



"Holy Ground" Mike Moyers.

Christ Church UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. Dan Stark, Pastor
Pam Kothrade, Musician
Liturgist, Randene Wick

www.uccmke.org
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October 17th, 2021

On this Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost, we continue our October-themed sermon series, *Holy Ghost Stories* with an exploration of Jesus' farewell discourse from John's Gospel. What does the Spirit call and compel us to do? How does the Spirit function in Scripture? What can we learn about God and the inclusive love of Jesus from the Holy Spirit's call on our lives? In today's scriptures from Exodus and John, we hear about how God's Spirit abides with us even when we aren't so sure about where God is. What might this mean for us as Christians living in the 21st century?

Prelude

Be Thou My Vision

arr. Mark Hayes

Words of Welcome

Opening Song

Come, Christians, Join To Sing

Hymn #89

Call to Worship

Those who love Jesus keep his words;

Those who love Christ will make their home with God.

Those who know Jesus will know his peace;

Those who know Christ will be taught in the ways of peace.

Come, follow, and love Jesus our Lord, who has come to be among us.

Come, worship God, who lives among us, loves us, and calls us home. Amen.

Opening Prayer

Gracious God, you are far-seeing, far-reaching, far-beyond our wildest imagination. Call us into your vision, to seek what you desire for us, which is to be one with you. In the love of Jesus, may we love one another. In the wisdom of the Spirit, may we serve one another. In your vision, O God, may we dwell with one another in your peace. Amen.

The Gloria

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

Music and Words: Paul M. Vasile

First Lesson

Exodus 3:1-12

The book of Exodus chronicles God's liberation of the Israelites from Egypt. In this passage, Moses experiences God's Spirit in a burning bush.

3 Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. **2** There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. **3** Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." **4** When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." **5** Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." **6** He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. **7** Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, **8** and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. **9** The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. **10** So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites,

out of Egypt.” ¹¹ But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” ¹² He said, “I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.”

Special Music

Be Present Spirit of the Lord

soloist, Sarah Hillert-Gallitz

Second Lesson

John 14:15-31

John 14 is part of what is called a farewell discourse. In this speech to his disciples, Jesus gives some parting words to prepare them for a time when he would no longer be with them.

¹⁵ “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. ¹⁸ “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.” ²² Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, “Lord, how is it that you will reveal yourself to us, and not to the world?” ²³ Jesus answered him, “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. ²⁵ “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe. ³⁰ I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no power over me; ³¹ but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us be on our way.

Sermon

Holy Ghost Stories: The Spirit of Promise

Rev. Dan Stark

Sermon Response

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

Hymn #326

Prayers of the People

Hear Our Prayers, O God...

For health & healing: *God heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.* Ps. 147:3

We pray for:

Molly and Ian B. - Ian continues to navigate his cancer treatment and awaits the results of a test.

Julene F's Brother - He is fighting a breakthrough COVID case.

Betty B's Family – Betty passed away this week at the age of 99. Please pray for her family during this tender time.

Sonia S's Coworker – Her father-in-law is not doing well post-op and now has a breakthrough case of COVID.

Susan and Ken K – Their son-in-law is continuing chemotherapy treatments for cancer.

Pam K – Her friend Deb currently lives alone and is dealing with COPD.

Prayer Song

Spirit of the Living God

Hymn 492 v 1

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

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Call to Offering

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
A-men.

Prayer of Dedication

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

God is with you

And also with you.

Open your hearts.

We open our hearts to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

In joy we give our thanks and praise!

And so, with your people on Earth and all the company of Heaven, we praise your name in this unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are filled with Your glory: Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest!

The Story

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Closing Song

There's a Spirit in the Air

Hymn #133 **Verses 1, 4, 6, 7**

Sending

Go, My children, with My blessing,
Never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you;
You are My own.
In My love's baptismal river
I have made you Mine forever.
Go, My children, with My blessing—
You are My own.

Postlude

Because He Lives

arr. Fred Bock

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Divine Intervention Volunteers Needed

Please help fill up the Friday dates as building reps for DI-SOS. It's a mere 1½ hour time commitment.

Set up approx. 4:45 pm

Tear down 6:00 pm

Finish 6:15 pm

I am always willing to train anyone wishing to participate in this ministry. You will be amazed at seeing 45 hot meals distributed in about 15 minutes each Friday evening! The pandemic is waning, but the effects still linger in the Bay View community.

~ Jim Wick jameswick73@gmail.com , 414-614-2612

Membership Classes

October 17th & October 31st following worship

Book Club

Sunday, October 24th, 2021 @ 11:00am in the Fellowship Hall

Topic: *Cutting For Stone* by Abraham Verghese

Crochet Class

Crochet group is up and running again. We meet the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month (October 9th & 23rd, 10am to 12pm. Anyone interested in joining or learning how is more than welcomed to come on down. The time is from 10am until 12pm, with all the coffee you can drink. It doesn't matter what your age is, anyone can learn. See Ken Klockow for more information. ~Ken Klockow

Confirmation Class

This year's Confirmation class will begin October 24th in the Pine Room outside the fellowship hall. Email Pastor Dan at pastor@uccmke.org for more info.

If you should need to contact Pastor Stark, please email pastor@uccmke.org.

You can make your offering to Christ Church at www.uccmke.org/donate or by mailing a check to Christ Church, 915 East Oklahoma Ave, Milwaukee, WI, 53207

