

A Litany of Spirit and Solidarity for Pentecost

By Rev. Diane Dulin, written for Pentecost 2014

“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 of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.” (Acts 2:1-4)

We, too, are gathered for Spirit, for mission, for power and for community.

We embrace the winds of the Spirit to guide our work for justice in Palestine.

“Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout people from every nation under heaven. And at the sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because everyone heard them speaking in their own languages. And they were amazed and wondered, saying, ‘Are not all these who are speaking Galilean? And how is it that we hear, each of us in our own native language?’” (Acts 2:5-8)

The many languages and cultures of that first Pentecost allowed transformation.

We, too, have been transformed through insight and the movement of our hearts on behalf of Palestinians removed from their homes, sealed behind walls, separated from their families, incarcerated even in their youth.

We, too, are growing to understand experiences far different from our own, or perhaps not so different after all.

“Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, ‘People of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words.... For this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: In the last days it shall be God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young shall see visions and your old shall dream dreams; yes, and on my servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit....’” (Acts 2:14, 16-18)

The promised visions and dreams find renewed form today.

The gift of prophecy revealed its first fruits in Jerusalem, and continues even now as we are replenished in the work of justice.

THANKS BE TO GOD.

Rev. Diane Dulin is United Church of Christ clergy and Kairos USA Director of Church Participation.