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CHAIRES Methodist Church

ROOTED IN THE PAST • GROWING FOR THE FUTURE



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Scan to check out our website.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE / COUNTDOWN
OPENING PRAISE AND WORSHIP *Holy Spirit* See Screens
WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Kerry Foote

WELCOMING OF GUEST Pastor
If you are worshiping with us for the first time today, we are especially glad you are here. You do not have to know all the answers or have everything figured out to belong among us. We hope today you experience the love of Christ and discover that this is a place where you can worship, grow, ask questions, and walk with others in faith.

PASSING THE PEACE
If the Holy Spirit really needed to get your attention, which would work best: a gentle whisper, a flashing billboard, or a holy 2×4?

* CALL WORSHIP Liturgist
Liturgist: God promises, "I will put My Spirit within you."
Congregation: Holy Spirit, make us aware of Your presence.
Liturgist: The Spirit gives courage to the fearful and strength to the weary.
Congregation: Holy Spirit, renew us and empower us.
Liturgist: The Spirit leads us into truth and forms us into the likeness of Christ.
Congregation: Holy Spirit, change our hearts and guide our lives.
Liturgist: Come, let us worship the God who is not distant, but present with us and within us.
Congregation: Come, Holy Spirit. Fill our worship and our lives.

*HYMN OF PRAISE *Come, Thou Almighty King* (v. 1-4) UMH #61

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH An Affirmation of the Holy Spirit Liturgist
We believe in God, Creator of heaven and earth, who gives life and breath to all creation.
We believe in Jesus Christ, God's Son and our Savior, who reveals the heart of God and calls us to follow.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, God's presence with us and within us, who comforts, teaches, guides, convicts, renews, and empowers.
We believe the Spirit is given not only to a chosen few, but to God's people, that we may live faithfully, love courageously, serve generously, and bear witness to Jesus Christ.
Therefore, we open our hearts to the Spirit's presence and pray: Come, Holy Spirit. Make us more like Christ. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI UMH #70

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE Ezekiel 36:25-27 (NKJV) Liturgist
25 Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and
from all your idols. 26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone
out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My
statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do *them.*
Liturgist: This is the word of God for the people of God.
Congregation: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON Pastor
CHILDREN'S PRAYER

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE Acts 2:1-18(NKJV) Liturgist **Coming of the Holy Spirit**

2 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. [2] And suddenly there
came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.
[3] Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and *one* sat upon each of them. [4] And they were all filled
with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

The Crowd's Response

[5] And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. [6] And when this sound
occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own
language. [7] Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak
Galileans? [8] And how *is it that* we hear, each in our own language in which we were born? [9] Parthians and Medes
and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, [10] Phrygia and Pamphylia,
Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, [11] Cretans and
Arabs—we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God." [12] So they were all amazed and
perplexed, saying to one another, "Whatever could this mean?"
[13] Others mocking said, "They are full of new wine."

Peter's Sermon

[14] But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in
Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words. [15] For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is
only the third hour of the day. [16] But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:
[17] 'And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God,
That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh;
Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams.
[18] And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days;
And they shall prophesy.

Liturgist: This is the word of God for the people of God.
Congregation: Thanks be to God.

MISSION MOMENT

PRESENTATION OF PRAYERS AND PRAISE Pastor
Prayer cards are in the chair backs, except the front row. To share a prayer with the congregation, please fill out a card and pass it to the center aisle during the Hymn of Preparation. The pastor will collect and pray over the cards during the service, then share them with the prayer chain for prayer throughout the week.

HYMN OF PREPARATION *Breathe On Me, Breath of God* (vs. 1-4) UMH # 420

PASTORAL PRAYER Pastor

SERMON Pastor
Title: Alpha 101: Who Is the Holy Spirit?
Theme: God With Us and Within Us
Core Question: How does God's Spirit work in me?
Main Idea: The Holy Spirit is not an optional extra for unusually spiritual Christians. The Holy Spirit is God's empowering presence, given to transform us and equip us for Christlike living.

RECEIVING OF TITHES AND SACRIFICES (Celebrating our gifts)

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Holy God, receive these gifts as an expression of our gratitude and trust. Use them for Your purposes and for the blessing of others. Fill us with Your Spirit, and help us generously share our time, talents, resources, and lives in service to Christ. Amen.

PASSING THE PLATE

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

*HYMN OF CELEBRATION *Spirit of the Living God* UMH #393

*COMMISION / BENEDICTION Pastor
Go into this week remembering that you do not walk alone. May the Holy Spirit guide you, strengthen you, and make you more like Christ. Be attentive to God's presence, courageous in following, and open to what the Spirit wants to do in and through you…and all of God's children said… Amen.

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Grace, Love and Fellowship* CEL#233

* Please stand as you are able.

Sermon Notes

ALPHA 101 — WEEK EIGHT

Who Is the Holy Spirit?

Theme: God With Us and Within Us
Core Question: *How does God's Spirit work in me?*
Old Testament: Ezekiel 36:25–27
New Testament: Acts 2:1–18

Main Idea

The Holy Spirit is God's presence with us and within us—guiding, transforming, and equipping ordinary people to live faithfully for Christ.

1. The Holy Spirit Is God's Presence

God does not simply give us instructions from a distance. Through the Holy Spirit, God comes near and works within us.

Key Thought: The Spirit may not need to become more present; we may need to become more attentive.

Notes:

Challenge

Begin each morning this week by praying: **"Holy Spirit, make me aware of Your presence today."**

Then ask: **Where might God already be at work around me?**

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2. The Holy Spirit Transforms Us

The Spirit does more than give us a spiritual feeling. The Spirit works to make us more like Jesus in our attitudes, relationships, words, and actions.

Key Thought: God loves us too much to leave us exactly as we are.

Notes:

Challenge

Ask: **"Holy Spirit, what part of me are You trying to change?"**

One area I want God to work on this week:

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3. The Holy Spirit Equips Us

At Pentecost, ordinary disciples were given courage and power to serve, speak, love, and share the Good News.

Key Thought: We were never supposed to be enough by ourselves.

Notes:

Challenge

Think about one thing you sense God may be asking you to do.

Instead of saying: **"I can't,"**

pray: **"Holy Spirit, equip me for what You are asking me to do."**

My next faithful step:

TAKE IT HOME

Three Prayers for Seven Days

Each morning this week, pray:

1. "Holy Spirit, make me aware of Your presence."

2. "Holy Spirit, change what needs changing in me."

3. "Holy Spirit, equip me to serve Jesus today."

Questions for the Week

Where am I relying too much on my own strength?

What part of my life most needs the Spirit's transforming work?

What is one thing God may be equipping me to do?