

World Missions Sunday
Pentecost – June 9, 2019
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Call to Worship (responsive)

From the North, from the South, from the East, and from the West, God's people shall be gathered together as one,

To praise and worship the Triune God, who descended upon our ancestors as the Holy Spirit,

When, recognizing the diversity, claimed and called all who believed, to be one in Jesus Christ.

May the remembrance and celebration of those first believers be a roaring flame among us so that our faith may glow as brightly in this world.

Prayer

Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, we praise you in our native tongues and recognize our heritage in you. Even though each of us have different qualities and attributes, we know we are made in your image. Teach us, O God, patience and breathe into us the Spirit of love and acceptance for our brothers and sisters in Christ so we might become united as one body in you.

Call to Confession

Although we are to be one body, we are a body that is broken and in need of repair. Our world is smoldering with injustice, hatred and inequality. Let us confess our brokenness.

Prayer of Confession

Healing God, we have become consumed by the fire of worldliness instead of Godliness. We have been quick to use our tongues like fire lashing out upon innocence. Our hearts have been aflame for the wrong reasons. Our eyes fail to see the dissension among others. Heal us, Mighty God. We ask that the flames of your Spirit harvest a heart of love, eyes full of concern, hands equipped with kindness and feet bound to do good deeds among others. In Christ's name, Amen.

Words of Assurance

Friends, in our very own brokenness, there is good news for all. We, too, can claim the words of Isaiah, "The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners (Isaiah 61:1)." Amen.

Prayer of Illumination

As we dwell for a moment in your Word, help us to become engulfed in the scriptures so that we, too, may experience that moment at Pentecost when all could understand and hear your voice among those who preached. Transform our lives through your Word just as you did on that day.

Suggested Scripture Texts

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Ezekiel 37:1-14

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Acts 2:1-21

Romans 8:22-27

Responsive Reading: “Let all the Nations Gather Together and Pray”

The Cumberland Presbyterian Church consists of 685 organized churches and dozens of missions. Those churches and missions are located in 15 different countries.

How do we pray for the nations that gather as the family of Cumberland Presbyterian churches giving witness to Christ?

We pray for the six Korean speaking churches and missions in Australia, that they would be effective in their outreach to non-believers.

How do we pray?

We pray for the new missionaries to adjust to Brazil and that they find success in understanding their new language and culture.

How do we pray?

We pray to God for our presence in Cambodia and Laos. We pray for the Missionaries and our churches to be creative in reaching out to others.

How do we pray?

We pray for our new ministry in Spain and France and for wisdom and strength for the new leaders. We pray for continued expansion in Europe.

How do we pray?

We pray for the council of churches in the Philippines that would have unity and shared vision. We pray for the missionaries and the success of their ministry.

How do we pray?

We pray for the churches and presbyteries in the USA, that God will lead and guide them to effective ministry with new and innovative methods of evangelism and church planting.

How do we pray?

We pray for our missionaries and churches in Colombia. We pray for wisdom to be effective in ministry and continued growth in Colombia.

How do we pray?

We pray for the council of churches in Haiti. We pray for the six newly ordained CP pastors and their churches as they face many challenges in their ministry.

How do we pray?

We pray for the presbytery in Hong Kong. We pray for the two new church development projects, the candidates and licentiates. May doors open to share the gospel of Jesus Christ.

How do we pray?

We pray for the presbytery in Japan that they can overcome the challenges of indifference to the Gospel. We pray for our leaders to have strength to lead outreach in their part of the world.

How do we pray?

We pray for the council of churches in Mexico that are educating new probationers. We pray for the new church development in Mexico City.

How do we pray?

We pray for the council of churches in South Korea. We pray you would give the pastors wisdom and assurance that their God is faithful able to overcome all obstacles.

How do we pray?

We pray for missionaries, the council of churches and for more leaders in Guatemala. We pray for the hot lunch program and the clinic that serves children.

How do we pray?

We pray God gives wisdom to those who are working with the provisional Cuban pastors and congregations. We pray for a country that has been antagonistic to the Church.

How do we pray?

That the Cumberland Presbyterian Church continue to grow spiritually and numerically throughout the world. Amen!

Offertory Sentences

We have seen. We have heard. We have received blessings through your goodness. Help us to continue to spread your Word, your love, your grace and your blessings to those near and far throughout the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and beyond. Help us to sustain your mission fields and to “go and make disciples of all nations.”

Prayer of Thanksgiving

You alone shall be praised, God. You alone can take our gifts and multiply them to feed thousands. So, it will be, you alone, who will be given thanks for these gifts. May they be set aside to be used to by those who have followed the calling to share the good news among the oppressed, the broken hearted, the captive and the imprisoned. Amen.

Benediction

You have heard Good News today. What will you do with that Good News? Go from here, full of the Spirit, to places unknown. Go from here, full of the Spirit, to people unknown. Go from here, full of the Spirit, to experiences unknown. Go from here to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Amen.