

COMMUNION AND COMMUNICATION

Acts 2:1-12

THE DEATH OF A DREAM

Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves ... (Genesis 11:4)

The Tower of Babel.

Why did they build it?

Did they want a Prayer Tower?

Did they want a hotel for the homeless?

Let us make a name for ourselves.

It was not a monument to God. It was a shrine to themselves!

But they were united. Much can be accomplished if you are united.

Confusion and Failure.

Let us go down and confuse their language. (Gen. 11:7)

Communication was impossible so the tower was never finished.

“Human nature is allergic to sin and evil. You do as you like, and then you don’t like what you do.” (E. Stanley Jones)

THE BIRTH OF A CHURCH

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.

(Acts 2:1).

Waiting and Praying.

As you enter the room, the scene is different. They are not building. They are waiting and praying.

How do you feel about waiting?

Waiting is hard work!

Just ask Abraham, Moses, and the disciples.

Waiting Requires Trust.

Will you trust that God has good reasons for asking you to wait?

Henri Nouwen tells about The Flying Roudellas.

Waiting Requires Humility.

Waiting is something that only the humble can do.

You realize that you are not in control.

It’s prayer that allows us to wait without worry.

The Wind and the Witness.

*And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind
... And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak
in other tongues. (Acts 2:2&4).*

If the Holy Spirit takes control, you might wind up talking with people you wouldn’t ordinarily talk with.

Are you ready to trust the Spirit?

Prayer Concerns: Burney Biesel, Kay Fowlkes, Charlotte Hart, Mac Kerr, Joe McDowell, Anne Miller, Ann Ramsey, Mildred Sentell, Blake Stallings, Jennifer Tarpley, Joe Tidwell, Jr., Ray Billings, Gerald Borden, Sarah Clark, Richard Cole, Cledus Creel, Rev. E.H. Denman, Jr., Jimmy Eubanks, Angela Fisher, Nancy Godsey, Rob Hammond, Fern Haslop, Abby Jones, Jeff Joyner, Mary Lou Lepping, Van Lynch, Catherine Mattheus, Macy Morgan, Taylor Murray, Judy Owen, Theresa Patrick, David Petrie, Steve Raines, Patrick Ramage, **Peyton Vickery**, Frances Wright ...

Christian Sympathy is extended to **Nancy Petty and family** in the death of her uncle, **Vince O'Brien**, who died on Tuesday, May 16, and to **the family of Weldon Ashbridge**, who died on Monday, May 22.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Spirit of the living God, we are here waiting for you. It is in obedience that we have come to this time and place, responding to your call. It is with a sense of trust that we gather singing your praise and confessing our sin. It is with gratitude that we prepare to participate in the sacrament you have prepared for us. It is with humility that we bow before you now. Spirit of the living God, we are here waiting for you.

It's hard to wait and not worry. It's hard not knowing what the future holds, but trusting the One who holds that future. It's hard to believe that you will be with us in our darkest moments to guide us, and with us in our brightest days to bless us. But we are here waiting for you in trust and obedience, waiting for what you have to say to us.

Be with those whose days are difficult. May we care for others as you care for us. Guide our actions. Bring life to our spirits and joy to our living. Let our days be full of witness to your overwhelming goodness in Christ. Hear us now as we pray the prayer He taught us to pray ...

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

ACTS 2:1-12

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. And they were amazed and wondered, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and 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 Arabians, we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?"

SERMON SCHEDULE

In the Sanctuary:

June 11	<i>Cracking the Da Vinci Code</i>	Matthew 16:13-20
June 18	<i>Becoming a Man</i>	2 Timothy 1:1-7
	Father's Day	
June 25	<i>Getting Things Done for God</i>	Exodus 18:13-27
	Annetta Camp to Preach	
July 2	<i>How Do You Sing the Anthem?</i>	1 Corinthians 12:12-26

On the Radio (1450 AM):

June 11	<i>Lux Aeterna</i>	Chancel Choir
June 18	<i>The Other Bible</i>	2 Peter 2:2
June 25	<i>Beginning Again</i>	Revelation 21:5
July 2	<i>The American Dream</i>	Romans 13:1-8