



May 28, 2023

## BLACKSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Our Mission**  
**Proclaiming God's Word**  
**Growing in faith and understanding**  
**Welcoming all**  
**Extending comfort and grace**  
**Working for justice and peace**  
**Nurturing creation**  
**Being generous stewards of God's gifts**

Pastor – Rev. Sarah Wiles  
Director of Music – Dr. Larry Wyatt  
Organist/Pianist – Amanda Raymond  
Director of Children/Youth Ministries – Susan Hunter  
Coordinator of Church Life – Sarah Windes  
Office Manager – Rhonda Waller  
Parish Associate – Rev. Emily Rhodes Hunter  
Campus Minister, UKirk Ministry at Virginia Tech – Rev. Emily Rhodes Hunter  
Mission Partner in Malawi – Dr. Arie Glas  
Mission Partners in the Philippines – Cobbie Palm & Dessa Quesada-Palm  
Mission Partners in Guatemala – Betsey & Eric Moe

Service is also livestreamed and is available at [www.blacksburgpres.org](http://www.blacksburgpres.org).

*If you are new to Blacksburg Presbyterian Church and would like more information  
or to join our email list, please contact the church office at  
540-552-2504 or email [hpc@blacksburgpres.org](mailto:hpc@blacksburgpres.org).*

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❖ *Please rise in body or in spirit. We invite you to join in with the words in **bold**.*

**SERVICE OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY  
PENTECOST SUNDAY  
MAY 28, 2023**

❖ GATHERING AROUND THE WORD ❖

**Thought for Meditation:** "The great thing, if one can, is to stop regarding all the unpleasant things as interruptions of one's 'own' or 'real' life. The truth is of course that what one calls the interruptions are precisely one's real life—the life God is sending one day by day..." – C. S. Lewis

**Prelude:** "Celebration"

James Mansfield

Dwight Bigler, organ

**Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. Sarah Wiles & Sarah Windes

**Centering Music:** "i thank You God"

Lloyd Pfautsch

i thank You God for most this amazing  
day:for the leaping greenly spirits of trees  
and a blue true dream of sky:and for everything  
which is natural which is infinite which is yes

(i who have died am alive again today,  
and this is the sun's birthday;this is the birth  
day of life and of love and wings:and of the gay  
great happening illimitably earth)

how should tasting touching hearing seeing  
breathing any—lifted from the no  
of all nothing—human merely being  
doubt unimaginable You?

(now the ears of my ears awake and  
now the eyes of my eyes are opened) – e.e. cummings

**Call to Worship:** Acts 2:1-4,17-18

Jack Call

When Pentecost Day arrived, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound from heaven like the howling of a fierce wind filled the entire house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be individual flames of fire alighting on each one of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them to speak.

In the last days, God says,  
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.  
Your children will prophesy.  
Your young will see visions.  
Your elders will dream dreams.  
Even upon my servants, men and women,

**I will pour out my Spirit in those days,  
and they will prophesy.**

❖ **Hymn 744:** "Arise, Your Light Is Come!"

FESTAL SONG

**Arise, your light is come!  
The Spirit's call obey;  
show forth the glory of your God,  
which shines on you today.**

**Arise, your light is come!  
Fling wide the prison door;  
proclaim the captives' liberty,  
good tidings to the poor.**

Arise, your light is come!  
All you in sorrow born,  
bind up the brokenhearted ones  
and comfort those who mourn.

Arise, your light is come!  
The mountains burst in song!  
Rise up like eagles on the wing;  
God's power will make us strong.

❖Prayer of Approach

God of power,  
may the boldness of your Spirit transform us,  
may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us,  
may the gifts of your Spirit be our goal and our strength,  
now and always. Amen.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Blazing God, we confess it is hard to keep up with you.  
You barrel ahead while we hold back.  
You pour out your power while we store it up.  
You are reckless while we count costs.  
You burn bright while we hide our light.  
Forgive our domestication, Lord,  
and teach us to look for you  
in unexpected places.  
Give to us a sense of wonder,  
curiosity, and awe.  
Anoint us again with the power of your presence,  
and show us how to soar.  
Amen.

*(Silent prayer)*

Assurance of Forgiveness

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.**

from PC(USA) Brief  
Statement of Faith

❖Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

*(Worshippers may exchange signs of God's peace, and children may come forward for a time of sharing faith together.)*

❖ HEARING THE WORD ❖

Sharing Faith with Children

Rev. Emily Rhodes Hunter

*(Children in 1<sup>st</sup> grade age and up are invited to remain in the sanctuary. Children in kindergarten or younger may stay in the sanctuary or go downstairs to God's Garden or the nursery for nurturing and care. Please complete a sign-in sticker for each child.)*

**Anthem: "O Holy Spirit, Lord of Grace"**

Christopher Tye

O Holy Spirit, Lord of grace,	So fill us all with mutual love
Eternal source of love,	And knit our hearts in one,
Inflame we pray, our inmost hearts	and knit our hearts in love, and
With fire from heav'n above.	knit our hearts in one.
As thou dost join with holiest bonds	
The Father and the Son,	

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.

**Scripture Reading**

Numbers 11:24-29, Common English Bible

24 So Moses went out and told the people the Lord's words. He assembled seventy men from the people's elders and placed them around the tent. 25 The Lord descended in a cloud, spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and placed it on the seventy elders. When the spirit rested on them, they prophesied, but only this once. 26 Two men had remained in the camp, one named Eldad and the second named Medad, and the spirit rested on them. They were among those registered, but they hadn't gone out to the tent, so they prophesied in the camp. 27 A young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." 28 Joshua, Nun's son and Moses' assistant since his youth, responded, "My master Moses, stop them!" 29 Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? If only all the Lord's people were prophets with the Lord placing his spirit on them!"

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon:** An Unruly Spirit

Rev. Sarah Wiles

❖ **Hymn 772:** "Live into Hope"

TRURO

Live into hope of captives freed,  
of sight regained, the end of greed.  
The oppressed shall be the first to see  
the year of God's own jubilee!

Live into hope! The blind shall see  
with insight and with clarity,  
removing shades of pride and fear,  
a vision of our God brought near.

Live into hope of liberty,  
the right to speak, the right to be,  
the right to have one's daily bread,  
to hear God's word and thus be fed.

Live into hope of captives freed  
from chains of fear or want or greed.  
God now proclaims our full release  
to faith and hope and joy and peace.

**Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours now and forever.  
Amen.

**Minute for Mission**

Joan Dickinson

**Call to Offering**

**Offertory: "My Eyes for Beauty Pine"**

My eyes for beauty pine,	One splendour hence is shed
My soul for Goddess grace,	for all the stars above:
No other care nor hope is mine,	Tis named when God's name is said,
To heaven I turn my face.	Tis Love 'tis heavenly Love.

And every gentle heart that burns with true desire,  
Is lit from eyes that mirror part of that celestial fire.

-- Robert Bridges

❖ **Doxology**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Christ, all creatures here below;  
praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.**

❖ **Prayer of Dedication**

❖ BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD ❖

❖ **Hymn 291: "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"**

SPIRIT

**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.**

**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 slumbers  
and rise on your wings." (Refrain)**

**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)**

**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)**

**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)**

## ❖Benediction

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.

from PC(USA) Brief Statement of Faith

Postlude: "Clair de Lune"

Claude Debussy



We welcome Dwight Bigler as the accompanist.

Art: Jesus Mafa. Pentecost, from Art in the Christian Tradition, Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

([diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=48388](http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=48388) [retrieved May 23, 2023]. Source: <https://www.librairie-emmanuel.fr/recherche/jesus+mafa+pentecost>).

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

This is a space for everyone. No matter who you are, no matter what your story is, no matter what--you are welcome here. May this be a time where your breathing slows, your heart opens, and you connect with the Holy One. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to explore some of what happens in the life and ministry of this community.

**Serving:** Church Opener: Brent Opell

**Ushers:** Sandy Power, Greg Campbell, Bill Hendricks, Anne Campbell

**Elder Serving Refreshments:** Paula Stith

**Nursery and God's Garden Sign-in Stickers (one per child):** Complete information about each child and parent(s) on the sign-in sticker.

**Headsets for the hard of hearing are available.** Speak to an usher to use them for the worship service.

**You can send prayer requests** for Prayers of the People in Sunday worship and/or to be added to the *MidWeek Update* and website prayer list to Rhonda, ([rhonda@blacksburgpres.org](mailto:rhonda@blacksburgpres.org)).

**Text or QR Code to Give:** To give by text, send keyword **bpcva** and an amount to phone number 77977 (e.g., bpcva 20). If it is your first time, there will be a brief registration process. To give via QR code, use the camera app on your phone and follow instructions. Thank you for your support of BPC's ministry.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Pentecost Special Offering:** The Pentecost Offering supports our ministries with young people: 25% to Young Adult Volunteers, 25% to the Presbyterian Youth Triennium and 10% to children at risk, supporting improved education and safe havens. The remaining 40% is retained by BPC for our local community. The 2023 offering will be used to support the [Chauncey and Lucy Harmon Learning Center](#) at the Calfee Community and Cultural Center in Pulaski County. The Calfee Center's mission is to provide spaces for multi-generational social, educational, and cultural programming to families and individuals in the New River Valley and visitors to our region. The Harmon Learning Center aims to provide both quality early education, which has been shown to improve lifetime academic achievement, and reliable childcare, which will allow parents to seek employment and improve their families' economic status. Our gift, depending upon the amount received, may contribute towards a diverse and inclusive library, sensory and manipulative play stations, musical and art supplies, cots for naptime, or lab tools for the science and discovery center.



**Presbyterian Women Circles, Together in Service:** PW circles, led by Faith Circle, are inviting the congregation to participate in a Together in Service (TIS) mission project for the month of May. They are currently accepting new twin-size bed-in-a-bag contributions (*no individual or used bedding, please*) to be given to [Sleep in Heavenly Peace-NRV](#), an organization that builds and delivers fully furnished beds to children in our area who don't have one. (Bed-in-a-bag sets can be found on Amazon for under \$25.) Donations may be placed in the labelled box in the narthex or in one of the tubs by either coat rack in the church **through the end of May** and will be collected by members of Faith Circle at that time.



**NO KID SLEEPS  
ON THE FLOOR  
IN OUR TOWN!**

## THIS WEEK

**FH**-Fellowship Hall, **HCR**-Hatcher Conference Room,  
**WM**-Westminster, **SNC**-Sanctuary, **GS**-Gathering Space

### **Sun., May 28:** Pentecost Sunday

- 10:30: Worship Service, SNC

### **Mon., May 29:** Memorial Day – church office is closed

### **Tues., May 30:**

- 7:30-9:00 am: Morningstars with Pastor Sarah, Zoom
- 9:30-2:00 pm: Quilters, FH

### **Thur., June 1:**

- 5:00 pm: First Fridays Peace Vigil, downtown post office, 118 N. Main, Bburg
- 5:00-6:00: Thursday Hangout Hour at Rising Silo Brewery (2351 Glade Rd). Contact Melanie and Scott Smith at [melscofam@gmail.com](mailto:melscofam@gmail.com) for details.

### **Sun., June 4:** Communion Sunday

- 10:30: Worship Service, SNC
- After worship: Matthew 25 meeting, HCR

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Tues., June 6:**

- 5:30-6:30 pm: Season of Creation planning meeting, HCR

### **Sun., June 11-Wed., June 14:** Vacation Bible School

- 5:30-8:00 pm: Vacation Bible School, FH & various classrooms. Enjoy dinner and the theme opening together, then rotate to centers in small groups. Kids age 3 through rising 6th graders are invited to participate. Adults and older youth can help with decorating, meals, opening skits, music, as shepherds, and in Bible, games, crafts, and discovery centers. You can help set up or be onsite during the programming - whatever suits your schedule. Contact Susan Hunter at [susanh@blacksburgpres.org](mailto:susanh@blacksburgpres.org) for information.



### **Mon., June 12:**

- 12:00-1:30 pm: Deacons meeting, HCR

### **Thur., June 15:**

- 4:00 pm: Community Ministries, Zoom

### **Sun., June 18:**

- 5:00 pm: Gathering and dinner with Betsey and Eric Moe, our mission partners with CEDEPCA, FH. More details to come!