

We gather in the Social Hall around the fire

Leader: The Spirit is given that the people of God might come alive.

People: Thanks be to God!

Leader: The Spirit is given that the people of God may be renewed.

People: Thanks be to God!

Leader: The Spirit of God is given that the people of God may be transformed into those who are the glory of God.

People: Thanks be to God!

Procession: **Breathe on us Holy Spirit, Breathe in us Breath of God, to do justice and love mercy and walk humbly with Our God**

Scripture Reading: Acts 2:1-13

Opening prayer: (From Mechtild of Magdeburg 1207-1297) (said two times)

And God said to the soul: I desired you before the world began. I desire you now as you desire me, and where the desires of two come together, there love is perfected

*Song #2117 (small blue) Spirit of God

Prayer for reflection:

Reflecting on the Journey of the Great 100 Days- From Transfiguration Sunday to Pentecost

Claiming the Transformation towards Maturity in Spirit- What was new insight, what was a new connection with the Holy, where did you notice a subtle and/or powerful shift within your inner life?

Sung Response: **I will show you hidden things, hidden things you have not known**

Welcome and announcements

Sung Prayer: **Holy Spirit come to us, kindle in us the fire of Your love,
Holy Spirit come to us, Holy Spirit come to us.**

Scripture Reading: John 14: 25-31

Sermon: Blessed in order that we might live it

Prayer Response:

We pray... **for the gift of wisdom which helps us to see clearly and know beyond ourselves.**

We pray... **for the gift of understanding which helps us to know You and one another and listen past our differences.**

We pray... **for the gift of right judgment which helps us make decisions in accordance with Your will.**

We pray... **for the gift of courage which gives us strength and alleviates our fear.**

We pray... **for the gift of discernment which helps us know your voice and calling in our lives.**

Prayers of the Community: Whether you are on-line or in person please feel free to speak your prayers aloud. Alternatively, you may text your prayer requests to Erik's phone at 408-916-8808. Prayers of the community and Lord's Prayer (an interpretation from our recent class)

*Hymn of sending out #391 (Big Blue) Spirit

Closing Blessing-(The Rev. Mychal Judge O.F.M.):

**Take me where You want me to go,
Let me meet who You want me to meet
Tell me what You want me to say,
and keep me out of Your way. Amen**

Charge and Benediction: We invite you to turn on your video feeds if you are joining us by zoom so that you can see those who are joined with you in the community.

Please join us in the Social Hall for refreshments that the Deacons have graciously prepared for us.

Those Who Bear the Good News

Pastor: Rev. Erik Swanson

Elders: River Brown, Patty McIntyre, Raina Parks, Gary Ruschke, Beth Wylie

Deacons: Mary Campbell, Pat Hudson, Yi Jiang, Lindarae Polaha, Terry Walsh

Deacons in Spirit: Marjorie Pearson, Nan Swanson, Reenie McCaffrey

Music Director: Raina Parks

Vocalist: Ann Burris

Accompanist: Martan Mann

Ministers: All the members of the congregation

+Your Prayers Are Requested+

For the Deacons and Elders as they minister to the congregation

In the larger community we pray for... peace in Sudan and Ukraine, a ceasefire for Palestinian and Israel, for those victims of natural disasters, those who are unhoused as the weather is cold and wet, for unity and accountability in our country, justice for the Muwekma and other indigenous tribes, for an end to white supremacy, for refugees around the world, for the victims of hateful behavior

Health and Recovery of health from surgery, illness, injury or just difficulty in their lives ... Patti Tonello, Ann B., Jim Hempler, Marjorie and Kris and their cat, Shoshana, Karen R. Colleen, Pat H. and Hatcher as they move, Tina, Clark. There is a prayer chain and if needed please contact Clark: clarksapoet@gmail.com.

Contemplative Center and their Board: Melinda Athey, Jim Petersen, Kent Smith, Sharon Wada, Beth Wiley, Brooke Wang, Eleanor Whitney

Grace Flier will be in the office on Mondays and Thursdays from 10 am - 2 pm. Rev. Erik is usually in the office Mon-Thurs from 10-4p. He can be reached on his cell at 408-916-8808.

Westhope Presbyterian Church
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Service of Prayer and Presence
May 19, 2024

All are welcome here!



The future is an infinite succession of presents, and to live now as we think human beings should live, in defiance of all that is bad around us, is itself a marvelous victory.

HOWARD ZINN

**A Support Group for Women Survivors of Sexual Abuse
is now forming at Westhope.**

The Group will meet on Tuesdays from 7 to 8:30 pm in the Session Room and the start date is TBD. Many women who have been sexually abused feel very alone in their struggle to heal from this trauma. Participating in a support group can be a good way to end that isolation. This group is designed to help in the healing process, and to be safe and confidential. For more information and registration contact Marjorie Pearson at 831 295-2423 or Patty McIntyre on email at patty@pattvamcintyre.com. All women are welcome and there is no fee for the group. If you know someone who has been abused sexually, please pass this information onto them. Thank you..

Do you contribute to Westhope using PayPal? If your bank offers Zelle for sending and receiving money, we encourage you to switch to Zelle. It will save on PayPal fees and make our bookkeeper's job easier. To donate to Westhope, use westhopepres@gmail.com as the recipient. You can also create a recurring donation with Zelle. Contact Gary Lee if you need assistance.

Upcoming event dates

Date	Event (classes after church all begin at 11:45 and are hybrid)
May 19 th	Session
May 26 th	PACT presentation
June 2 nd	Conversation with Foundations of Faith
June 9 th	Part 2 of Brian McLaren's book Faith after Doubt led by Pam Nomura
June 16 th	Father's Day- no class
June 23 rd	Session
June 30 th	Spiritual Stew- open conversation about Spiritual stuff led by Rev. Erik



Westhope Presbyterian Church
Seeking spiritual growth in community

WELCOME TO WESTHOPE! Happy Pentecost Sunday to you and your family! We are glad that you have joined us for worship today and pray that you are touched by the Holy and the warmth of this community of faith. If you are a visitor with us today, a special welcome to you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Social Justice is also looking for someone interested in being a representative from Westhope to PACT who is organizing to take on housing issues and homelessness. If you might be interested please let Erik know

Women's Appetizer Night!!

Before the pandemic, the women used to meet for dinner once every 2-3 months. Then we decided that appetizers were easier. We have some awesome women at Westhope and we want to help you connect with the community. We will meet at Colleen Petersen's house: 13401 Sterling Oak Ct., Saratoga. Please RSVP to Colleen by May 20 via email: colleenpetersen26@gmail.com.

There is a **meet-up group forming on May 23 at 7p** as a safe space to have conversation regarding spiritual issues. It is meant for religious and non-religious folks to have a safe space to chat about what we are thinking. Please contact Eric Ditmar if you are interested.

Our Session (leadership) is meeting today at 11:30a. Please hold them in prayer as they continue to discern the direction of the congregation.

Calling all gardeners! On Thursday mornings starting at 9am Pam Nomura is inviting folks who like to work in the garden to join her for tending the flowers and sharing fellowship in our beautiful gardens. Please contact Pam for details.