*Use the following worship guide as we gather on Sunday morning via Zoom. Simply click here:*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2398495210>

\*\* Announcements are at the end of this order of worship. \*\*

The Service of Worship

**First and St. Stephen’s United Church of Christ**

**Baltimore, Maryland**

**Pentecost Sunday - Year C**

June 8, 2025 10:30 a.m.

A bird with flames in the shape of a egg

Description automatically generated

Prelude   *The Power Of The Spirit* Nancy Flandermyer Chronister,

Lani Smith Director of Music

Welcome The Rev. Dr. Kelly M. Sisson, Pastor

Greetings from our new Associate Conference Minister The Rev. Holly Jackson

Hymn for Praise NCH #28    *For The Beauty of the Earth*    DIX

*~ as you are able, please stand ~*

Calling the Wind (congregation reads **bold print**)

Is this the wind that is the beginning moved across the deeps?

**Yes, this is the gust that parted oceans, land, and sky.**

Is this the wind that God breathed into our nostrils?

**Yes, this is the breath that filled our lungs at birth.**

Is this the wind that drove apart the waters of the sea?

**Yes, this is the gale that made the Hebrews free.**

Is this the wind Ezekiel called to make the dry bones dance?

**Yes, this is the breeze that rattled them to life.**

Is this the wind that blows away the cobwebs of the soul?

**Yes, this is the gust that carries away our fears and makes us soar with grace.**

Hymn for Pentecost NCH #285   *O Holy Dove of God Descending*    O HOLY DOVE

*~ please remain seated ~*

Calling the Fire

Is this the fire that Moses saw?

**Yes, this is the flame that burned in the bush and called slaves to freedom.**

Is this the fire that led by night across the desert wastes?

**Yes, this is the flame that showed the way to the promised land.**

Is this the fire that burned in Jeremiah’s bones?

**Yes, this is the flame that made the prophet rage with justice.**

Is this the fire Isaiah saw that blazed with holiness?

**Yes, this is the flame that cleansed his lips and sent him to the people.**

Is this the fire that shines within our own deep hearts?

**Yes, this is the flame that burns within us with faith and hope and love.**

Hymn for Spirit MV #121    *We Are All One*    (see insert)

By Tom Rasely

*~ please remain seated ~*

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

*Remember these known joys and concerns:*

- Renard Noble – preparing for surgery on 06/25

- Laura Weaver-Haas’ mother

- Bryce – after a kidney transplant

- McKenzie Shaw – living with chronic pain

- Corrie Bates and her family

- Jen’s friend, Andrew and his family

- First and St. Stephen’s as we enter business session

- Peace in our world, our country, our community

*If you share a concern and wish for it to be printed on this list, please consult with the person/s whose*

*names are involved, then let the pastor know in writing via email they give their consent.*

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn for PRIDE *The Light Comes As A Rainbow*   (see insert)

Amanda Udis-Kessler

*~ as you are able, please stand ~*

The Story of Pentecost *Acts 2:1-21*  Liturgist

The Anthem *Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God* Choir

Words and Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

Setting by Lloyd Larson

The Message Rev. Sisson

Making an Offering

Please consider making an offering through on-line giving or mail your check to the church address. You can find information on our church web page: [**first-ststephens.org**](http://first-ststephens.org/) You may also place your offering in the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary. Or, you may use the QR Code in this bulletin. Thank you.

Dedicating our Offerings (congregation reads **bold print**)

**Somewhere, a child huddles in fear. May our gifts set them free. Somewhere, a family sleeps on the streets. May our gifts provide them with shelter. Somewhere, a lonely person longs to hear a voice of hope. May our gifts speak to them in whatever their native tongue. In Jesus’ name, we pray and respond. Amen.**

Hymn for Sending NCH #288  *Let It Breathe On Me*    BREATHE ON ME

*~ as you are able, please stand ~*

Benediction

Postlude

**+ + + + +**

**Worship Resources for today are adapted from:**

Thomas H. Troeger, *Creating Fresh Images*

Thom Shuman, PCUSA

Richard Einerson, UCC

**Welcome!** We are glad you are here. If you are visiting with us, please fill out a visitor’s card from the back of one of the chairs and place it in the offering plate or hand it to the pastor after the service. Please join us for coffee after the service in the Gathering Room behind the sanctuary.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Church-wide Business Meeting –** Today immediately after Coffee Hour we will go into business session. All are welcomed. Every person in attendance who is a member in good standing will have one vote. No one may vote on behalf of a family member who is not present. Since zoom access is available, there is no need for absentee ballots.

**ACTC** is asking for any non-perishable food items. For June, please bring **mac and cheese boxes, pastas, and bottled water.** Place items in the red wagon in the foyer so they may be delivered weekly.

**PRIDE Parade –** We will be marching in the Baltimore PRIDE parade next Sat., June 14th. Details to follow. Please bring hard candies and beads to be able to throw to those on the sidelines.

**Save your Bubble Wrap** – If you receive packages at home that are wrapped in bubble wrap, please bring the bubble wrap to the box in the foyer and it will be repurposed by Zach Langdon-Kennedy, our artist-in-residence.

**Coffee Hours -** Today – Carol Berman

June 15th - Nancy Chronister

June 22nd - Amanda Ajulu

June 29th - Stephanie and Becca Dimick

**PRIDE Sunday – June 22 –** We will be led in worship by the exhibiting artist, **Dr. Vincent Stringer**. A “Meet the Artist” Reception will follow from noon until 2p.m. If you can help with the reception, please see the pastor.

**Church Office (410) 377-5224 WiFi Password: ONAcomma**

**Church Staff**

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**Consistory for 2025**

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