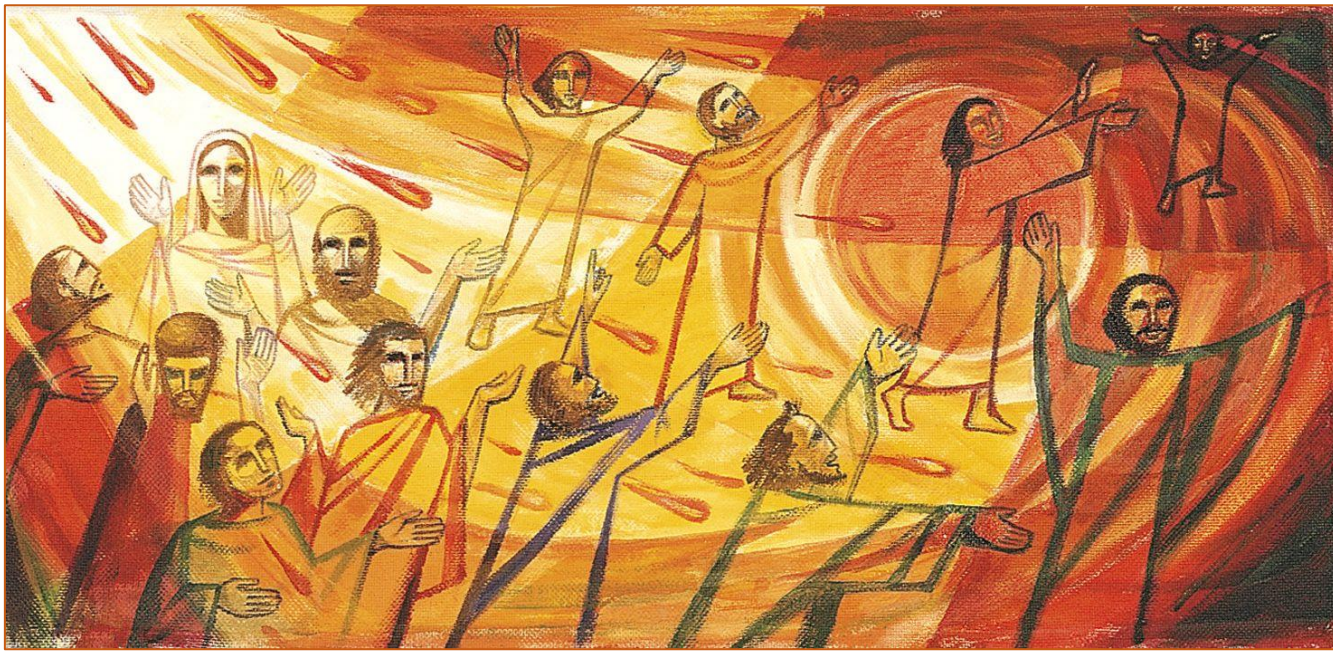

Credit: https://gracefresno.com/sermons/the-event-of-pentecost-acts-21-13/

CENTRAL SAANICH UNITED CHURCH

Worship: Rev. Bob Gilbert
Music Director: Amy Nold
Secretary: Tara Houle

Office Hours: 10 am to 2 pm, Wednesdays & Thursdays
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Central Saanich United Church
Central Saanich United Church Online Worship

Central Saanich United Church
United Church of Canada
Second Sunday after Pentecost
June 11, 2023

WE GATHER

Prelude
Welcome, Celebrations, Announcements
Lighting the Christ Candle *(with actions)*
(by Karen Pryznyk in Gathering, Pentecost 1, 2023, p. 36)

Hymn: **The Universe in God** - George Stuart *(to the tune of VU 399)*

All creation sings a story
Of great splendours to declare.
When we contemplate its beauty
We are called forth into prayer.
We, enchanted, stand in silence;
God discovered everywhere.

When we stumble on new knowledge,
When new insights help us grow,
We are quick to re-discover
Just how much we do not know.
But the Universe smiles gently,
As our theories come and go.

Outer space and inner being
Both have secrets they conceal.
Galaxies so grimly awesome,
Deep emotions that we feel –
All in God are judged as sacred;
It is God they all reveal.

Ageless mysteries still excite us;
Time and space we must explore.
God the 'Presence' and 'Surrounding',
God the ever wondrous ‘

Is not found by science labours,
But in praise when we adore. *(George Stuart)*

Namaste
Facing another person, have your hands in the prayer position, that is, press your thumbs into your sternum and press each finger and palm into its opposite. Spread your fingers apart wide. Make a slight bow of the head saying, "Namaste" meaning, "The divine in me honours the divine in you."

Opening words….
Let there be joy in our coming together this morning.
Let there be compassion heard in the
words we speak, and love in the songs we sing.
Let there be silence for the voice within us and beyond us.
Let there be joy in our coming together as we worship our loving God.
(from "A Gathering Liturgy For the Celebration of Life" by Rex A E Hunt)

We pray….
O Holy One, who brings forth light into our world,
who takes our breath away with the beauties of your creation,
who shares the message of hope through the resurrected Christ,
who moves our hearts with the pulse of the Holy Spirit,
who offers limitless grace to all,
we experience your call and sing your praises. Amen.
(by Barbara Johns, adapted, in Gathering, Pentecost 1, 2023 (Year A), p.41)

Video: from 'Canticles of Ecstasy' by Hildegard von bingen
Vocal: Janet Youngsdahl
Ringing the Tone Bell (*inviting us to Centering Prayer*)

WE LISTEN TO THE WORD

Special Music: "With you, O Lord"
Text: Taize Community
Tune: Jacques Berthier

Scripture: Matthew 5:1-12

Reflection: Jesus, the Wisdom Teacher

Scripture: John 17:20-21
Luke 17:20-21

Reflection: The God Within

Special Music: "In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful"
Words & Music: Jacques Berthier

From the World Around Us: from Revelations of Divine Love
by Julian of Norwich

from The Practice of the Presence of God
by Brother Lawrence

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

Hymn: **O Threefold God** – William Wallace (*to the tune of VU 436)*
O threefold God of tender unity,
Life's great unknown that binds and sets us free:
Felt in our loving, greater than our thought,
You are the mystery found, the mystery sought.

O blaze of radiance, source of light that blinds,
the fiery splendour of prophetic minds,
You live in mystery, yet within us dwell;
Life springs from you as from a living well.

Most loving Parent, Child of joy and pains,
creative Spirit, life-force that sustains,
in bone and flesh, in blood we touch your hand
Your face we see in water, air and land.

In every making, each creative dream,
And in the flow of life's great healing stream,
When love is born or people reconciled,
We share your life, O Parent, Spirit, Child.

Text and Music © William Livingstone Wallace

Offering

Invitation

What Can I Do? **MV 191**

Dedication of the Gifts

We pray…

Hymn: **Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying** **VU 400**

Prayers of the People
The Lord's Prayer

Hymn: **My Song is of Love** - Pam Raff *(to the tune of VU 143)*

My song is of the Love
not known or understood
a mystery that surrounds
us all yet dwells within.
Where e'er we go
what e'er we do
it is through love
that we are free.

We find in those we meet
companions for the way
gender and colour will
no longer bring discord.
Together we
drag barriers down
and strive to help
divisions heal.

Men, women, children all
can build a better place
a place where everyone
can find true harmony.
From birth till death
may our lives show
the mystery
that we call Love.

(Pam Raff, On behalf of the Rockhampton Progressive Group)

Commissioning and Benediction:
If here you have found freedom,
we will take it with us into the world.
If you have found comfort,
we will go and share it with others.
If you have dreamed dreams,
we will help one another, that they may come true.
If you have known love and unity,
we will give some back to a bruised and hurting world.
Now, may the blessings of God: Creator, Christ, and Spirit be upon us.
May the love that we share bring strength and joy to our hearts,
and the peace of this community be with us until we meet again.
By God's grace may it be so.
Amen.
(from "A Gathering Liturgy for the Celebration of Life" by Rex AE Hunt)

Going Forth: **Spirit of Life** **VU 381**
Postlude: Video – Kyrie Eleison (Gregorian Chant)
Artist: WordHarmonic

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Centering Prayer** Friday, June 9 & June 23, 11 a.m.
- **Outreach Committee** Friday, June 16, 2 p.m. (tentative)

Please refer to our website for Upcoming Events in our Community

www.centralsaanichunited.ca

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