

Sermon 讲道信息
June 六月 8, 2025
Acts 使徒行传 2:1-14
Spiritual Lift Off 灵性飞腾

What's your normal Sunday morning routine? Get up. Get dressed. Pray. Have breakfast. Travel to the service. Find a seat in the sanctuary. Routine, isn't it?

周日早上你通常会做什么？起床、更衣、祈祷、吃早餐、前往礼拜堂、找个座位坐下。好像例行公事，难道不是吗？

But what do you expect? If there was a device to measure our level of expectation as we gather, what would it register? High expectation? Low expectation? Do we gather because it's what we do? Do we gather because we know we will meet the living God?

你在期待什么呢？如果有种仪器可以测量我们聚会时的期望水平，它会显示什么呢？期望高？期望低？我们聚集是因为这是我们必须要做的呢？还是，我们聚集是因为知道我们将遇见永活的上帝呢？There's a quote by Annie Dillard, a Christian author, that excites me and troubles me. Referring to a time when people wore more formal clothes to church, she writes: "It is madness to wear ladies' straw hats and velvet hats to church. We should all be wearing crash helmets. Ushers should issue life preservers and signal flares; they should lash us to our pews. For God may draw us out to where we can never return."

基督教作家安妮-迪拉德 (Annie Dillard) 的一句话，让我既兴奋又烦恼。在谈到人们会穿着比较正式的衣服去教堂的时代，她写道：「戴着女装草帽和天鹅绒帽子去教堂是疯狂的。我们都应该戴上防撞头盔；执事应该派发救生衣和信号弹，并应该抽打着我们到座位上。因为上帝可能会把我们引导到再也回不来的地方」。That excites me because I'm reminded that we're in the presence of Almighty God. But the quote troubles me because too often I am complacent, just going through the motions of my Christian life, lacking wonder, amazement, and passion for the Gospel.

这句话让我感到兴奋，因为它提醒我，我们是在全能的上帝面前；但这话也困扰着我，因为我常感到自满，只是在基督徒生活中走走过场，缺乏对福音的惊叹、惊讶和热情。

It troubles me in another way too. As I read the New Testament, especially Acts 2, I see a church that took the world by storm, that lived a life of grace and power, that overflowed with God's presence, that proclaimed Christ unashamedly.

这句话也从另一方面困扰着我。当我读到新约，尤其是使徒行传第 2 章，我看到了风靡世界的教会，她活出的生命充满恩典和能力，洋溢着上帝的同在，毫无羞耻地宣扬基督。

Is that me? Am I as passionate about Jesus as the first Christians? Is Psalm 27:4 on my lips when we gather? "One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple."

那是我吗？我是否像初代教会的基督徒一样对耶稣充满热情？当我们聚集时，我是否可以毫无保留地谈论诗篇 27:4：「有一件事，我曾求耶和华，我仍要寻求，就是一生一世住在耶和华的殿中，瞻仰他的荣美，在他的殿宇里求问。」

Does your heart not beat faster, does your mind run wildly with excitement as we hear these words? If so, today is for you! And if not, today is for you!

听到这话，你是否心跳加速、激动万分？如果是，今天是为你准备的！如果没有，今天也是为你准备的！

Today is Pentecost. Pentecost – the 50th day since Easter. Pentecost – the day God sent his Holy Spirit upon 120 disciples gathered in an upper room in Jerusalem. Pentecost – the day those 120 disciples were launched into the world to declare the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It was a spiritual lift off and 3,000 people believed and were baptized (Acts 2:41). Today, Pentecost, is the day we can call out to God to change us. But how?

今天是圣灵降临日（五旬节）。圣灵降临日是复活日后的第 50 天，是上帝向聚集在耶路撒冷阁楼的 120 名门徒赐予圣灵的日子。圣灵降临日是这 120 名门徒走向世界宣讲耶稣基督福音的日子。彼时灵性飞腾，3000 人相信并接受了浸礼（使徒行传 2:41）。今天是圣灵降临日，是我们呼求上帝改变我们的日子。但如何才能改变呢？

My mother was told that she could never have children. She and my father had tried to have a child for several years. They spoke to medical experts and sought medical advice. But nothing! I think they'd almost given up. And then I came along – a miracle! You are looking at a miracle!

我母亲曾被告知她永远无法生育。她和我父亲花了几年时间，试图要一个孩子。他们向医学专家咨询，寻求建议。但一无所获！我想他们几乎要放弃了。然后，我出现了——奇迹！你们现在看到的是一个奇迹！

In Acts 2, the Holy Spirit brings life to the Church. It's as if we are in the maternity wing of a hospital, witnessing a birth. We are watching God give life to his people, the Church. And each Pentecost, we relive the moment the Church came to be!

使徒行传第 2 章中，圣灵给教会带来了生命。这仿佛是我们置身于医院的产房，见证了生命的诞生。我们看见上帝将生命赐予祂的子民——教会。每逢圣灵降临日，我们就回到教会诞生的那一刻！

What does this mean for us today? The miracle of Pentecost is not that the church couldn't happen and then did, like the miracle of my birth: no, the miracle of Pentecost is far greater.

这对今天的我们意味着什么？五旬节的奇迹并不是说教会不可能出现，但后来却出现了，就像我出生是一个奇迹一样：不，五旬节的奇迹更是大得无比。

In the Old Testament God promised to dwell among his people. The Temple in Jerusalem symbolized God's presence. The Temple was where people met God, where they recognized the holiness of God because they could not enter the Holy of Holies, God's presence.

在旧约，上帝应许要住在祂的子民中间。耶路撒冷的圣殿象征着上帝的同在，圣殿是人朝见上帝的地方，是人识别上帝的圣洁的地方，因为他们无法进入至圣所 – 上帝同在的地方。

But at Pentecost, this changed! God came not merely to dwell among his people, but to dwell in his people! That's the miracle – God comes to dwell in believers.

但在圣灵降临日，这一切都改变了！上帝不仅来到祂的子民中间居住，而是居住在祂子民里面！这就是奇迹——上帝来住在信奉祂的人里面。

I am a miracle child – but look around: each of us who follow Jesus are miracles – saved by grace, faith in Jesus Christ, and born of the Spirit. Now, we are the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 3:16-17).

我是个奇迹孩子，但环顾四周：每一个跟随耶稣的人都是奇迹——得拯救是因为恩典、信靠耶稣基督、由圣灵而生。现在，我们就是圣灵的殿（哥林多前书 3:16-17）。

This changes everything! Remember, the only way we become Christians is through faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We put our faith in what Jesus did on the cross to save us from our sin. The cross and empty tomb are the very core of our belief.

这改变了一切！记住，我们成为基督徒的唯一途径是相信耶稣基督的死和复活。我们相信耶稣在十字架上所成就的，为要把我们从罪中拯救出来，十字架和空坟墓是我们信仰的核心。

If you've not put your trust in Jesus, you are not saved. But if you've confessed your sin, received forgiveness at

the cross, and said, “Yes” to Jesus, then at Pentecost, believers discover what it means to be a Christian. 如果你还没有信靠耶稣，你就未得拯救。但如果你已承认自己的罪，在十字架上得到了宽恕，并对耶稣说“我相信”，那么在圣灵降临日，信徒们发现作为基督徒的意义。

Now, the Spirit begins his work in us to make us more like Christ.

现在，圣灵开始在我们身上工作，使我们更像基督。

My dad and I shared the same hairline. You’d know we’re related at the genetic level. When I was a child, I looked at my dad and I knew my future relationship with shampoo was already defined.

我父亲和我有相同的发际线，你会发现我们在基因层面上是有关系的。当我还是小孩时，我看着我的父亲，就知道未来我和洗发水的关系已经确定了。

Pentecost announces that our genetic code is rewritten. We are part of God’s family and in the power of the Spirit, God’s features – his character – are formed in us (fruit of the Spirit). We are, as Paul says in 2 Corinthians 5:17, “new creations” in Christ.

圣灵降临日宣告我们的基因密码被改写了。我们是上帝家里的一员，并在圣灵的大能下，上帝的特征——祂的特性——在我们身上形成（圣灵的果子）。正如保罗在哥林多后书 5:17 中说，我们在基督里是“新造的人”。

Today is the church’s birthday. It’s a miraculous birth because God takes up residence in his people and transforms them.

今天是教会的生日，是奇迹诞生的日子，因为上帝内住在祂子民中间，并彻底改变了他们。

Second, Pentecost is when the church is given God’s power to live to God’s glory.

其次，圣灵降临日是教会获得上帝的能力，并活出祂荣耀的日子。

I love how the Book of Acts begins. In Acts 1:1-2, Luke says that in his former book – the Gospel of Luke – he wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until he ascended to the Father’s side.

我喜欢《使徒行传》的开头。使徒行传 1:1-2，路加说他之前的书（即《路加福音》），写了耶稣开始所做的一切事并祂的教导，直到祂升天回到天父身边。

Notice Luke says “what Jesus began to do and teach”. In other words, the Book of Acts continues what Jesus began to do and teach.

请注意，”路加说论到耶稣开头一切所行所教训的”换句话说，使徒行传延续了耶稣开始所做的事和教导。

Yet, Jesus has returned to heaven. How can he continue his ministry? Through the church – through the church empowered by Jesus’ very presence – by the Spirit.

然而，耶稣已经升天回到父家，祂当如何继续开展祂的事工呢？显然是通过教会，就是通过因耶稣同住（通过圣灵）而大有能力的教会。

And this is what Pentecost is: God equips the first disciples to share Christ by word and by deed. Pentecost is dynamic empowerment by God.

这就是圣灵降临日：上帝装备了初期门徒，让他们用言语和行为去分享基督。圣灵降临日就是上帝赐下活泼的满有大能的圣灵的日子。

Have you ever been sailing? I remember sailing off the coast of eastern England many years ago. A friend owned a sailboat and invited a few of us to join him for an afternoon. I’ve been on cruise ships and ferries and hovercrafts, but this was the first time in a sailboat. At first, we were motionless. Nothing happened.

你曾有过扬帆出海的经历吗？记得多年前我曾在英格兰东岸航行过。有位朋友拥有一艘帆船，他邀请我们几个人和他一起度过一个下午。我坐过游轮、渡轮和气垫船，但坐帆船还是第一次。起初，我们（在船上）一动不动，什么也没发生。

My friend said, “Wait! Get ready! Hold on!” Suddenly, the sails caught the wind and “whoosh”, we were propelled across the waves faster than I could have imagined. It was fabulous.

我的朋友说：「等等！准备好！紧紧抓住！」刹那间，风帆迎风招展，「嗖」一声，我们在波浪中穿行，速度之快超乎我的想象。那感觉真是太棒了。

But here’s the thing: imagine if we felt we were responsible for getting the boat moving. We could have jumped into the water and pushed the boat along while swimming. We could have started to paddle. We could even have tried blowing into the sails ourselves.

但是：想象一下，如果我们觉得自己有责任让船动起来，我们可以跳进水里，一边游泳一边推着船前进。我们可以开始划桨。我们甚至可以试着自己向船帆吹气。

How stupid these ways would have been! Anyone passing by would say, “Turn your sail into the wind and be ready!” 这是一些多么愚蠢的办法啊！路过的人都会说：「把你的帆对着风，准备就绪！」

Do you try to manufacture your own power for living the Christian life?

你是否试图通过自己的努力去过好一个基督徒的生活？

Maybe you think the only way to live for Jesus is to go through the motions of church: trudge to prayer meetings; put more money in the offering; serve grudgingly in the church? When Sunday morning comes are you already exhausted, frustrated, demoralized, and weary?

也许你认为为耶稣而活的唯一方式是在教堂里走走过场：一场不落地参加祷告会、投入更多金钱奉献、勉强地在教堂里侍奉？而当周日早晨来临时，你是否已经感到精疲力竭、沮丧、士气低落和疲惫不堪？

Now, I know we struggle at times – I know joy in Jesus seems fleeting at times. We’ve all been at that point – and maybe some of us are at that point today.

我知道我们有时会挣扎，也明白在耶稣里的喜乐有时好像稍纵即逝。我们都曾有过这样的经历，也许今天我们中的一些人也正处于这样的光景。

As somebody once joked, “There are days when we’re like the pigeon – free to fly and soar. And there are days when we’re like the statue – where pigeons land and relieve themselves.”

有人曾开玩笑说：“有的时候，我们就像鸽子一样，自由地飞行、翱翔；而有些时候，我们就像雕像一样，成为鸽子着陆和方便的地方。”

Life isn’t easy. But God’s grace and love are there to pick us up, clean us off, and restore God’s joy to us. God promises never to leave us or forsake us.

生活并不容易，但上帝的恩典和爱会把我们抱起来，把我们洗净，恢复上帝给予我们的喜乐。上帝承诺永远不离开我们，也不撇弃我们。

So Pentecost is a call to rediscover God’s grace, love, and power. Don’t try to manufacture your own power for living the Christian life – it doesn’t work!

因此，圣灵降临日呼唤我们重新发现上帝的恩典、爱和大能。不要试图依靠自己的力量去过基督徒的生活，那是行不通的！

Instead, “turn your sail into the wind and be ready!” How? It begins by being honest – honest about our need for God. Then God answers.

相反，「把你的帆对着风，准备就绪！」怎样才能做到呢？首先要诚实，诚实地面对自己对上帝的需要。然后上帝就会回应。

Pentecost is God’s promise to you and me that he’s ready to fill us with his Spirit and speed us along.

圣灵降临日是上帝对你和我的承诺，祂已经准备好用圣灵来充满我们，并一路保守我们，与我们同行。

At the end of this service there is an opportunity to come for prayer. When that time comes, I invite you to come. Whether desperate, unsure, hesitant, longing, eager – come!

崇拜结束时，我们有机会前来祷告。届时，我会邀请你前来。无论是绝望的、不确定的、犹豫的、渴望的、急切的，都来吧！到主面前来祷告！

Pentecost is the birthday of the church – a miraculous birth because God fills us. Pentecost is the revelation of God’s power – power to live for Jesus in his strength.

圣灵降临日是教会的生日——是奇迹诞生的日子，因为上帝必将充满我们。圣灵降临日彰显了上帝的大能——为耶稣而活的能力。

And third, Pentecost reveals the Church’s true identity. 第三，五旬节揭示了教会的真实身份。

Think about it. The first act of the church wasn’t to arrange an order of service, organize a board of governance, purchase a building, set up a mission committee, write worship songs, formulate a budget, employ pastors, have a potluck dinner, or take up an offering. Those came later.

想一想，教会的第一个行动不是安排崇拜程序、组织管理理事会、购买堂址、成立宣教委员会、写敬拜诗歌、制定预算、雇用牧师、举行聚餐或接受奉献。这些都是后话。

The first thing the church did was proclaim the glory of God (Acts 2:11b), and in ways so all could hear (“tongues”, in Acts 2:11b).

教会要做的第一件事就是宣告神的荣耀（使徒行传 2:11b），而且是用所有人都能明白听到的方式（使徒行传 2:11b 中的「乡谈」）。

Just look at Acts 2:14ff: Peter proclaimed Jesus Christ, his death, resurrection, and ascension – the fundamental Gospel, the centre of our faith: Jesus Christ.

请从使徒行传 2:14 看起：彼得宣讲耶稣基督、祂的死、复活和升天，就是基础的福音，耶稣基督是我们信仰的中心。

Whenever we are diverted from this commission; whenever we are focused upon something else; whenever we turn inward and imagine we are doing church “stuff” for the sake of maintaining the institution of the church – then we cease to be the church.

每当我们偏离这一使命；每当我们专注于其它事情；每当我们转向内看并想象着我们在做教会的「事情」，以维持教会这个组织机构；那么我们就不再是有生命的教会了。

There’s a Latin phrase used by theologians to describe this. The phrase is “the missio dei” – the mission of God. Our God is a missionary God. God is always on his mission.

神学家们用一个拉丁短语来描述这一点，这短语就是「上帝的使命」（the missio dei）。我们的上帝是一位使命的上帝，祂总是在履行祂的使命。

Creation was his mission to share his love as Father, Son, and Spirit.

创世是祂的使命，以圣父、圣子和圣灵的身份去分享祂的爱。

Choosing his people Israel in the Old Testament was his mission. Israel was to be a witness to God’s truth and love.

在旧约中，祂的使命就是拣选祂的子民以色列，让以色列去见证上帝的真理和爱。

And most gloriously, God came himself – the Father sent the Son to redeem creation (John 3:16).

最荣耀的是，上帝亲自降临，圣父派遣圣子来救赎受造的世界（约翰福音 3:16）。

And now God continues his mission in us. Remember John 20:21. Jesus says, “As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you.” And Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit upon his disciples.

现在，上帝在我们身上继续祂的使命。请记得约翰福音 20:21，耶稣说：“父怎样差遣了我，我也照样差遣你们。”耶稣吹一口气，将圣灵注入门徒的身上。

As someone once said, “It’s not that the church has a mission, but the mission has a church.” When we live, proclaim, testify to Jesus as Lord, we are the church.

正如有人说的，“不是教会有使命，而是使命有教会”。当我们生活、宣告、见证耶稣为主时我们就是教会。

That’s our call. That’s our identity. That’s why we exist. It’s Pentecost!

这是我们的呼召，是我们的身份；这就是我们存在的原因。这就是圣灵降临日！

Let me finish with a photo that inspires me when I think of Pentecost.

请允许我用一张照片作为结束语，这张照片让我想起圣灵降临日。

It’s a small, stone chapel in mid-Wales. It seats about 60 people. In the early 20th century revival broke out in Wales. 这是威尔斯中部的一座石头小礼拜堂，大约能容纳 60 人。20 世纪初，福音的大复兴就发生在这里。

God’s Spirit touched many lives. So dynamic was the move of God’s Spirit that hardened coal miners, men who had little time for the Gospel, and their families filled this small chapel.

上帝的灵感动了许多人，这感动是如此鲜活又强烈，以至于铁石心肠的煤矿工人、很少有时间听福音的人和他们的家人挤满了这间小小的礼拜堂。

In fact, so many believed in Jesus that every day, not just Sundays, there wasn’t enough room for everyone in the chapel. People crowded outside, some even set up ladders to see through the windows. They were hungry for God.

一时间，信耶稣的人太多了，不光是周日，甚至是每一天，礼拜堂里都人满为患，人们簇拥在教堂外面，有的人甚至架起梯子从窗户往里看。他们渴望上帝。

There are pictures from the time of miners, just finished their shift working underground, faces black with coal, arriving at the church with tears pouring down their cheeks as they discover the love of Jesus. The tears made lines through their blackened faces.

从历史照片中可见，当时有一些矿工们在结束了地底下的工作，满脸炭黑来到教堂，被耶稣的爱触动，眼泪顺着脸颊流下来，泪水在他们黝黑的脸上划出一道道痕迹。

Hearts were changed. Families found wholeness. Joy filled lives.

从此人心被改变，破碎的家庭变得完整，生活充满了欢乐和盼望。

Pentecost! It’s the birthday of the church; it’s the empowerment of the church; it’s the commissioning of the church. 圣灵降临日！是教会的生日；是教会得能力的一天；是教会被委以重任的一天。

What does this mean for us together and individually? Let me go back to where we started. There isn’t a device to measure expectation. There isn’t a way to record a spiritual lift off in our lives.

这对我们集体和个人又意味着什么？让我们回到开始的地方。世上没有衡量期望值的工具，也没有一种方法可以记录我们生命中灵性飞腾的时刻。

Far more wonderfully, Pentecost is God’s offer of a spiritual lift off; God’s invitation to increased expectation. So, how hungry are we for Jesus in our lives?

更奇妙的是，灵性飞腾是圣灵降临日上帝亲自的临在；是上帝亲自邀请我们攀登灵性高峰。那么，回到现实，在日常生活中我们对耶稣有多渴望呢？

“Oh, Lord, that you would rend the heavens and come down,” says Isaiah 64:1. May it be so, Lord. May it be so today! 以赛亚书 64:1 说：「愿你破天而降」。主啊，但愿如此，但愿就在今天！