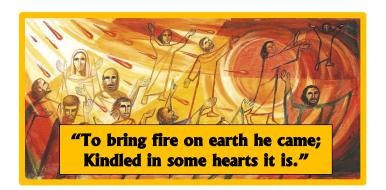
SUNDAY, MAY 23, 2021

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Caldwell United Methodist Church, 8 Academy Rd., Caldwell, NJ 07006
Rev. Vivian L. Rodeffer, Pastor Ms. Maxine Alstrom, Music Director



PRELUDE

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

Pastor Viv

A centering prayer will be shared.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, Holy Spirit! Ignite our hearts with joy and confidence! For God has done wondrous things for us.

Come Holy Spirit! Fill us with the power of the rushing wind

That we may faithfully serve you in all that we do.

For Christ has called each one of us and blessed us!

Come, Holy Spirit! Be with us today.

Help us to boldly proclaim Christ Risen. Amen!

HYMN #384 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

- 1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
 Joy of Heav'n to earth come down;
 Fix in us thy humble dwelling;
 All thy faithful mercies crown!
 Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
 Pure unbounded love Thou art;
 Visit us with Thy salvation,
 Enter every trembling heart.
- Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit Into every troubled breast! Let us all in Thee inherit; Let us find that second rest. Take away our bent to sinning;

Alpha and Omega be; End of faith, as its beginning, Set our hearts at liberty.

3. Finish, then, Thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in Heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Gracious God, Even after the crucifixion and the resurrection, we would rather be silent than proclaim the power of your love. We fear so much. We hold back on the proclamation of our faith. We don't want to offend anyone. But your love and presence are not offensive. They are empowering and healing. Bring your holy fire upon us this day to ignite a spark of joy in our hearts and in our voices. Bring the power of your rushing wind through our spirits that we may be turned in new directions for service and witness.

A time of silent reflection.

God's awesome love is offered to you, even when you fear or are unsure of your faith. Know that God is with you. Be not afraid. Hallelujah! **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Megan Mead-Brackness

DOW RICH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATIONChristine Waddington, Trustee
This year's recipient is **Dana Stelter**. We pray God's blessings upon her!

SCRIPTURE Acts 2: 1-13 Ann Calvin , Reader

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ² 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. ³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵ Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶ And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷ Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native

language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹² All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³ But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

The word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM "Everytime I Feel The Spirit" African American Spiritual

https://soundcloud.com/vivian-rodeffer/choir-every-time-i-feel-the-2

MESSAGE The Spark of Grace

"Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them." V.3

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

Amazing God, on this Pentecost Sunday we celebrate the power of the Holy Spirit. As we watch the everyday miracles experienced all around us, we know without a doubt that all things are possible with you, O God. We pray that this offering will foster the miracles and the possibilities that you have in store for this church community. Come Holy Spirit, come! Amen.

THE MORNING PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Please note that prayers can be submitted anytime 24/7 on our new website and received immediately by the pastor on her phone. Select "PRAY" near the top of the homepage and fill in your request. Thank you.

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.

HYMN #541 "See How Great A Flame Aspires"

1. See how great a flame aspires, kindled by a spark of grace! Jesus' love the nations fires, sets the kingdoms on a blaze: To bring fire on earth He came; kindled in some hearts it is: O that all might catch the flame, all partake the glorious bliss!

- 2. When He first the work begun, small and feeble was His day: Now the word doth swiftly run; now it wins its widening way: More and more it spread and grows, ever mighty to prevail; Sin's strongholds it now o'erthrows, shakes the trembling gates of hell.
- 3. Saw ye not the cloud arise, little as a human hand?
 Now it spreads along the skies, hangs o'er all the thirsty land:
 Lo! the promise of a shower drops already from above;
 But the Lord will shortly pour all the spirit of His love.

BENEDICTION (inspired by John 14:27)

May the advocate, God's Holy Spirit, sent in Christ's name, teach you and remind you of Christ's words.

Do not let your hearts be troubled.
Do not be afraid.
Christ's peace go with you
Christ peace, that the world cannot take away, be with you
Christ's peace, and the Spirit's presence,
remain with you always. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE



VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALENDAR

Monday, May 24 NO Zoom Prayer Group Today

9 AM-12:30 PM Zoom Annual Conference

Tuesday, May 25 8:30 AM-12:30 PM Zoom Annual Conference

DEADLINE FOR RESERVING YOUR FISH N CHIPS DINNERS IS FAST APPROACHING!