

# Quispamsis United Church

May 23rd, 2021 - Pentecost

**Presider:** Rev. Richard Bowley

**Music Director & Hymn Leader:** Stephen Alexander

**Reader:** Diane Tonge

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**Centering Passage:** *Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!*

-Luke 11:11-13

**Welcome**

**Acknowledgement of Territories**

**Celebrations & Announcements**

## GATHERING TOGETHER

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

We greet this day by first greeting this light, a reminder of so much: of the power of light; of the presence of Christ; and of the movement of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost and in our everyday. May we burn with Holy Light as we move through this time of worship and prayer. May we be led by the light of Christ every step on the way.

**Prelude** Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart/O Breath of Life - arr. Cindy Berry

**Greeting (Responsive):**

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

**And also with you.**

**Call to Worship (Responsive):**

Listen, can you hear the wind?

**Come, Holy Spirit; come!**

Look, can you see the dancing flames?

**Come, Holy Spirit; come!**

Can you hear the message in a language you can understand?

**Come, Holy Spirit; come!**

Do you see the visions? Can you dream the dreams?

**Come, Holy Spirit; come!**

Come, let Pentecost become real in our lives this morning. Come and worship our God who sends the Spirit to touch us and transform us into Pentecost people.

## **Prayer of Approach**

Like a whirlwind the Holy Spirit came into the lives of your first disciples, O God, filling them with your power, directing them in your way and comforting them with your presence. As we gather this day, fill our homes with your presence, fill our hearts with your passion, set aflame our desires to be your disciples. For you O Holy One call us to follow and to serve- to take our human lives and join them to your Spirit- and in so doing be empowered as the active and animated body of Christ in the world. Rest your flame upon us this day we pray. Amen.

**Hymn:**                    Come Down O Love Divine                    VU 367

- 1     Come down, O love divine,  
      seek now this soul of mine,  
          and visit it with your own ardour glowing.  
      O Comforter, draw near,  
      within my heart appear,  
          and kindle it, your holy flame bestowing.**
  
- 2     O let it freely burn,  
      till earthly passions turn  
          to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;  
      and let your glorious light  
      shine ever on my sight,  
          and clothe me round, my onward path illuming.**
  
- 3     And so the yearning strong  
      with which the soul will long  
          shall far outpass the power of human telling;  
      for none can guess its grace,  
      till love creates the place  
          wherein the Holy Spirit makes its dwelling.**

## **Theme Conversation**

### **Prayer of Confession (Unison):**

**Holy Spirit, we're not sure we're ready for your awesome power to blow through our lives. We've grown comfortable with our familiar habits and routines. We're afraid to give up our waking slumber and face the truth that we do not truly live. When we cling to our ways and the safety of familiar paths, wake us up, shake us up, heat us up, and breathe your life and fire into us. Walk with us, O God, and give us the courage to follow the way that is lit by the fire of your Holy Spirit. On this Day of Pentecost, we pray for the courage to ride the winds of change.  
AMEN**

## **Assurance of God's Love**

The Spirit moves in our lives just as it did millennia ago. God is our strength and support, and guides us - by the Spirit - through our lives. We may stumble, and we may struggle, but the Spirit is always and will always be there to give us the strength to stand, the courage to walk, and the light to find our way. AMEN

## **Today's Scripture:** Acts of the Apostles 2:1-13

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 our God.

**Praise be to you, O Creator.**

**Anthem** Spirit of God - Medical Mission Sisters (solo-Stephen Alexander)

**Message** What are we full of?

## **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

**Hymn:** Oh a song must rise

MV 142

### **Refrain**

**Oh a song must rise for the spirit to descend**

**Oh a song must rise once again (again)**

**Singing out God's praises and glory,  
the faithful voices blend,**

**Oh a song must rise for the spirit to descend. (descend)**

1. **From the mountains to the valleys,  
from the desert to the sea,  
a song must rise once again.  
From the voices of our leaders,  
the voice of you and me,  
a song must rise for the spirit to descend. R**
2. **From poverty and riches,  
from the voice of young and old,  
a song must rise once again. (again)  
From the free and the imprisoned,  
the timid and the bold,  
a song must rise for the spirit to descend. R**
3. **From ev'ry house of worship,  
in ev'ry faith and tongue,  
a song must rise once again.  
From the villages and cities  
a new song must be sung,  
a song must rise for the spirit to descend.**

### **How Can I Give?**

#### **HOW CAN I GIVE TO MY CHURCH WHEN THE CHURCH IS CLOSED?**

1/ If you have internet banking, you can E-transfer funds to QUC by sending the funds to QUC@nb.aibn.com. Do not forget to send a separate email with the answer to your security question.

2/ go to [www.CanadaHelps.org](http://www.CanadaHelps.org) and search for Quispamsis united Church. You can give to the church by using your credit card. The address says Gondola Point, do not worry, that is us.

3/ you can sign up for a pre-authorized remittance (PAR) donation which comes out of your bank account or credit card once a month. You can cancel this at any time. Contact Brion Crossman at 849-6003 for details.

4/ mail or deliver your giving's to our treasurer, Brion Crossman, 22 Country Crescent, Quispamsis, E2E 1T2

### **Offertory Dedication Hymn: Doxology**

**Praise God,  
from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
AMEN**

**Prayer of Dedication (Unison):**

**God of Pentecost Flame, take our hearts and set them on fire. Take our lives and transform them. Take our church and resurrect it with your life-giving Spirit. Take our gifts and use them for the fulfillment of your vision of peace and unity. Amen.**

## ***The Sacrament of Holy Communion***

**Words of Instruction**

**Invitation to the Table**

**Gathering (Responsive):**

The flame of the Holy Spirit be kindled within you

**And also within you.**

Set your souls aflame with a burning faith,

**We set the Christ light in our hearts, lifting them to God.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God our thanks and praise.**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Holy God of wind and fire, your Spirit renews the face of the earth and warms the hearts of your people. We give you thanks for your gifts of Pentecostal power: tongues that utter prophetic words of truth and justice; flames that kindle new visions of compassion and peace; fresh breezes that blow down the walls which separate us from you and one another. And so it is that we join with every voice and tongue on earth and in the heavens to give you praise:

**Sung Response:** Sanctus Benedictus MV 203

**O holy, holy, holy God,**

**O God of time and space.**

**All earth and sea and sky above**

**bear witness to your Grace.**

**Hosanna in the highest heav'n,**

**creation sings your praise.**

**And blessed is the One who comes**

**and bears Your name always.**

### **Remembering the Meal (Responsive):**

Let us remember together that vision of God's reign shown to us in Jesus at table:

**he shared food with followers and friends,**

with saints and sinners,

**with crowds of thousands on the hillside,**

and a few friends in an upper room.

**On the night before he died, he had supper with his companions.**

He took a loaf of bread, and after giving thanks, he broke it, and gave it to them, saying:

**"Take, eat. Do this in remembrance of me."**

Then, he took a cup, and after giving thanks, he passed it among them, saying:

**"Drink this. Do this in remembrance of me."**

Through this loaf and cup, Jesus lives within us.

**In word and deed, Jesus lives among us.**

Loving God, we rejoice in the gift of the Holy Spirit, breath of our lungs and flame in our hearts, and we remember Christ's life and death, proclaiming his resurrection. We wait in hope for his coming again. Grant that in praise and thanksgiving, we may so offer ourselves to you that our lives may proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Sung Response:** Memorial Acclamation MV 204

**Sing Christ has died**

**and Christ is risen,**

**Christ will come again!**

**Sing Christ has died**

**and Christ is risen,**

**Christ will come again!**

### **Blessing of the Bread and the Cup (Responsive):**

Holy God, we pray for your Spirit.

**Make us, while many, one.**

**Make us, though broken, whole.**

**Make us, despite death, alive.**

And so we pray:

**Come, Holy Spirit, come. AMEN**

### **Prayer for Ourselves & Others and The Lord's Prayer**

**Sung Response:** Great Amen MV 205

**Amen, amen, O Holy One!**

**Hosanna and amen!**

**Amen, amen, O Holy One!**

**Hosanna and amen!**

### **Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup**

This is the body of Christ, bread for the journey.

This is the blood of Christ, the cup of blessing.

### **Sharing of the Bread and the Cup (Responsive):**

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Come now for all has been made ready.

*sharing the meal*

### **Prayer after Communion (Unison):**

**We give thanks, O God, that bread broken brings wholeness; that wine poured out replenishes; that time spent with the Risen Christ and one another is gift and grace. Come, Holy Spirit, we are ready. Set our souls on fire. Amen.**

**Hymn:** Dance with the Spirit

MV 156

**Dance with the Spirit early in the morning,  
Walk with the Spirit throughout the long day,  
Work and hope for a new life a-bornin',  
Listen to the Spirit to show you the way.**

**Move with the Spirit early in the morning,  
Walk with the Spirit throughout the long day,  
Work and hope for a new life a-bornin',  
Listen to the Spirit to show you the way.**

**Sing with the Spirit early in the morning,  
Walk with the Spirit throughout the long day,  
Work and hope for a new life a-bornin',  
Listen to the Spirit to show you the way.**

### **SENDING FORTH**

#### **Commissioning (Responsive):**

Go forth now as Pentecost people, filled with the Spirit, dreaming dreams, and seeing visions of God's possibilities.

**We go forth, knowing we are beloved and blessed by a God who never leaves us alone.**

Go, to be surprised by the Spirit in all that you do and everywhere that you go.

**We go, claiming our identity as Pentecost people—people of wind and fire, dreams and visions, people filled with that most amazing and transforming Spirit. Amen.**

## **Benediction**

Go now with the love of God in your hearts, the Peace of Christ in your hand, and the power of the Holy Spirit at your backs to share the good news you've heard this day. AMEN

**Choral Closing:** May God's Sheltering Wings MV 214

**May God's sheltering wings**

**His gathering wings protect you**

**May God's nurturing arms,**

**Her cradling arms sustain you**

**And hold you in Her love,**

**And hold you in His love.**

**Postlude** Revive Us Again - John Husband