

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Benton Harbor



Filled with the Spirit

Mark 13:9-13 + Acts 2:1-13

Standing Tall on Morton Hill for over 130 Years

May 24, 2026 • The Day of Pentecost

We Are Welcomed

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Prelude + Setting the Table for Worship

We Are Gathered

The Call to Worship

Come to Jesus, you who are thirsty.

Alleluia!

Drink deeply of the Holy Spirit.

Alleluia!

Let your heart overflow with the living water
that renews the face of the earth.

Alleluia! Thanks be to God.

Song of Praise *Please stand as you are able, in body or in spirit*

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise *Glory to God #12*

[see next page]

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of new creation,

we confess that we have failed to trust your bountiful goodness.

By the power of the Holy Spirit

you brought forth the earth and its creatures in abundance.

Yet, we hoard earth's resources and refuse to share your gifts.

We dishonor your generosity by withholding our charity to those in need.

We betray your kindness by dealing harshly with our enemies.

We disregard your compassion by severely judging the sins of others.

Forgive us.

By the power of your Spirit renew our hearts and free us from sins

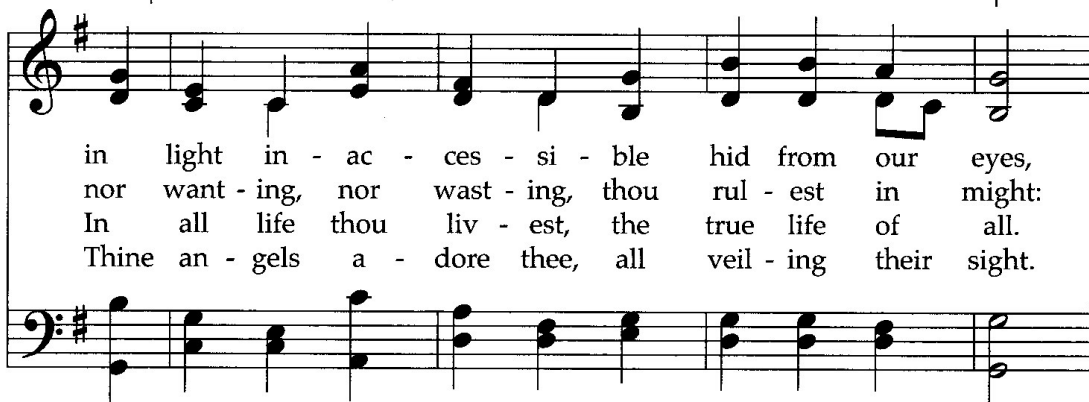
that we may enjoy the fullness of your

blessing upon all creation. Amen.

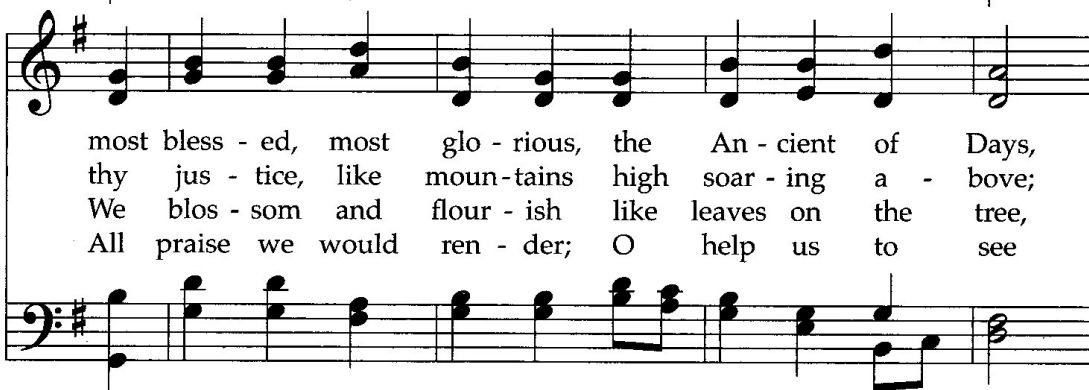
Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 12



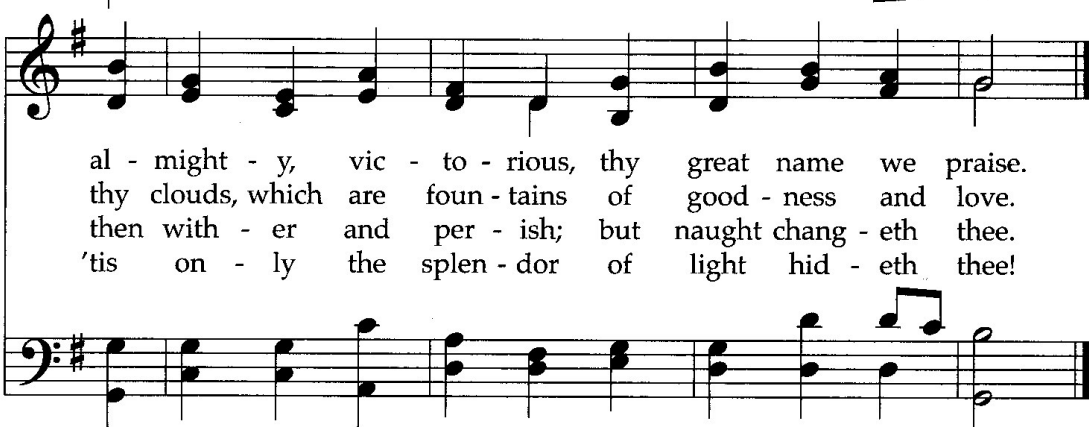
1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:
In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.
Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;
We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Song of Gratitude

“Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me” *Glory to God #582*

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, amen.

Passing of the Peace

As Christ has forgiven us and received us into peace, let us now forgive one another and receive one another into our peace. There are many ways to share signs of peace with one another while minimizing physical contact: We can wave and smile; we can give the ‘peace’ sign; or we can bring our hands together in the center of our chests and bow slightly toward one another saying, “Peace be with you.” Whichever way you choose to share, do so with respect and love for your neighbors! Let us share signs of peace.

The Choir of First Presbyterian Church of Benton Harbor

“Cornerstone”

We Hear God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Mark 13:9-13

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

Jesus said, “As for yourselves, beware, for they will hand you over to councils, and you will be beaten in synagogues, and you will stand before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them. And the good news must first be proclaimed to all nations. When they bring you to trial and hand you over, do not worry beforehand about what you are to say, but say whatever is given you at that time, for it is not you who speak but the Holy Spirit. Sibling will betray sibling to death and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.”

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God!

Scripture Reading

Acts 2:1-13

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

Holy wisdom, holy word

Thanks be to God!

A Time for Young People

Young people of any age are invited to the chancel to hear a special message. Children are welcomed and encouraged to remain in worship following the message. They may remain at the prayerground at the front of the sanctuary or they may return to their adults. Children under 5 years old may go to the nursery with our childcare provider.

Song of Preparation

Spirit of the Living God

Songs of Zion #226

[see next page]

Proclamation of the Word

Filled with the Spirit

Rev. Sheth LaRue

Moment of Meditation

Spirit of the Living God

226

D. I.

Daniel Iverson, 1890-1977

Prayerfully

Spir - it of the Liv - ing God, Fall fresh on me, Spir - it of the
Liv - ing God, Fall fresh on me. Melt me, mold me, Fill me,
use me. Spir - it of the Liv - ing God, Fall fresh on me.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The first system begins with the tempo marking 'Prayerfully'. The lyrics are: 'Spir - it of the Liv - ing God, Fall fresh on me, Spir - it of the'. The second system continues with: 'Liv - ing God, Fall fresh on me. Melt me, mold me, Fill me,'. The third system concludes with: 'use me. Spir - it of the Liv - ing God, Fall fresh on me.' The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

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We Respond to God's Word

The Offertory

As those who have been claimed and set free by Christ's grace, we respond with gratitude, offering him our lives, our spiritual gifts, and our material goods. The gifts we offer express our stewardship of creation, demonstrate our care for one another, support the ministries of the church, and provide for the needs of the poor. Offerings may be placed into any one of the plates in the sanctuary. At this time children may use one of the baskets found on the front pew to collect quarters for our quarter tube offerings, collected for specific missions and ministries of this church.

Quarter Donations Recipient: The OutCenter of Southwest Michigan

Doxology + The Prayer of Dedication *Please stand as you are able, in body or in spirit*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise Christ all creatures here below

Praise Holy Spirit evermore

Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

Joys + Concerns

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Song of Trust

Amen *Glory to God #600*

Announcements

We Are Sent by God

Song of Sending *Please stand as you are able, in body or in spirit*

We Will Go Out with Joy *Glory to God #539*

[see next page]

Charge + Benediction

We Will Go Out with Joy

Leader

1 We will go out with joy in the Spir-it; we will go out with God.
 2 Now an - y - one who's born of the Spir-it, sing a new song of joy.
 3 We will go out with joy in the Spir-it; we will go out with God.

All

We will go out with joy in the Spir-it; we will go out with God.
 Now an - y - one who's born of the Spir-it, sing a new song of joy.
 We will go out with joy in the Spir-it; we will go out with God.

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia! We will go out with joy.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Postlude

Prayers for the Week

What prophetic word for the community has God given to you? In what ways do you struggle with conflicts between your way of life and the prophetic word God would have you proclaim to others? How are the acts of God manifest in your life and witness?

*Spirit of God, source of life:
refresh my spirit, reshape my desire, and re-create my heart,
that I may show forth your enduring glory;
through Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Announcements

- **The book club** is reading *The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver this month. We've discussed the first half of the book and are plowing ahead through the remainder of the book. Anyone is more than welcome to join us in our discussion in June. If you have questions or would like a copy of the book for book club, please speak with Pastor Sheth or Jan Ackerson.
- **Sunday School Townhall:** TODAY following worship we will be holding a 'townhall' meeting in the Gathering Space to discuss plans and ideas for education opportunities in our congregation. Would you attend an online class mid-week? Would you love to get together for breakfast and prayer once a week? Do you have a desire to learn something or teach something to our congregation? We hope to see you there!
- **Cooking for Thursday Night Community Dinners:** If you'd like to help feed our neighbors and can cook big meals, please sign up to cook all (or part) of a meal for Thursday night dinners. We do have food and funds available if you need assistance in purchasing the food. Questions? Contact John Kittredge or Bob Ziebart
- **Pastor Sheth** will be on Study Leave + Vacation from May 25—June 8. Our Elders will be happy to assist you in any needs you may have—their contact information is on the back of our bulletins.