



Centenary

United Methodist Church

2300 W. Friendly Avenue, Greensboro, NC

May 31, 2020

Reverend Kelley Groce, Pastor
Anita Trumpler-Rich, Director of Music

Announcements for Missions and Ministry

Choral Call to Worship *Spirit Song*

347 UMH, verse 1

O let the Son of God enfold you with his Spirit and his love.

Let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.

*O let him have the things that hold you, and his Spirit like a dove
will descend upon your life and make you whole.*

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

Call to Worship

Leader: Once we walked the hillsides and pathways

People: Then, in fear we hid in an upper room

Leader: News of Jesus' Resurrection stunned and awed our souls.

People: We didn't know what to believe.

Leader: On this day, long ago, God's Holy Spirit inflamed the hearts of those who had hidden in fear. They were encouraged to go and proclaim God's Good News to all the world.

People: May God's Holy Spirit inflame our hearts and stir us from apathy and complacency to energy and enthusiasm to serve God in this world. AMEN.

Opening prayer:

Almighty God, your Holy Spirit came to Jesus' disciples, hidden in an upper room in Jerusalem. A violent wind and tongues of fire were the symbols of a new thing happening in their lives. May your Holy Spirit burst into our lives today, encouraging and inspiring us to proclaim boldly the good news of Jesus Christ who offers healing and hope to all people. AMEN.

Hymn *Surely the Presence of the Lord* 328 UMH
*Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face;
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.*

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Scripture Acts 2:1-21

We Worship with God's Tithe and Our Offering

Offertory *Spirit of the Living God* 393 UMH
*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.*

Gospel John 7:37-39

Pentecost Hymn *Sweet, Sweet Spirit* 334 UMH

*There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
And I know it's the Spirit of the Lord;
There are sweet expression on each face,
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.
Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove,
Stay right here with us, filling us with your love;
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived
when we shall leave this place.*

*To a world that is hurting we long to take Good News,
To share Your grace and peace with those in need,
To offer help and hope, to change lives and the world.
But we need Your holy power and so we plead:
Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet Heavenly Dove,
Stay right here with us, filling us with your love.
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived
when we shall leave this place.*

Sermon “Kindling the Flame of Hope” Rev. Kelley Groce

Affirmation of Faith:

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, men, and people 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!" Amen

Pentecost Hymn *A Pentecost Hymn for Our Time* verses 2, 3, & 4

*On Pentecost so long ago
Disciples came to pray and show
To all around that they believed
And peace and power they then received*

*We are not gathered in one place
We feel apart and seek your face
May you come now into our hearts
All loneliness will then depart*

*When we once more together come
We'll sing and praise you all the more
Your spirit has sustained our souls
And brought us back into your fold.*

Pentecost Celebration *Happy Birthday*

Benediction

The Prayer Chain has received requests to pray for the following people:

Sally Goin chemotherapy treatments; George Cranford for toe issues and sympathy on the death of his good friend, Freddy Murphy, from COVID-19; Becky Ensign's father-in-law, Chuck Sartore, who fell and is now in rehab; as well as Becky's husband, Steve Sartore. His rotator cuff surgery went well. Sympathy to Mike Crabtree in the death of 3 uncles. Please pray for Frank Hinshaw's brother and sister in law – Gary and Patsy – who were involved in a car accident. Sympathy for Brenda Wilson on the death of her mother, Louise Price, on Sunday, May 24. David Lucas' mother, Sue Lucas, breast cancer. Pat Gunn is scheduled for carotid artery surgery on June 25. Suzy Swindell's neighbor, David Scott, is having trouble with his eyes. Suzy Swindell's friend, Nancy Mill Spaugh, is hospitalized with COVID-19 in Indianapolis. The Stanley's friend, Rebecca Mull Temple, is having breathing problems. The Stanley's friend, Jimmy Hartman, is dealing with brain and lung cancer. Prayers for Trudy Sillmon, who had back surgery on May 29.

If you have a prayer concern, please contact the church office at 336-299-9643 or call Kelley at the parsonage. Let us know if the concern may be shared with the congregation or only with the pastoral staff.



Meals Delivered – Thanks to the hard work of Alex & Juli Hurin, and several others, meals of Chicken Pot Pie, Shepherd's Pie, Cheesy Beefy Noodle Bake, Chicken Vodka Penne Bake*, Chicken Cordon Bleu*, Quarts of Brunswick Stew, Peach Dump Cake, Apple Crisp, and

delicious Brownies have been delivered to our congregants at Friends Homes West, Friends Homes Guilford, Well Spring, UMAR residencies, and at individuals homes. If you would like a meal delivered, contact Alex Hurin at 336-457-0130. Entrees are \$6 each, \$4 for Peach Dump Cake or Apple Crisp, and \$1.50 for Brownies. *NEW!

Bible Study –Tuesdays at 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM using Zoom to meet together virtually, until such time that we may meet together at the church. Send an email to kgroce@wnccumc.net to receive an email invitation to Zoom. You may also listen in by phone. Contact the church if you would like to participate 336-299-9643. You may purchase the book [Interpretation Bible Studies: Psalms](#) through ChristianBooks.com or follow along in your Bible. We hope that many of you will join us to gain courage, strength, and inspiration from the Psalms.

Tithes & Offerings to the Church – Many thanks to all who have remained faithful in giving their tithes and offerings to the church during this difficult time. You may mail your check to the church office: Centenary UMC, 2300 W. Friendly Ave., Greensboro, NC 27403. You may also give through your bank’s online bill pay option. Consult your bank for directions. Or, you may give online through our SubSplash platform using a credit or debit card. Follow the directions on the Centenary UMC website under [Tithes & Offerings](#)



Centenary UMC has a heart for food scarcity. We are unable to participate in our Free Community Breakfast and Clothes Closet at this time, so the Ad Council has decided to use the money allocated for our Community Breakfast for the month of June, \$250.00, to be sent to Out of the Garden Project. We would also like you to consider sending a donation, above and beyond your usual monthly pledge, to support Out of the Garden project. You may make your check payable to Centenary UMC and put “Out of the Garden Project” on the memo line. They are able to reach the most vulnerable in our community – the children. We will be focusing on this mission throughout the month of June. We thank you for your consideration of this community project,

along with our continued mission to feed the hungry in our local community.

Pentecost Challenge: The Gift of the Holy Spirit and the Power of Prayer

May 31, 2020 is the day when the Church celebrates the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit empowers us as Pentecost people to do as God would in the world through acts of love and service. The main way which the Holy Spirit empowers us is by unifying our thoughts, actions, and attitudes through the power of prayer. I (Kelley Groce) joined a Zoom conversation with about 30 other ministers and we discussed uniting our Methodist Churches from Pentecost through Labor Day in Prayer. Each church will spread the prayer through differing means – some through virtual prayer groups, through e-mail prayers, and phone trees. We are going to do all three.

1. If you would like to be a part of the prayer group by phone or Zoom computer – please call Kelley at 336-285-5081 or e-mail at kgroce@wnccumc.net . The group will convene each Wednesday from 5-5:30 PM. A time of Prayer for church.
2. I will send out a prayer through phone tree and e-mail by each Wednesday.
3. I will say a prayer on Facebook each Wednesday (the one which has been sent out by phone or e-mail)

We are the Church. We are Christ's people. We are people of Prayer. Let us be Pentecost People of Power and Prayer.

