



Central's mission:
Love God, love others, and serve the world

May 24, 2020
Ascension Sunday

Musical Gift

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

arr. Birchwood

Call to Worship

Dorothy Ann Webster

Come, quench your thirst in the love of God.

We come, hungering for a place in which we can be gently nourished.

Be like trees planted by the streams of living water, ready to receive God's nourishment.

Strengthen us, O God, to receive your blessed peace.

Hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Amen.

Hymn #454 “Open My Eyes, That I May See”

Scott

1. Open my eyes that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!
2. Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear;
And while the wavenotes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!
3. Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Affirmation of Faith *The Apostles' Creed*

Mark Haines

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
The third day he rose from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic* church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**universal*

Opening Prayer and the Lord's Prayer —

Mark Haines

**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 for ever. Amen.**

Welcome and Announcements

Dorothy Ann Webster

Central Reflection

Harris Penley

Children's Message

Debbie Looney

Praise —

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1. Holy Spirit, living breath of God, breathe new life into my willing soul.
Bring the presence of the risen Lord to renew my heart and make me whole.
Cause your word to come alive in me; give me faith for what I cannot see.
Give me passion for your purity; Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.
2. Holy Spirit, come abide within, may your joy be seen in all I do.
Love enough to cover every sin, in each thought and deed and attitude.
Kindness to the greatest and the least, gentleness that sows the path of peace.
Turn my striving into works of grace; breath of God show Christ in all I do.
3. Holy Spirit, from creation's birth, giving life to all that God has made.
Show your power once again on earth, cause your church to hunger for your ways.
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise; lead us on the road of sacrifice.
That in unity the face of Christ will be clear for all the world to see.

Bible Reading — Acts 1:6-14

Dorothy Ann Webster

—[Prayer]

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed,
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

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

Message — "Devotion"

Fred Webster

Hymn #354 "I Surrender All"

Van Deventer

1. All to Jesus I surrender; all to him I freely give. I will ever love and trust him, in his presence daily live.
I surrender all, I surrender all, all to thee my blessed Savior, I surrender all.
3. All to Jesus I surrender; make me, Savior, wholly thine;
Let me feel the Holy Spirit, truly know that thou art mine.
5. All to Jesus I surrender; now I feel the sacred flame.
O the joy of full salvation! Glory, glory to his name!

† *Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God* by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend © 2005 ThankYou Music.

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Bible Reading for May 31

Acts 2:1-21 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. ⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” ¹³But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.” ¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷“In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. ¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. ²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day. ²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Discussion Questions

- *How do you feel when you can’t understand what someone is saying? Those around the disciples could hear the words, but it took some explanation to really understand what was being said.*
- *How does it feel to know you are included in something wonderful?*



Love GOD



Love OTHERS



SERVE the World



616 Jackson Street
Decatur, Alabama 35601
(256) 353-6941

CUMC@CentralUnitedMethodist.com
<https://CentralUnitedMethodist.com>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/centralunitedmethodist