

# Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church

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Website: [www.witherspoonchurch.org](http://www.witherspoonchurch.org)

Rev. M. Muriel Burrows, Pastor  
Louise Johnson, Director of Christian Education  
Benjamin Colbert, Lector

Beverly Owens, Music Director  
Amy Shortt, Interim Organist  
Briallen Hopper, Guest Pianist

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June 4, 2006

10:00 a.m.

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## Day of Pentecost

*Enter Reverently, Meditate Quietly, Worship Devoutly,  
Leave Gratefully, Serve Christ Faithfully*

### PRELUDE

### INTROIT

*I Lift Up Mine Eyes*

Levine

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### CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 104:24-34)

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: How manifold are God's works!

**People: In wisdom God has made all that lives;  
the earth is full of his creatures.**

Leader: They look to God to give them their food in due season;  
when he gives to them, they gather it up.

**People: When God opens his hand, they are filled with good things.  
When God sends forth his Spirit, they are created.**

Leader: God renews the face of the ground.  
His spirit gives breath to all that lives.

**People: May the glory of the Lord endure forever.  
May God rejoice in all his works.**

Leader: Let us sing to the Lord as long as we live;  
let us praise our God while we have being.

**People: May our meditations be pleasing to God in whom we rejoice.**

**All: Let us worship the living, loving God!**

### PRAYER OF INVOCATION

**All: Almighty God, we pray for your blessing on the church in this place.  
Here may the faithful find salvation, the careless be awakened. Here**

may the doubting find faith, and the anxious be encouraged. Here may the tempted find help and the sorrowful comfort. Here may the weary find rest, and the strong be renewed. Here may the aged find consolation and the young be inspired – through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

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\*HYMN OF PRAISE

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

#376

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Like the first disciples, we have much to learn about sin and righteousness and judgment. Almost without awareness, we slip into the valley of dry bones, devoid of meaning and hope, unable even to pray. But together we can join our voices, asking that, by your grace, our spirits will awaken to new possibilities. Let us confess our sins in God's presence.

#### PRAYER FOR GOD'S GRACE

Leader: O Lord, you have made us – it is your breath that fills us.

**People: Help us, O God, to see and to believe.**

Leader: When enemies surround us and friends flee from our presence, help us remember that you are with us and that victory comes from your hands.

**People: Help us, O God, to see and to believe.**

\*\* Silence \*\*

Leader: O Lord, you have made us – and you have promised to be with us.

**People: When we mourn, comfort us. When we despair, grant us hope. When we are lost, guide us on our way.**

\*\* Silence \*\*

Leader: O Lord, you have made us – and have called us to be with you.

**People: As you did with the house of Israel, so do for us.**

**Pour out your Spirit once more upon us and give us new birth.**

Leader: We ask it in the name of Jesus Christ, he who lives and reigns with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

#### MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR REFLECTION AND SILENT CONFESSION

**Congregational Response (Sung):**

#322

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;**

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

**Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.**

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: In hope we are saved. The Spirit helps us in our weakness, intercedes for us, and guides us into all truth. God seeks to restore us to the fullness of life, to offer us hope, to assure us of our worth and value. Feel the flames

of God's love resting on us, empowering us to love and serve in Christ's name. Believe the good news of the Gospel;

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.**

\*GLORIA PATRI (kids' pink page) #579

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#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

**People: And also with you!**

Leader: Let us offer each other a sign of peace!

\*HYMN *Spirit* #319

**(\*\*\*Children in grades 1-4 are dismissed for their Bible class during the hymn.\*\*\*)**

Our scripture reading today is taken from the Book of the Acts of the Apostles. It records how God's Spirit – which gave new life to Israel when they were in captivity – was poured out upon the church – in accordance with the promise of the prophet Joel and our Lord Jesus Christ....

SCRIPTURE LESSON Acts 2:1-21 Page 119

SPECIAL MUSIC *More Love to Thee* Traditional

SERMON *Happy Birthday* Rev. Muriel Burrows

TITHES AND OFFERINGS *Offer the sacrifices of righteousness,  
and put your trust in the Lord.*

OFFERTORY (The Ushers and Deacons will now come forward to take up the offering for the mission and ministry of the church.)

\*DOXOLOGY (kids' red page) #592

#### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**All: Lord God, you have opened your hands and poured out upon us many blessings. You watch over us and protect and guide us in the way we should go. We offer now before you these gifts – that your name may be glorified in us and your work of salvation extended through us to all the world. Receive them and use them and us in your service – we ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.**

#### COMMUNION LITANY

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.  
**Leader:** Lift up your hearts.  
**People:** We lift them up to the Lord.  
**Leader:** Let us give thanks to our Lord God.  
**People:** It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

### **Eucharistic Prayer**

Creator – all powerful and ever-living God – we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks and praise. Today you sent the Holy Spirit on those marked out to be your children by sharing the life of your only Son. Today we celebrate the great beginnings of you Church – when the Holy Spirit made known to all peoples the one true God, and created from the many languages of humanity one voice to profess one faith.

Lord, we thank you – and we acknowledge your greatness and your love. We confess that even though we are not worthy to come before you – that you have not abandoned us to the power of sin and death – but have instead acted throughout all ages to save and redeem us, and finally – in the fullness of time, how you appointed your Son, Jesus, to be our Savior.

### **Words of Institution**

So it is, with joy – and with humility – we set this table before you, O God, and remember how it was on the night before Jesus offered himself to you for our sakes. We recall how Jesus took bread, and gave you thanks for it – even as we now thank you, O God, for our daily bread – and how he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying – *Take, eat, this is my body, broken for you.* We remember too how he took the cup and again gave you thanks and praise – and gave it to his disciples and said – *This is the blood of the new and everlasting covenant – shed for you. As often as you do this – do so in memory of me.*

### **Invocation of the Spirit**

Creator God – let your Spirit come upon these gifts to make them holy, so that they may be for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Sanctify and dwell within them and within us – that what we do here and who we are may be pleasing in your sight. We ask it in the name of our Crucified and Risen Redeemer – Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray together... (The Lord's Prayer)

### **Invocation of the Spirit**

The body of Christ – broken for you  
The blood of Christ – poured out for you...

### **Communion of the People**

HYMNS	<i>Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether</i>	#504
	<i>Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation</i>	#516

### **Prayer after Communion (unison)**

**Lord, for the bread we have eaten and for the wine we have tasted, we thank you. For the promise you have made and for the faith you have granted, we thank you. For the life you have bestowed and for the Spirit you have poured out, we thank you. By these gifts, O Lord, give strength to all your people. Help us bring your light and your love to all nations. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.**

\*HYMN *Let Us Tongues and Talents Employ* #514

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION *O Lord, Fix Me* Wilson

\* Congregation stands  
\*\* Latecomers ushered in

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**



**WELCOME** - The Pastor, Elders and Deacons of Witherspoon welcome most warmly all worshipers. Our fellowship is enriched by your presence. If you do not have a church home of your own, we do sincerely invite you to be a part of our fellowship. Please contact the church office for further information if you are interested in church membership (609) 924-1666.



**SUNDAY SCHOOL WEEKLY FOR ALL AGE GROUPS!** Sunday school classes for adults and students in grades 5-12 begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. (The adult class is exploring the lectionary passages together each week before the service.) Students in grades 1-4 will be dismissed for their Sunday school class immediately after the children's message. (A nursery is available for children in preschool and kindergarten.)

**NURSERY CARE** is provided for children 0-5 during Sunday school (9:00) and worship (10:00). Today Elizabeth Ferguson is assisting with nursery care; next Sunday's nursery care will be assisted by Elizabeth Ferguson.

**USHERS** for this morning's service are Christo Claassens and Gerald Delk. Next week's ushers are members of the Junior Usher Ministry: Kaylin Blount and Jessyca Hart with Martin Anim-Danso, manager.

**COMMUNION SERVERS** for this morning are Addison Driver, Louise Driver, Kim McEwen and Terry McEwen.

*Altar  
Flowers*



**FLOWERS** – Today’s flowers are given by *Cecelia B. Hodges* for the special weekend *birthdays of her mother, Olive James Hodges (deceased), her goddaughter, Dr. Pamela A. Spearman, and our pastor, Rev. Burrows*. If you would like to provide flowers in honor or memory of a loved one, or simply to beautify the church, please sign up on the chart located on the door of the sound room (left-hand entrance from the sanctuary to the parish house). After worship service, the donor may take the flowers home. At present, it is the responsibility of the person giving the flowers to make his/her own arrangements for preparation and delivery of the flowers for the Chancel. The next available date is June 25.



**COFFEE HOUR** - Host for the month of July is Curtis Johnson. Anyone who wishes to contribute to the Coffee Hour should contact Curtis (732-422-1343).

**LECTIONARY TEXT** for next Sunday, June 11, is Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29; Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17.

**DOLLAR\$&CENTS**

**COUNTERS FOR JUNE** are Terry McEwen (Team Leader), Anthony Bullett, Christo Claassens, Pamela Espenshade, Tony Hawes, Audrey Mack and Paul Stephens. Counters for the Deacon’s Benevolence Offering are Shirley Satterfield, Valerie Smith and Michelle Peal.



**PROPERTY ACQUISITION FUND UPDATE**

As of May 28, the Property Acquisition Fund has accumulated **\$83,961.18** in cash, out of a total \$110,000 we have committed to raise.



**FOOD DONATIONS FOR CRISIS MINISTRY** – The Deacons are collecting **canned fruit, vegetables and juice** for the Crisis Ministry. **\*\*\*NO GLASS JARS, PLEASE.\*\*\*** Other nourishing food will also be accepted. Checks made payable to the Crisis Ministry are always welcome and may be placed in the offering plate or given to a deacon. Please consider an extra purchase during your next grocery shopping trip and place items in the wooden box in the Narthex.



**Mid-Year Meeting**

**MID-YEAR CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** will immediately follow the service on **Sunday, June 25**. Everyone is urged to attend. **\*Please note\*** that committee chairs and group leaders should have their reports to the church office **by next Sunday, June 11**, to allow adequate time to prepare mid-year reports for distribution. Your assistance is appreciated.



**ATTENTION GRADUATES!** If you are graduating from middle school, high school, college, graduate school, or seminary, please contact Shirley Satterfield or Vicki Meisel. We will honor all graduates on **Youth Sunday, June 25.**



*Charles and Alyce Bush* invite you to join in celebrating their 40 years of marriage, love and happiness **next Sunday, June 11.**



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** – Please save **July 17-21** for Vacation Bible School. Our theme this year will be *Under Construction* and will feature our connection to Habitat for Humanity. Children will learn how Scripture teaches us to care, share and reach out to our neighbors. More information will be forthcoming. If you are willing to help, please

contact Louise Johnson (609-497-7912).



**A PEACEMAKING JOURNEY TO ISRAEL AND PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES, OCTOBER 30-NOVEMBER 12** – The

purpose of this “exposure tour” is to educate and equip people to explore mission relationships and participate in peacemaking dialogues in the community regarding the Israeli/Palestinian conflict. It is sponsored by Lawrenceville and Nassau Presbyterian Churches, the Presbytery of New Brunswick and Princeton Theological Seminary. Maximum trip

cost is \$2,700, including airfare; final trip cost will depend on fundraising. Participants will be selected based on need for a balanced group and willingness to continue the work in our area. Scholarships will be available. Interested persons may submit a one-page statement indicating interest and qualifications. More information is available at [www.ourmeetinghouse.org](http://www.ourmeetinghouse.org), or by contacting the Israel Peacemaking Trip Steering Committee ([pcol98@comcast.net](mailto:pcol98@comcast.net)).



**FROM THE SECRETARY** – My summer schedule will begin next week; I will work primarily from home until September 6. Please **refer to the bulletin each week** (under “This Week at Witherspoon”) for the hours I plan to

be available at my home office. You may leave messages at the church office (609-924-1666) or call me directly (609-581-1952). This line is dedicated to WSPC use and is equipped with an answering machine. I will check church e-mail daily ([witerspoon@verizon.net](mailto:witerspoon@verizon.net)). Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I appreciate your flexibility as we make necessary adjustments and will work with you.