



I will
put my
spirit
within
you,
and you
shall live...

Ezekiel 37:14, NRSV

Rollstone Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

199 Main Street, Fitchburg, MA

Pastor: Rev. David B. Hanks 978-821-9571

Moderator: Paul Stansel 978-337-1608

Church Organist and Musician: Gavin Klein

Rollstone Congregational Church
Fitchburg, MA

Pentecost Sunday
May 23, 2021

Prelude:

Words of Welcome and Announcements:

Call to Worship:

Leader: Come, Holy Spirit, come. Be the wind and fire that transform our lives.

People: **Breathe upon us as we study your word of life.**

Leader: Kindle faith from our believing doubt.

People: **Cleanse us from our waywardness.**

Leader: Deepen our passion for sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ.

People: **Give us voice to proclaim your mighty works in every tongue.**

All: **Fill your church with power. Come, Holy Spirit, come!**

Gathering Prayer:

God of such gentle power, whose mighty wind stirred hesitant disciples to become preachers and teachers; whose mighty wind didn't knock people down, but lifted them higher to visions of profound community, where men and women, young and old, share in partnership; whose mighty wind released such joy as to cause a scene, bless us with that wind of inspiration today.

Your gentle power of Pentecost built the church. Your rebuilding power created a movement that weaves its way to us today. We give you thanks for the fresh winds of the Spirit, the loving and empowering Spirit that abides in hearts, giving insight to see beauty in the midst of routine and moving us to help in the presence of need. Come again and a new, Great Spirit, come to us now. In the name of the Holy One. Amen.

Opening Hymn:

"Come Down, O Love Divine"

Down Ampney

A Reading from the Gospels

John 14:8-17, 25-27 (New International Version)

8 Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us."

9 Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? **10** Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. **11** Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. **12** Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. **13** And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. **14** You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

15 “If you love me, keep my commands. **16** And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— **17** the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

25 “All this I have spoken while still with you. **26** But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. **27** Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

Musical Interlude:

A Time of Prayer – *let us remember all of our brothers and sisters on the prayer list, especially those who are having a difficult time during this period of social distancing. Please share your prayer concerns so that they may be added to the prayer list by emailing your concern to Pastor Dave at rollstonepastor2012@gmail.com or by calling him direct at 978-821-9571. He is available Monday through Thursday and most every evenings.*

God of all creation and all peoples, we offer thanks that you hold our hearts in yours and that you hear our prayers, whether we speak with the eloquence of saints or with sighs too deep for words. Ever grateful for your presence, we gather ourselves for prayer in this place, as your disciples gathered on the day of Pentecost. Open our hearts to the power of your spirit that we might be a people refreshed in our dedication to you. Fire us up with courage to allow ourselves to be baptized anew this day as a new creation in service to you. Confirm in us a sense of what it means to be a people of faith, whether it be by listening with an open heart, visiting the homebound or praying for the needs of another. Grant us the grace to allow the Holy Spirit to work within us, that we might live as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ; let it be that by knowing us, others may know you. Through us, O God, let your kingdom come. And as Jesus taught us how to pray to you, let us the church pray in saying.... “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.”

Musical Interlude:

The Message:

“Days That Go Unnoticed”

Closing Hymn:

“Come, Teach Us, Spirit of Our God”

Murray

Benediction:

As we leave this place, let us depart in the assurance that God does not remain hidden in a cloud, concealed from us. God is still among us! Let us not gaze longingly at heaven for a sign. God is revealed! Let us glimpse the face of Christ in one another. Let us celebrate the Holy Spirit, who works in our community. Let us give glory to God our Creator, today and every day. Amen.

Postlude:

PRAYER LIST

**Jacob Allen
Janet Aveyard
Amy Belli
Carolyn Barney
Jack Brigham
Becky Colwell
Maureen Daoust
David Dufour
Diana Escarbie
Robert Fitton
Keeley Folan
Cathy Fontaine
Bob and Pat Goguen
Linda Haas
Douglas Hanks
John Hanks, Jr.
Timothy Hoffman
Linda Hurd
Tom Kazanjian
Sarah Kee
Colin Lajoie
Bob and Doris Lane
Diane Lane Cormier
Linda Long
Sue Mattison
Lorraine Michaud
Audrey Painchaud
Maria Piazza
Melanie Pouliot
Del Sampson
Elwin Shepard
Amanda Sicard
Ron Smith
Family of Diane Staples
Carole Ann Sumner and Henry
Donna Thorne
Daniel Tousignant
Gina Velayphone
Marilyn Wales
Mary Wayman
All who are experiencing difficult times and situations
All who are lonely or depressed**