



May 18, 2025  
After Easter: A Journey to Pentecost  
The Great Commission

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PRELUDE / COUNTDOWN  
WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Kerry Foote

WELCOME OF GUEST

Rev. Kerry Foote

PASSING THE PEACE

OPENING PRAYER / CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

(Inspired by Joel 2: 28-29)

*Liturgist: Then I will pour out my spirit on all flesh, thus says the Lord.*

**Congregation: Send down the fire of your justice!**

*Liturgist: Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,*

**Congregation: Send down the rain of your love!**

*Liturgist: Your old shall dream dreams, and your young shall see visions.*

**Congregation: Send down your Spirit, breathe life in your people!**

*Liturgist: In those days, I will pour out my spirit.*

**Congregation: And we shall be people of God.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

*O For a Thousand Tongues (v. 1-7)*

UMH #57

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Easter Affirmation

Liturgist

Your light is the only light we need as we travel through life's mystery. Word the only voice we hear that still small voice that leads us to the place where we should be. Your presence is the only company we need as we walk this narrow road. Your fellowship the warmth we crave to help us on our way. May the truth of Easter, the joy of Easter, and the blessings of Easter, be with us this day and all days...Amen

\*GLORIA PATRI

UMH #70

OLD TESTAMENT READING Joel 2:28

Liturgist

And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions.

*Liturgist: This is the word of God for the people of God.*

**Congregation: Thanks be to God**

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Rev. Kerry Foote

CHILDREN'S PRAYER

Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus, Your only Son, to die for our sin. We know that He has risen from the dead and has returned to heaven. Bless us today as we worship Him with great joy! In Jesus' name. Amen.

## NEW TESTAMENT READING Acts 1:1-11

Liturgist

The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, <sup>2</sup> until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, <sup>3</sup> to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup> And being assembled together with *them*, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," *He said*, "you have heard from Me; <sup>5</sup> "for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." <sup>6</sup> Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup> And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. <sup>8</sup> "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." <sup>9</sup> Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup> And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, <sup>11</sup> who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This *same* Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."

*Liturgist: This is the word of God for the people of God.*

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

## MISSION MOMENT

Rev. Kerry Foote

## PRESENTATION OF PRAYERS AND PRAISE

Rev. Kerry Foote

*Prayer cards are on the information table. If you have a prayer that you would like to share with the congregation, please fill out the card and pass it toward the center aisle of the congregation as we are singing the Hymn of Preparation. The pastor will collect them during the hymn and pray over cards at the chancel rail.*

## HYMN OF PREPARATION

Freely, Freely (v. 1-2)

UMH #389

## PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor

## SERMON ANTHEM

*Soon and Very Soon*

Choir

## SERMON

Rev. J.D. Amason

Title: After Easter: A Journey to Pentecost

Theme: The Great Commission

Main Idea: The mission of the Church is to spread the Gospel with confidence, knowing that Jesus is with us every step of the way.

RECEIVING OF TITHES AND SACRIFICES (Celebrating Our Gifts)  
OFFERTORY PRAYER

Rev. Kerry Foote

Loving God of both comfort and challenge; we have been blessed to know the feeling of being surrounded in your loving arms like a child. Yet we also know that is not a place we can stay. You send us to be part of the world – with all its ugliness, anger, hate, deceit, and betrayals – but not of the world. You call us to give, so that love, compassion, and hope might be set loose. We are not giving as those who are of the world – expecting to receive in the transaction. We give instead out of gratitude for your loving heart, made known to us in Christ. Use us in this way, we pray in the blessed name of Christ, who by your love overcame death. Amen.

COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

\*DOXOLOGY *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings* UMH #95

\*HYMN OF CELEBRATION *Victory in Jesus* (v. 1-3) UMH #370

\*COMMISION Rev. J.D. Amason

(Based on Acts 1:1-11)

*Go out into the world. and in your words and in your lives bear witness to the Christ who has ascended to be everywhere present. And as you come to know him, may God give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation, may Christ Jesus lift up his hands and bless you, and may the Spirit open to you all the riches of Christ's inheritance. We go in peace to love and serve the Lord...and all of God's children said...Amen.*

**Congregation: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Love and Fellowship* CEL #233

POSTLUDE