



Shared by Sharon

May 26, 2020



Pentecost

John 14:15-19

Sunday is Pentecost. It is the one religious holiday that gets very little attention, yet it has always been one of my favorites. It is a celebration of the coming of the Holy Spirit.

When my husband and I were spending a summer in Italy, we found out that Pentecost is a really big deal there. The courtyard surrounding the cathedral in the little village where we were staying was lined with bright red Ferraris...some antique and some brand new. There was a band that paraded to the cathedral as the Cardinal and priest made their way to the church for worship. There were a number of children all dressed in white for their confirmation service. We attended the service and thoroughly enjoyed the pageantry even though we spoke no Italian and didn't understand a word that was said. Following the service, the congregation and the band processed out to the courtyard and everyone waited. Finally, the Cardinal and priest came out, crossed the courtyard and made their way inside a house opposite the cathedral. We expected everyone to leave, but not so fast. The window on the second floor of the house opened and there stood the Cardinal. Soon, we heard firecrackers as a stuffed bird made its way above our heads along a wire strung from the cathedral over to where the Cardinal was standing. He retrieved a message from the bird and read it to the congregation and there were shouts of joy and dancing and the band played and it was obviously a great celebration.

Now, I have no idea what the message said, but my guess is that it was the announcement that the Holy Spirit had arrived in their midst and was blessing each one of us gathered there.

That celebration of Pentecost has remained with me. It makes our celebrations rather tame in comparison.

I promise you this Sunday will be a special Sunday. We are going to ask that you prepare your communion elements so you can take communion

with us. I know, it's not the first Sunday of the month...remember Jesus didn't say we were to take communion on the first Sunday of the month, he said that whenever we took the cup and bread we were to do it in remembrance of him. So, we will remember that as he departed from this earth, he sent the Holy Spirit to be with us. Saying goodbye to his devoted followers was not easy.

In this section of the book of John, Jesus speaks of his love for his followers and tells them that when he is gone he will send the Holy Spirit to teach them and to comfort them.

Red is the color of Pentecost. I invite you to place a red cloth, a towel, or something red on the table with your communion elements. If you have a candle, please also light it and place it on the table near your elements to signify the presence of God in your midst.

I will look forward to sharing in this celebration of Pentecost and in partaking of Holy Communion with you this Sunday.

Sharon

See you Sunday on the Web...phumc.net or on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/phumc)



Make sure to read an advanced copy of this Sunday's bulletin. Inside you will find articles about plans for reopening, update on VBS update on camp, update on mission trips, and more!!

[Sunday Bulletin](#)

Sunday bulletins are always available on the phumc.net webpage via the news and media tab on the top.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Maintaining Mental Health During COVID 19

These past several weeks have been challenging for so many of us on all levels – physically, mentally, spiritually, financially, and relationally. We have all been trying to adjust to new ways of being which creates stress, anxiety, and depression. As we learn to navigate these new challenges, it is helpful to have the right tools. Rev. Cathy Hart, LMFT and Amanda Hawkins, LMHC are licensed counselors and they would like to invite you to a ZOOM webinar on Wednesday,

We will be discussing how the pandemic has impacted our mental health and ways that we can stay fit mentally and emotionally. Please join by clicking the link below:

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87846186717?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87846186717?pwd=RE5BS2hoL29BbDlsaGdDaExxZDRmZz09)
[pwd=RE5BS2hoL29BbDlsaGdDaExxZDRmZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87846186717?pwd=RE5BS2hoL29BbDlsaGdDaExxZDRmZz09)

May 27, 2020 at 12:30p.m.

Palm Harbor United Methodist Church
1551 Belcher Road, Palm Harbor, FL 34683
www.phumc.net

HISkidz Children's Ministry on Facebook-
<https://phumc.net/church-announcements/760-hiskidz-children-ministry-goes-online>

Youth Ministry- Soldiers For Christ
<https://www.facebook.com/278652408830/posts/10157271371088831/?d=n>

Make sure to like Palm Harbor United Methodist Church on Facebook. We will be posting all kinds of important information there.

