

South Freeport Church

Congregational † United Church of Christ



Sunday, May 19, 2023

Pentecost Worship and Confirmation Sunday

All are Welcome here!

Welcome to Pentecost Worship at South Freeport Church

As an Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ, it is our mission to be a source of worship, service, education, and healing for all. We welcome all people of any race, gender, nationality, ethnic origin, physical or mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or expression. We support full participation of everyone in the life and programs of this church. We recognize the rights of all persons, just as Christ accepted all people he encountered. We believe that in meeting each other in Christian love, God's Spirit frees us all to give, to grow, and to be ourselves. So whoever you are, and wherever you are on the journeys of faith and life, know that you are always welcome here!

Welcome to all **visitors**, we are delighted that you have joined us today. Please make yourself at home here. We invite you to fill out a Welcome Card in the back of the pew in front of you, which you can place in the Offering Plate later in the service.

We invite families with young kids to explore the “**prayground**” area in the back of the Sanctuary. Children are always welcome to be their authentic selves here: noises, wiggles, and all! We also have a **nursery** available in the classroom nearest to the organ, staffed with wonderful care providers. About fifteen minutes into the service, we invite children to go upstairs for **Children's Church** (PreK - 5th grade). This week, we invite the **Middle School Youth Group** (6th - 8th grade) to remain in the Sanctuary to witness Confirmation.

Your giving online or in-person enables the nurturing ministry of South Freeport Church to flourish. Each one of us plays an important part in the life of this faith community through the sharing of our gifts, including needed financial support. You can give in-person during the Offering, by mail at P.O. Box 46, South Freeport, ME 04078, or online at southfreeportchurch.org/giving.

If you would like to **dedicate flowers** for an upcoming Sunday service, or serve as an **usher**, or bring something yummy to share as **coffee hour host**, please sign up on the clipboards in the Community Hall, or reach out to Beth in the church office at beth@southfreeportchurch.org or 207-865-4012.

Order of Worship

**Please rise as you are able*

PRELUDE "Folk Tune" Percy Whitlock

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT "Every Time I Feel the Spirit" Traditional

MEDITATION Claire Schaffer

Without Pentecost the Christ-event – the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus – remains imprisoned in history as something to remember, think about, and reflect on. The Spirit of Jesus comes to dwell within us, so that we can become living Christs here and now. – Henry Nouwen

CALL TO WORSHIP Congregation invited to read bold parts Pastor Jeremy W. Young

South Freeport Church, God has done great things for us!
We rejoice with hearts of gratitude for all God's gifts!
 In a world that seems full of trouble and hardship,
We praise the Holy One for sustaining our souls.
 With Spirits ablaze this Pentecost Sunday,
We worship the One who has blessed us with holy wisdom!
 Let us worship God together! **Come, Holy Spirit, Come!**

*OPENING HYMN "On Pentecost They Gathered" #334

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES Bethany Dunfee

Middle school youth remain in the sanctuary, elementary school kids can go upstairs for a short lesson.

RESPONSE SONG "Wind of the Spirit" Miriam Therese Winter

Wind of the Spi-rit, blow on me! Wind of the Spi-rit, go on,
 Wind of the Spi-rit, live through me! All of my love, I give you,
 blow on me! Blow till your pres-ence warms me, fire from deep with-
 live through me! Shine like a bea-con burn-ing, lamp-light of my
 -in trans-forms me. Wind of the Spi-rit, blow on me!
 heart dis- cern- ing. Wind of the Spi-rit, live through me!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One, the winds are your messengers, the fire and flame your ministers.

Your Spirit fills us, giving us glimpses of your vision for our lives.

And yet we turn away from the significance of your voice ringing in Creation.

God of wisdom, grace, and mercy, open our hearts to the sacred pulse of your everlasting life, and attune us to the rhythms of your Still-Speaking Spirit.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

Pentecost People, the Spirit is as alive today as it was for the first disciples. Through the grace of God, we are created, claimed, and called beloved. Forgiveness is poured out on us like an ever-flowing stream of healing love.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

May the peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you.**

RESPONSE SONG

“Open our Hearts”

Strathdee



O - pen our hearts, o - pen our minds.
O - pen our lives to you, O lov - ing
God. O - pen our hearts.

SCRIPTURE

Acts 2:1-21 (Pew Bibles page 992)

Claire Schaffer

INTRODUCTION TO CONFIRMATION

Rev. Sean Patrick Coady

CONFIRMATION REFLECTIONS

Andrew Dodge, Cody Strawbridge, Ollie Brown, William Lorenz, Heather Dodge, Ian Guzmán

CHORAL ANTHEM

“Fill-A Me Up”

Choplin

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor Jeremy W. Young

CHORAL RESPONSE

“Sweet Sweet Spirit”

Akers

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit one. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

RITE OF CONFIRMATION

2024 Confirmands

Oliver Brown
Ian Guzmán
William Lorenz
Cody Strawbridge

Confirmation Advisors

Rev. Sean Patrick Coady
Rev. Dr. Judith Blanchard
Andrew Dodge
Heather Dodge

Invitation

***Congregational Promises**

Leader: Congregation: Before you stand God's people, God's gift to you, as you are to them. Will you welcome them with open hearts? Will you confirm the promises made at the time each one was Baptized, to teach them by word and example, to guide them in the ways of prayer and service, and to offer them the love and support of the Christian Church.

Congregation: We will, with the help of God.

Leader: Will you receive the new challenges and questions, insights and gifts that these Confirmands bring? Will you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow with them in the Christian faith, that together we might make God's love known in the world?

Congregation: We will, with the help of God.

Confirmands Acceptance of Promises

Leader: Confirmands, before you are God's people, a community that is God's gift to you, as you are to them. Will you receive the promises that were made at the time of your baptism and confirmed here again today? And will you accept the love and support, guidance and fellowship offered to you within this community as you continue on your journey of faith?

Confirmands: I will, with the help of God.

Confirmands Acceptance of Gifts

Leader: Through the guidance given you by your family and this community, and having explored your faith throughout the past year, do you gratefully affirm the unique gifts you have received by the grace of God, and promise that you will strive to be the person that God has created you to be?

Confirmands: I will, with the help of God.

Leader: And will you promise to humbly share your gifts with this community, in all the places of your life, and in all faith communities of which you will be a part, that together we might make God's love known in the world?

Confirmands: I will, with the help of God.

***Laying on of Hands and Lord's Prayer**

Our Father/Mother/God/Creator, 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES

*CLOSING HYMN

"Here I am Lord"

#559

BENEDICTION

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

"Song of Confirmation"

Cyril Murphy

POSTLUDE PARADE

*All are welcome to join the parade and head into the Community Hall for Coffee Hour.
Come, share in conversation, congratulate the Confirmands, and enjoy some cake!*

Thank You

Thank you, Confirmation Advisors, for the love and dedication you have gifted each Confirmand over the past year. Thank you, Confirmation Parents, for your commitment to your child's faith journey at South Freeport Church. Thank you, people of South Freeport Church, for the care and support you have for our Confirmands. And thank you, Confirmands, for showing up, for being yourselves, and for opening your hearts and spirits to each other, to God, and to the church.

With gratitude and love, Rev. Sean Patrick Coady

Thank you to Lizzie McIntire and Bethany Dunfee for adorning the altar today. We appreciate Keith and Silas Monk for ushering, and the Christian Education Committee for hosting Fellowship Time in the Community Hall after worship.

Prayer List and Called to Care Contact

Please keep the following in your prayers: The Family of Michael Fralich, Carol Mahoney and Pamela, Winton Scott, Lisa Trimble and the Family of Carey Trimble, Mary Bolton, Laney Pitt, Eric Kinney, Allan Wilson, Mary Eliza Wengren, Ruthie M., Abbie.

Thank you, Geri Rose, our Called to Care Contact for next week.

Upcoming Meetings

Church Council: Tuesday, June 11, 6:30pm via Zoom. **Christian Education:** Tuesday, May 28, 6:30pm via Zoom. **Deacons:** Monday, June 3, 6:30pm via Zoom. **Events Team:** Wednesday, June 5, 6:30 pm via Zoom. **Green Team:** TOMORROW! Monday, May 20, 6pm via Zoom. **Meeting of the Moderators:** Tuesday, June 4, 5:30pm in the Youth Room. **Missions:** TODAY! Sunday, May 19, 11am in the Ring Room. **Weekly Men's Breakfast:** 8:30am Wednesdays, Freeport Café.

Upcoming Events

Celebration of Life for Carey Trimble: Saturday, June 1, 1:00 pm in the sanctuary followed by a reception in the Community Hall.

Children's Sunday and Family Fun Field Day: Sunday, June 2, 9:30am, worship led by our children and youth followed by fun for all ages on the church lawn.

Free Compassion Creativity Camp! June 17-21. For anyone aged 5 and up. More info at southfreeportchurch.org

Author Luncheon with Kevin St. Jarre. Friday, June 21, 11:30 am. \$15 payable at the door by cash or check. Please reserve your lunch ahead of time by contacting Cheryl Worcester: caworcester@gmail.com

Pie Sales: Thursdays in the Hall, 3-6 pm

Upcoming Opportunities: Contact the church office for more info on any of these

Participate in the Freeport 4th of July Parade - both kids and adults are needed to carry our Festival banner and more! Financially sponsor fun for the Blueberry Festival in August! Volunteer to help day campers in June at our free Compassion Creativity Camp! (Ms. Beth has more details) Garden for Tedford Shelter on May 25! Bring nonperishable food for FCS here next Sunday! Note the collection basket in the back of the sanctuary. Donate backpacks, hoodies, socks, baseball caps, new sneakers, lightweight rain jackets, and new boxer briefs to Grace Street Ministry! - GSM collection bin is under the coatrack in the church entryway.

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Visit southfreeportchurch.org/contact to get on our email list.
We send out one email a week, on average, to the church community.



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