2024 Pentecost Offering

“*I Am Coming to You” (John 14:18)*

*Minute for Mission*

Do you ever feel — just *off*? Lost, disconnected or maybe even … a little defeated?

Truth be told, we all feel this way once in a while. Yet we do the best we can to live every day to its fullest, and always with the reality that God’s love, God’s grace, which is the very essence of God, will never leave us.

Many of us have seen studies or polls that seem to come out every day reporting that the church is dying, its influence waning, and that people would rather spend their weekend doing things other than worshiping God and serving together in the name of Jesus Christ. Yet I know that for many of us, one of the primary places we return to — week after week to regain a sense of connection or realignment with ourselves and the world — is right here. In Church.

Pentecost celebrates the renewal of the relationship between God and the community of faith. We know that God continually comes to us and that we will never be forgotten by the God whom we know is here with us in the person of Jesus Christ.

In a world that so desperately needs to hear that God is right here with us, coming to us, and calling us to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with God, it is our call as a congregation and as believers to share this Good News with the world.

The Pentecost Offering helps us live this call. Through our giving we are able to tell the story of God, who is always there for us, coming to us. The Offering supports children at risk through the *Educate a Child, Transform the World* initiative and high schoolers attending the Presbyterian Youth Triennium, which shows them the inescapable loving presence of God. It also enables young adults to share Christ’s light while living in solidarity with those on the margins of society and preparing themselves for a life of service through the Young Adult Volunteers program.

Our gifts, no matter how big or small, when combined with those from other congregations show the world the ways God comes to us every single day. So please give generously to the Pentecost Offering, for when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!

**Let us pray ~**

*God of grace and glory, wing your flight right here. Come to us again like you did in the person of Jesus. Help us be transformational in our ministry, and may our gifts transform the world to be more like your reign of justice, love and peace. In Christ’s name we pray,* **Amen***.*