

Bower Hill Community Church (Presbyterian USA)
Order for Worship ~ Day of Pentecost ~ 24 May 2026

Preparation for Worship:

*"We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life...
The Spirit gives us courage to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace."
~A Brief Statement of Faith, Presbyterian Church USA*

Prelude

Spirit

Michael Bedford

Litany for Pentecost:

Leader: Holy Spirit, Creator, in the beginning you moved over the waters. From your breath all creation drew life.
Without you, life turns to dust.

People: Come, Holy Spirit!

Leader: Holy Spirit, Counselor, by your inspiration the prophets spoke and acted in faith. You clothed them in power
to be bearers of your Word.

People: Come, Holy Spirit!

Leader: Holy Spirit, Power, you came as fire to Jesus' disciples; you gave them voice before the rulers of this world.

People: Come, Holy Spirit!

Leader: Holy Spirit, Sanctifier, you created us children of God; you make us the living temple of your presence; you
intercede within us with sighs too deep for words.

People: Come, Holy Spirit!

Leader: Holy Spirit, Giver of life, you guide and make holy the church you create; you give gifts—the spirit of wisdom
and understanding, the spirit of counsel and fortitude, the spirit of knowledge and piety, the spirit of the fear
of the Lord, that the whole creation may be transformed.

People: Come, Holy Spirit!

Leader: True and only Light, from whom comes every good gift: Send your Spirit into our lives with the power of a mighty
wind. Open the horizons of our minds by the flame of your wisdom. Loosen our tongues to show your praise, for only in
your Spirit can we voice your words of peace and acclaim Jesus as Lord. Amen.

***Hymn 280**

Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us

Call to Prayer

Jesus says: Let anyone who is thirsty come to me. Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living waters. Trusting in
God's grace, let us confess our sin:

Prayer of Confession

**Mighty God, you poured your Spirit upon the disciples, creating bold tongues, open ears, and a new
community of faith. We confess that we hold back the force of your Spirit among us. We do not listen for
your word of grace, speak the good news of your love, or live as people made one with Christ. Have
mercy on us, O God. Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit, and fill us with a flaming desire
to be your faithful people, doing your will for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.** [Silent prayers]

Words of Assurance

Through Christ, God has poured the Holy Spirit upon us for the forgiveness of sins. Friends, hear and believe the good
news of the gospel of Jesus Christ: in him we are forgiven. Amen.

***The Gloria: Hymn 583**

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest. Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

***The Peace**

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

*All children from preschool through eighth grade are invited to meet their teachers in the Narthex and go to Summer
Sunday School in room 110.*

Prayer of Illumination

God of power and grace, fill us with the wisdom of your word and the understanding of your Spirit, so that we may be your
church: a people with dreams and visions at work in all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Scripture Reading

Acts 2:1-21

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy Word..

People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn 286Breathe on Me, Breath of God***Scripture Readings:**

Acts 2:1-4, Spanish

Acts 2:1-4, Latvian

Acts 2:1-4, French

Mary Good

Andrejs Baumhammers

Deb Boisvert

Anthem*Spirit of the Living God***Sermon****“Crossing Borders”**

Rev. Dr. Brian Snyder

Affirmation of Faith*“Credo for Christians”**

I worship and adore God, source, essence, and aim of all things,
Spirit that enlivens all beings.

I follow the way of Jesus, who found God in himself
and shared a way for others to find God in themselves.

He was born through love,

He lived for love,

He suffered for love,

He died for love,

But love never dies.

I submit myself to the leading of the love that is God,

that I may be compassionate toward all beings,

that I may live and serve in community with others,

that I may ask for and offer forgiveness,

that I may praise and enjoy God forever. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer:

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 debts as we forgive our debtors,

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,

for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*Or “Mother” or “Parent”

Welcome and Next Steps**Offerings and Gifts of Self****Offertory*****The Doxology: Hymn 606, 607***Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**

Old Hundredth

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Praise God, all creatures here below!**Praise God above, ye heavenly host! Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! Amen.*

*For a gender-neutral version, use hymn 607.

Prayer of Dedication**Closing Hymn 291***Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*

REFRAIN: *Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free.*

Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

1 You moved on the waters; you called to the deep; then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;

and over the eons you called to each thing, “Awake from your slumber, and rise on your wings.” REFRAIN

2 You swept through the desert; you stung with the sand; and you goaded your people with a law and a land.

When they were confounded with idols and lies, then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes. REFRAIN

3 *You sang in a stable; you cried from a hill; then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still.
And down in the city, you called once again when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind.* REFRAIN
4 *You call from tomorrow; you break ancient schemes; from the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams.
Our women see visions; our men clear their eyes. With bold new decisions, your people arise.* REFRAIN

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

*Holy God, We Praise Your Name
Feel free to exit during the postlude, mindful of those who wish to stay and listen.*

Paul Manz