

Sunday, 24 May 2026 – Day of Pentecost

The Day of Pentecost is celebrated seven weeks after Easter Sunday. On the Day of Pentecost we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit descending in a mighty rush of wind and flame to inspire the church's proclamation of Christ's rising and to empower its mission and ministry to the world. (See Acts 2:1-13; see also Joel 2:28-32.)

<https://pcusa.org/about-pcusa/agencies-entities/interim-unified-agency/ministry-areas/theology-worship/worship/christian-year/day-pentecost>

Special Music

Sacred Fire was composed by English composer Sarah Class with lyrics by Welsh poet Grahame Davies. It was commissioned for the coronation of King Charles III on 6 May 2023 at Westminster Abbey in London. It was performed by South African soprano Pretty Yende during the pre-ceremony music.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CqgevcYvWGE>

Offertory Anthem

William L. Dawson's (1899-1990) arrangements of African-American spirituals have become staples of the choral literature in the United States and around the world. Many of these arrangements were prepared while he was on the faculty of the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.

Recessional Hymn (see insert)

We Are the Church Alive was written by Jack Hoggatt and David Pelletier in 1980 for use in the Metropolitan Community Church (MCC). The hymn served as the basis for an arrangement by Mike Tomaro for choir, piano, sax, and congregation that was commissioned for Pastor Michael's installation at ELPC on May 18, 2025.

Postlude

Contemporary African-American composer Adolphus Hailstork (b. 1941) is Professor of Music and Composer in Residence at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA. Hailstork's compositions have been described "as a crossover hybrid of African-American and European-American music." *Every Time I Feel the Spirit* fits this description, incorporating the syncopated rhythms of the spiritual amidst more traditional harmonies and dissonant chords. Speaking on his use of dissonance in his music, Hailstork said that he uses it to "create tension and suspend resolution."