FARMINGTON

**May 31, 2020**

**Rev. Andy Sonneborn**

**Pentecost Sunday**

**Gathering Around the Word of God**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

The Spirit descends like a dove, bringing peace to unite the world in a just and caring community. The Spirit comes like a breath, bringing life to renew the people of God. The Spirit spreads like fire, bringing energy for witnessing to the love of God. Spirit of the living God, come to us and transform our lives by your power.

Hymn #442 "The Church's One Foundation" vs. 1-5

Call to Confession

Leader: When we don't know how or what to pray, the Spirit knows. When all we can muster are sighs and groans, the Spirit knows those also. When we feel that we aren't even worthy to approach God, the Spirit goes before us and with us and God welcomes us with arms open. Let us confess our sins together, saying...

Prayer of Confession

All: God, thank you for your spirit breaking down barriers within and without barriers that distort our ability to lead a life fully

integrated with you and your ways. Forgive us for the times we have deliberately resisted the Spirit's work. Life giving spirit, God's advocate and guide, have mercy on us. Forgive us God for the barriers we create within ourselves, barriers that resist your healing work and prevent us moving toward wholeness. Forgive our self-centeredness, our anger, our fear of change, our lack of trust in your love. Life giving spirit, God's advocate and guide, have mercy on us. Forgive us God, for the barriers we create between us and you, barriers that separate us from your love and the assurance of your salvation. Forgive our busyness, our independence, our desire to go our own way. Life giving spirit, God's advocate and guide, have mercy on us. Forgive us God, for the barriers we create between us and each other, barriers that separate us from neighbors near and far and inhibit mutual love and care. Forgive our resentment of others, our love of control, our indifference to the poor. Life giving spirit, God's advocate and guide, have mercy on us. Forgive us God, for the barriers we create between us and your beautiful creation, barriers that abuse your world and deny our responsibility as stewards. Forgive our greed, our misuse of resources, our pollution of the environment. Life giving spirit, God's advocate and guide, have mercy on us. God, by the power of your spirit, free us and break down these barriers. Turn us away from the bondage of a life lived for ourselves and our own desires, may your spirit guide us into the freedom of life lived for you and your purposes. Life giving spirit, God's advocate and guide, have mercy on us. Hear us now, in these moments of silent prayer and confession.

Moment of Silence to Confess our Sins

Pastor Andy...Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: The Holy Spirit is present with us today! We give thanks to God for the grace that passes all understand, for the grace that forgives us our sins. Let people from all places and times and peoples cry out with one voice, Thanks be to God! Alleluia and Amen.

### **Proclamation God's Word**

Psalm Reading

Psalm 68:1-10 (CEB)

Let God rise up; let his enemies scatter; let those who hate him run scared before him!<sup>2</sup> Like smoke is driven away, drive them away! Like wax melting before fire, let the wicked perish before God!<sup>3</sup> But let the righteous be glad and celebrate before God. Let them rejoice with gladness!<sup>4</sup> Sing to God! Sing praises to his name! Exalt the one who rides the clouds! The LORD is his name. Celebrate before him!<sup>5</sup> Father of orphans and defender of widows is God in his holy habitation.<sup>6</sup> God settles the lonely in their homes; he sets prisoners free with happiness, but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.<sup>7</sup> When you went forth before your people, God, when you marched through the wasteland,<sup>8</sup> the earth shook! Yes, heaven poured down before God, the one from Sinai—before God, the God of Israel!<sup>9</sup> You showered down abundant rain, God; when your inheritance grew weary, you restored it yourself,<sup>10</sup> and your creatures settled in it. In your goodness, God, you provided for the poor.

New Testament Lesson

Acts 2:1-21 (CEB)

2 When Pentecost Day arrived, they were all together in one place.<sup>2</sup> Suddenly a sound from heaven like the howling of a fierce wind filled the entire house where they were sitting.<sup>3</sup> They saw what seemed to be individual flames of fire alighting on each one of them.<sup>4</sup> They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them to speak.<sup>5</sup> There were

pious Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem.<sup>6</sup> When they heard this sound, a crowd gathered. They were mystified because everyone heard them speaking in their native languages.<sup>7</sup> They were surprised and amazed, saying, “Look, aren’t all the people who are speaking Galileans, every one of them?”<sup>8</sup> How then can each of us hear them speaking in our native language?<sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes, and Elamites; as well as residents of Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,<sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the regions of Libya bordering Cyrene; and visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism),<sup>11</sup> Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the mighty works of God in our own languages!”<sup>12</sup> They were all surprised and bewildered. Some asked each other, “What does this mean?”<sup>13</sup> Others jeered at them, saying, “They’re full of new wine!”<sup>14</sup> Peter stood with the other eleven apostles. He raised his voice and declared, “Judeans and everyone living in Jerusalem! Know this! Listen carefully to my words!<sup>15</sup> These people aren’t drunk, as you suspect; after all, it’s only nine o’clock in the morning!<sup>16</sup> Rather, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: *17 In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young will see visions. Your elders will dream dreams.*<sup>18</sup> *Even upon my servants, men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.*<sup>19</sup> *I will cause wonders to occur in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and a cloud of smoke.*<sup>20</sup> *The sun will be changed into darkness, and the moon will be changed into blood, before the great and spectacular day of the Lord comes.*<sup>21</sup> *And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.*

Message

“Pentecost”

### **Responding to God's Word**

## Special Music

### Joys/Concerns/Lord's Prayer

#### \*Charge and Benediction

Leader: So now we leave this space of worship and while so much of the road ahead is uncertain, the path constantly changing, we know some things that are as solid and sure as the ground beneath our feet, and the sky above our heads. We know God is love. We know Christ's light endures. We know the Holy Spirit this there, found in the space between all things, closer to us than our next breath, binding us to each other, until we meet we again. Go in peace.

### Postlude