

To the Saints and Friends of Gregory Memorial:



PENTECOST: THE HOLY SPIRIT'S DAY!

“Pentecost” is the Holy Spirit’s day. **Pentecost**, a name which means “50 days” (since it comes on the 50th day after Easter) is the day we commemorate the coming of the Holy Spirit into the lives of the apostles, kick-starting the establishment of the church. **Pentecost** is the only Sunday on the church calendar that uses **RED** as its liturgical color.

As Christmas celebrates, so Pentecost celebrates. Pentecost is the Holy Spirit’s day. With the 2 comings of God into the world --- Christmas that celebrated the birth of Jesus Christ, and Pentecost celebrating the coming of the Holy Spirit (and ultimately, the birth of the church) --- there is one big difference in them: This difference is **anticipation**.

With Christmas, a Messiah --- a Christ --- had been promised for centuries before that first Christmas, and the Jews were long waiting for him, depending on and even anxious for his arrival. So anxious were some that they even followed 1 or 2 false Messiahs before Jesus’ arrival. **He was expected.**

In contrast, at **Pentecost**, the Holy Spirit essentially sneaked up on the disciples, because for 40 days after his resurrection, Jesus had presented himself to them as alive through various appearances, teachings, and speaking about the kingdom of God to prepare his disciples for the work ahead. So focused were they on maintaining their connection with the man Jesus, that they struggled to come to grips with his loss even when they witnessing him being lifted up into the sky in a cloud (“the Ascension”) on the 40th day after Easter.

In fact, so awestruck were they that it had taken an angel’s admonishment to shake them: **“Why are you Galileans standing here looking into the sky? Go to the city, like Jesus told you to do.”** Without these words, they would have still been there looking for the man Jesus, the God they had grown comfortable with and wanted to follow, missing the whole point of their destined goal: To continue God’s work in a new way as His apostles spreading His Word.

Knowing this would be the case, Jesus promised them that God was going to come again, but in a new form (as “the Advocate”, “the Comforter”, “the Spirit of Truth”). He told them so, as they gathered together on Maundy Thursday:

“I shall ask the Father and he will send the Advocate, the Comforter, to be with you forever, the Spirit of Truth. The Holy Spirit, which God will send, will teach you everything.”
~ John 14

Just before His Ascension, Jesus’s last words to them were:

“Stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”
~ Luke 24

“Not many days from now, you are going to be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”
~ Acts 1

Not knowing what to expect, but guided by a sense of obedience, they went as disciples to the city, and gathered in the upper room. **And they waited.**

And then the promise came true: There was a rush of wind; the appearance of tongues of fire. On **Pentecost**, God did come again --- and the Holy Spirit touched each disciple, starting a new work of God: the spreading of the good news, founding the church. Each of those present experienced the touch of God giving them the ability to preach and be heard in many languages; to encourage, to challenge kings, religious leaders and crowds of strangers and enemies with an openness to accept even Gentiles as God’s people; the conviction to travel the world as His apostles spreading the Gospel.

We believe the Holy Spirit continues working through all Christians to this day, leading and helping us be good disciples through gifts of the Holy Spirit (preaching, prophesying, healing, speaking in tongues, interpreting, wisdom, faith). But at work in all these gifts is one and the same Spirit, distributing them at will to each individual ...

“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.” ~ 1 Corinthians 12: 4-6

WORSHIP INFORMATION FOR JUNE, 2025

Sunday, 1 June, 2025

Holy Communion

“7TH Sunday of Easter” – Liturgical Color: White

Service by: Rev. Dr. Katherine C. Jackson

Sunday, 8 June, 2025

“Day of Pentecost” – Liturgical Color: Red

Service by: Rev. Marvin Daniel

Sunday, 15 June, 2025

“Father’s Day”

“Trinity Sunday” – Liturgical Color: White

Service by: Rev. Dr. Katherine C. Jackson

Sunday, 22 June, 2025

“Sunday in the Park!”

“2ND Sunday after Pentecost” – Liturgical Color: Green

Service by: Rev. Marvin Daniel

Sunday, 29 June, 2025

“3RD Sunday after Pentecost” – Liturgical Color: Green

Service by: Tommy Campbell, DMin. student, UpSem.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



GMPC CONGREGATION, BE WARY!

Recently, several attempts have been made to steal our congregation's personal info by "bad actors" posing as members of our congregation (using your names and email addresses gleaned from data you have already made available on the Internet). Request is made for PDF copies of our church Directory, so that they may crack the PDF file, "mine" your info and sell it on the DARK WEB..in effect, stealing your identity!

To be clear: No PDF copies of our Directory have been or will be distributed to our congregation, and a limited quantity is made available by the church office IN PRINT to our congregation only. You are asked not to circulate our Directory yourself.

The "take-away" to remember is this: Copies of the church Directory are distributed **only by the church office**, and no one identifying themselves using the name of one of Gregory's congregants member will/should ask you for a copy of the church Directory. If you receive such an inquiry, please don't respond. Instead, forward that inquiry to the church office at: **office@gregorymemorial.org** for appropriate action. **Then, please DELETE that email!**

"SUNDAY IN THE PARK" - June 22 @ 11 a.m.

There will be no Sunday School. We will worship at Scott Park, 6680 Courthouse Road in Prince George! [Alternate location: church Fellowship Hall.] Rev. Marvin Daniel will lead the worship service under the Pavilion beginning at 11 a.m., with a covered-dish picnic lunch to follow.

The Church will provide fried chicken and beverage; congregation will provide sides and desserts. Dress comfortably for rustic seating around picnic tables.

CHURCH TRIVIA: "Trinity Sunday"

The term "Trinity Sunday" was first used by Theophilus of Antioch in the late 2nd century early church (wikipedia.org). Trinity Sunday celebrates the Christian doctrine of the 3 persons of God- Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. According to wikipedia.org, no specific day was set aside for Trinity Sunday. But per episcopalchurch.org, under Pope John XXII in 1334, the 1st Sunday after Pentecost was officially observed. PCUSA.org says Trinity Sunday proclaims the mystery of the Triune God and is a day for adoration and praise; but also says that every Sunday is a Holy Trinity Sunday.

Anglicancompass.com and luthernchurch.dk tell us that Trinity Sunday marks the beginning of the Trinity Season (ordinary time with the color green) which runs through the first Sunday before Advent. Trinity Sunday shifts our attention from the sacred events of the church such as Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Easter, and Pentecost, to the season of Christian growth. According to Biblemesh.com, the word Trinity is not mentioned in Scripture.

Augustine, a 5th century bishop wrote that God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit are not 3 different Gods, but 1 God. Trinity Sunday is celebrated in the Lutheran, Methodist, Latin Catholic, Anglican, and Presbyterian churches. Trinity Sunday can be celebrated from May 17th to June 20th, depending on Easter.

This year we celebrate Trinity Sunday on June 15, 2025.

Church Trivia contributed by Mary Holc.

References: wikipedia.org; episcopalchurch.org, pcusa.org, AI, Anglicancompass.com, Biblemesh.com, luthernchurch.dk

HOLY COMMUNION SCHEDULE FOR 2025

February 2, 2025 April 6, 2025	June 1, 2025 August 3, 2025	October 5, 2025 December 7, 2025
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CHIMES, ACOLYTES, ANNOUNCERS, READERS

June 1	June 8	June 15	June 22	June 29
Donald Hunter	Patsy Johnson	Sandy Hunter	Larry Johnson	Susan Shockley

CHIMES - Susan Shockley / ACOLYTE - Wayne Powers

BE INSPIRED

FATHER'S DAY: THE SURPRISING HISTORY

"Father's Day" is June 22nd! On the 3rd Sunday of every June, we honor our dads with barbecues, picnics, cards, and gifts to celebrate fatherhood. ***But the surprising truth is, Father's Day has only been officially recognized in the U. S. since 1972, 52 years after Mother's Day became a holiday!*** The story of Father's Day is one of a nearly century-long struggle to recognize our dads and was often efforts of their daughters who loved them and worked to make the holiday what we have today.

Historical Roots. Just as mothers have been celebrated throughout the centuries, fathers have been honored by various cultures in the past. In Medieval Europe, the feast day of St. Joseph celebrated fathers in general, while Mothering Day was set aside to honor mothers. The earliest Father's Day observance was nearly 4000 years ago, on an ancient Babylonian stone tablet signed by a dutiful son named Elmesu, wishing his father health and longevity---think of it as being the first greeting card!

Father's Day Failures. It's difficult to pin down the first time Father's Day was celebrated in the modern U. S., because so many people tried, and failed, to start this holiday. The first recorded observance was on July 5, 1908, in Fairmont, West Virginia, by Grace Golden Clayton, who held a party at her church to honor all fathers, perhaps inspired by the loss of her own father and others who were lost in a mining tragedy. However, the tradition didn't catch on, and was not celebrated beyond the town of Fairmont. In 1911, reformer Jane Addams suggested that a day be set aside to honor fathers in her hometown of Chicago, but it was turned down by city officials. Others, including J. J. Berringer and Harry C. Meeks, also tried and failed to begin a national Father's Day tradition.

The Origins of Modern Father's Day. Another attempt was made in 1910, in Spokane, Washington, when Sonora Smart Dodd held a Father's Day celebration inspired by Mother's Day and by her own father. This event did catch on and spread to pastors throughout Spokane and beyond, each preaching on the 3rd Sunday of June on the subject of fatherhood. Even Presidents Woodrow Wilson and Calvin Coolidge visited Spokane and encouraged the celebration

of Father's Day. Ms. Dodd stopped promoting the holiday during the 1920's while away at school, but began again just in time for the Great Depression. This time, however, manufacturers and retailers joined in the campaign to encourage the celebration of Father's Day, mainly hoping to boost sales with dad-themed merchandise to be used as giftware.

Dad's Day Doubters. Perhaps because of these commercial ties, many Americans initially resisted the push for a national Father's Day holiday, thinking it too commercialized. Skeptics, especially in Congress, had been against the holiday since Dodd's first events in Spokane and opposed the attempts to recognize it at a federal level, even offering a "Parents' Day" as an alternative, replacing both Mother's day and Father's Day. For decades after, Congress fought attempts to make it a national holiday, but it finally gained popular support after WWII, when it was reframed as a masculine holiday to recognize fathers who were often veterans.

At Last: Federal Recognition. By 1956, the U. S. Congress finally recognized Father's Day. Still, it took another decade until President Lyndon Johnson officially proclaimed the 3rd Sunday in June to be a national holiday, and another 6 years after that for Nixon to permanently establish it as a holiday. In spite of years of struggle, this meant a happy ending at last for Father's Day supporters. Best of all, Sonora Dodd herself, who died at the age of 96, lived long enough to see it happen.

Father's Day Today. Now, Father's Day is celebrated around the world, with over 70 countries choosing the 3rd Sunday of June to commemorate dads. Recent polls suggest that nearly three-quarters of Americans celebrate it, honoring fathers and father-figures alike with popular gifts including electronics, sporting gear, and clothes. But the most common gift for Father's day, as was in ancient Babylon, is still the greeting card, proving that some things never change!

Source: adapted from "THE SURPRISING HISTORY OF FATHER'S DAY", by author Emily Basil.

JUNE, 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship service & Holy Communion Service by: Rev. Dr. K. C. Jackson	2 1p Worship Cmte	3	4	5 6a Clean church 6-8p SA Cub Pack 910 (Fellowship Hall)	6	7 8p PG AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall, Kitchen)
8 “Day of Pentecost” 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship service ➤ Pentecost Offering Service by: Rev. Marvin Daniel	9	10 9a 120 th Stated PoJ Mtg 1p Circle mtg @ S. Hunter’s	11 5:30-9p SA TR 900 Quarterly Honor Court (Fellowship Hall, kitchen)	12 6a Clean church	13	14 8p PG AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall, Kitchen)
15 “Trinity Sunday” “Father’s Day” 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship service Service by: Rev. Dr. K. C. Jackson 12p Stated Session Mtg Moderator/Leader: TBA	16 5:30-9p SA Crater OA (Fellowship Hall, kitchen) 7p Finance Cmte	17	18	19 6a Clean church 2p News articles due 7p Faith Cmte (@GMPC)	20	21 8p PG AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall, Kitchen)
22 “Sunday in the Park” No Sunday School 11a Worship service In Scott Park Pavilion <i>(Alt. for bad weather: church Fellowship Hall)</i> ➤ 5¢-a-Meal Offering Service by: Rev. Marvin Daniel 12p Picnic Lunch follows service	23	24	25	26 6a Clean church 2p Newsletter (July)	27 6-7:30p SA Tr 900 Prep for Eagle Ceremony (C. Dendler) in Sanctuary	28 10a-2p SA Tr 900 Eagle Ceremony (C. Dendler) in Sanctuary & reception in Fellowship Hall 8p PG AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall, Kitchen)
29 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship service ➤ Local Emergency Aid Offering Service by: Tommy Campbell DMin. Student, UPSem	30 2p Cmte reports due					

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