

## Pastor's Message--JUNE 2018

By the time you read this pastor's page, the church will have already celebrated Pentecost – the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Advocate given to us upon Jesus' return to sit with our Father in heaven. Jesus wanted to make sure that the disciples as well as we, understood that He was not leaving us alone. Jesus wanted us to know that the Holy Spirit would be with us to lead and guide us as we travel through life on this earth.



Where do you see the Holy Spirit? Jesus said the Spirit would be with us in *all* that we do. At times we find ourselves in unpleasant situations and we tend to ask God where are you and what are you trying to teach me here? Well, I'm here to tell you that seeing or sensing the presence of the Holy Spirit was difficult when I was scrubbing my dog 4 times after she was sprayed by a skunk. I also ask where the presence of the Holy Spirit was when I hit deer number 6 with my car a few weeks ago. These are two minor examples of difficult or unpleasant situations. Many of us have gone through more serious and even devastating situations where we ask where are you God? Where are you Jesus? Where are you Holy Spirit? How do I see you in this event?

Of course, this is where our faith comes into play. Regardless of how unpleasant, draining, or serious a situation is the Holy Spirit is with us whether we see it or not. Through our faith in the presence of the Holy Spirit being with us we draw strength, strength in many cases that we didn't even know that we had. In finding that strength we realize that Jesus wasn't wasting His breath when he said that he wasn't leaving us alone.

Those of you who were in worship on Pentecost Sunday are probably thinking that Pastor Lynn is repeating some of her sermon from that day in this writing. Well, you are right. I once had a psychology professor who told the class that if we heard him repeat something, it was important and would probably be on a test. Well folks, this is one of the most important things for you to know. The Holy Spirit is with us always. Not just in church, not just in our prayer time, not just in Bible Study but always, everywhere and through all situations. The Holy Spirit is with us and will give us wisdom and strength even when the chore is to make a stinky situation smell better.

Let us pray: Holy Breath, Holy Spirit, you who moves so lightly on wave and wind, you who can be as mighty as a hurricane, as strong as a tornado, as quiet as breath, draw near. Give us light. Give us hope. Give us spirit. Let us be strong and tender simultaneously, even as you are. Let us be fierce in defending the gospel and humble in our understanding of its completeness. Let us join your disciples in awe and wonder and let us become the kind of people they were – real, awed, full and capable, despite weakness, of great witness. When we lose our way, guide us. When we are winded, invigorate us. When we go too far on too little, befriend us. Never let us be far from our source in you. Amen.

In Christ's service,

Pastor Lynn

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