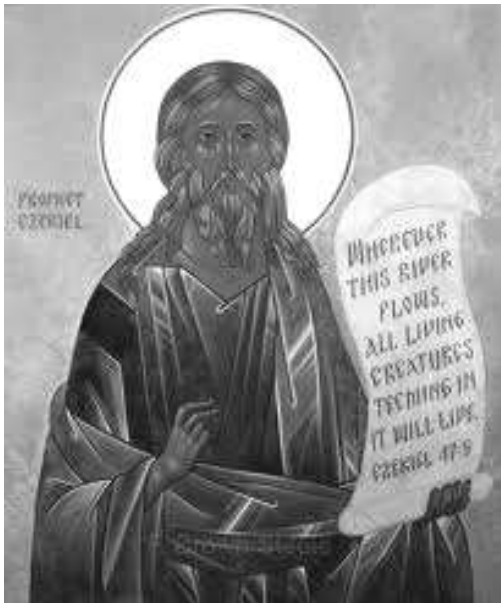


WELCOME TO...

The Presbyterian Church of Saint David
Early Morning Service Pentecost May 27, 2012

A JOURNEY TO MY PROPHETS



Prophets of God
EZEKIEL - a new heart

The real question before us in this series is – “what voices do you listen to?” Ezekiel gives us an amazing vision of what can happen when God’s Spirit (ruach) is breathed into the dead. On this Pentecost Sunday, you may wish to ask if the Spirit of God can make you alive again!

Gathering: *Hear, therefore, the word of God concerning the gift of the Holy Spirit, in the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel: A new heart I will give you and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will take out of your flesh the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. You shall dwell in the land, which I gave to your fathers; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.*

Hymn: Spirit of the living God

400

Prayer of Confession: *On this Pentecost Sunday, we confess to You, O Lord—our division, for we are not gathered together as Your people in one place; our fear of the rush of your Spirit in our lives and what it might call us to do or to be; our desire for a monolingual society, even when you allowed the early church to transcend all language, not favouring one over another; our actions that can be like the crowds that taunt and torment, mocking those who are filled with your Spirit that burns like fire and rushes like wind.*

On this Pentecost Sunday, O Lord – help us to let down our barriers to your Spirit; guide us to live with joy, abandon, and faithfulness; and create in us new hearts to be new people who worship you. Amen

Words for reflection: Ezekiel 11 14 Then the word of the Lord came to me: **15** Mortal, your kinsfolk, your own kin, your fellow exiles, the whole house of Israel, all of them, are those of whom the inhabitants of Jerusalem have said, "They have gone far from the Lord; to us this land is given for a possession." **16** Therefore say: Thus says the Lord God: Though I removed them far away among the nations, and though I scattered them among the countries, yet I have been

a sanctuary to them for a little while in the countries where they have gone. **17** Therefore say: Thus says the Lord God: I will gather you from the peoples, and assemble you out of the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel. **18** When they come there, they will remove from it all its detestable things and all its abominations. **19** I will give them one heart, and put a new spirit within them; I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, **20** so that they may follow my statutes and keep my ordinances and obey them. Then they shall be my people, and I will be their God. **21** But as for those whose heart goes after their detestable things and their abominations, I will bring their deeds upon their own heads, says the Lord God.

Westminster Confession, Chapter 13 1. They, who are once effectually called, and regenerated, having a new heart, and a new spirit created in them, are further sanctified, really and personally, through the virtue of Christ's death and resurrection, by his Word and Spirit dwelling in them: the dominion of the whole body of sin is destroyed, and the several lusts thereof are more and more weakened and mortified; and they more and more quickened and strengthened in all saving graces, to the practice of true holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

Prayer:

You send us prophets and truth speakers to open our eyes and ears. You have also sent your prophets to create in us a new heart and a new and right spirit in order that we may be your people in the world today.

Hymn: O Spirit come (vs. 1-2) **404**

A brief message: **A Journey to my prophets
Ezekiel - a new heart**

Hymn: O Spirit come (vs. 3-4) **404**

Celebrating the sacrament:

Prayer of Thanksgiving: *The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

Glorify the Lord with me. Let us together praise His name.

*We celebrate the Spirit of God, Who hovered over creation and brought order out of formlessness. **We praise You, Spirit of God.***

We celebrate the Spirit of God, Who filled Jesus with power and wisdom and, through Him, made the life of God available to all.

We praise You, Spirit of God.

*We celebrate the Spirit of God, Who has been poured out on all people, and leads us into the Kingdom of God. **We praise You, Spirit of God.***

And so, as we gather at the Lord's table, we recognise the Spirit's Presence among us, and we open our hearts to the Spirit's influence.

*(Silence) Gracious God, **we come knowing that we depend on you for life and truth and love. We come knowing that you welcome us with open and accepting arms. We come ready to meet with you, and be changed by the encounter.*** By your word and Spirit, O God, sanctify these your own gifts of bread and wine, that the bread which we break **may be to us communion in the body of Christ, and the cup of blessing which we bless may be communion in the blood of Christ** Come, holy Spirit, come.

Hymn: Drawn in the Spirit's tether (vs. 1-2) **531**

Communion

Hymn: Drawn in the Spirit's tether (vs. 3) **531**

Prayer following communion: *May the love we find at this table be reflected in our lives; **May the power we receive at this table make us peacemakers and healers; And may the Spirit who fills us again at this table lead us to be those who proclaim God's Kingdom in every word we speak and in everything we do. or Jesus' Sake. Amen.***

Hymn: Now to Christ who loved us **554**

