



**Connecting. Sharing. Serving!**



Thursday, June 5, 2025



**ON SUNDAY**

Join us for worship on Sunday, June 8 at 10:00 AM. The Scripture lessons are Acts 2:1-4, 17-21 & Genesis 11:1-9. The title of the sermon is, "The Power of Our Words." The Lay Leader is Scott Minor. The Usher is Andy Balog. The Tellers are TBA. AV tech is William Ruygt. Fellowship is TBA.

If you prefer to meet online, you can watch our live-stream service on the church's [YouTube channel](#). The service begins promptly at 10:00 AM. The service will be posted later in the afternoon and evening if you're not able to watch it live.



### Pastor's Page

Dear Friends,

In October 2017, a quiet moment of courage sparked a global reckoning.

Tarana Burke, a longtime activist, had been using the phrase "*Me Too*" since 2006 to support survivors of sexual violence. But it wasn't until actress Alyssa Milano tweeted the words—"If you've been sexually harassed or assaulted, write 'me too' as a reply to this tweet"—that the

world began to shift.

The tweet was simple. It carried no legal power, no official sanction. But within 24 hours, it had been shared millions of times. People—women, men, non-binary individuals—from every country, background, and profession began telling their stories. Some for the first time. Their words, once bottled in shame, poured into the open.

In boardrooms, perpetrators resigned. In courtrooms, victims were believed. Laws changed. Companies rewrote their codes of conduct. And across dinner tables and classrooms, the conversation about consent and power began to evolve.

But it started with just two words. *Me too*.

It proved that a phrase—truthful, timely, and vulnerable—can become a revolution. The power of one's words, when echoed by many, can ripple into policy, justice, and healing.

And it reminded the world: silence protects power, but speech can reclaim it.

On Sunday, I'll be preaching on the observance of the Day of Pentecost, when God's Spirit was poured out on the early believers, filling them with power. Such a power allowed them to bear witness with their words to all who had



gathered at the Temple to celebrate the Festival of Weeks, the day Jewish people observed the giving of the Law to Moses by God. That law was and is a set of words that told them how to live.

The power of using our words well is covered throughout the Bible. In story after story, God's Spirit inspires us to speak our words of truth to a world that believes lies and falsehoods and conspiracy theories. God's Spirit inspires us, when we're open to it, to speak truth to power and do our best to set captives free.



There are many ways we can speak truth to power. One is to bring God into our conversations and implore others to follow in the way of love, forgiveness, and sacrifice. Another way to do it is to stand with others, in the name of God, to challenge systems of power and abuse. One

opportunity to do that will be on Saturday, June 14, from 10 AM until 1PM, there will be a gathering at the Capitol, on the same day as Gay Pride but hours before the festivities. That gathering will be a national protest to speak truth to power. It is titled, No Kings Protest and Rally. The rally is for all who value democracy to condemn authoritarianism and to demonstrate to the world what democracy truly represents. There will be several Pioneers attending the rally, and I hope you can join me.

I pray that your Pentecost will be filled with the love and power of God so that God may use you to help care for others. On Sunday, we'll be observing Pentecost through liturgy, choral anthems, Scripture reading, and an inspiring sermon. You are invited to participate by wearing red, orange, and/or yellow clothing to represent the fire that descended from heaven on Pentecost and rested on each of the believers present when the Holy Spirit was poured out. Afterwards, we'll have cake in Fellowship Hall, observing the birthday of the church, which is traditionally understood to be the day of Pentecost.

Blessings to you,  
See you on Sunday!

***Pastor Bo***



### Music Musings, by Dr. Elliot Jones

The prelude and the postlude this week are settings of the same Pentecost hymn, *Come Holy Spirit, God and Lord*, from two composers of the Baroque period. Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau's chorale prelude is introspective, while Andreas Armsdorf's is more jubilant. The choir will sing Simon Andrews' arrangement of *A Mighty Wind*, based on Thomas Tallis' famous canon, and the spiritual *God's Gonna Set this World on Fire* arranged by Moses Hogan.

### Word Find Puzzle: Acts 2:1-21

N B L P Y R U S H F T H O  
 G F I L L E D H D I B L T  
 A F K A A P P E A R E D H  
 V R E C N V M A A E G I E  
 E T O E G I T V M N A V R  
 H O L Y U O N E A T N I E  
 O N D C A L D N Z I C D A  
 U G T O G E T H E R O E C  
 S U D D E N L Y D E M D H  
 E E Z N A T I V E S E Z E  
 W J E W S P I R I T O R A  
 S I T T I N G S P E A K R  
 C A M E C S O U N D S W R  
 D Z P E N T E C O S T H P

AMAZED	APPEARED	BEGAN
CAME	COME	DIVIDED
EACH	ENTIRE	FILLED
FIRE	GAVE	HEAR
HEAVEN	HOLY	HOUSE
JEWS	LANGUAGE	LIKE
NATIVE	OTHER	PENTECOST
PLACE	RESTED	RUSH
SITTING	SOUND	SPEAK
SPIRIT	SUDDENLY	THERE
TOGETHER	TONGUE	VIOLENT

## Birthdays

06/05 Emily Balestrini  
 06/17 Clyde Wilson  
 06/23 Betsy Wilson  
 06/24 Bernadette Wallace



If you know of other birthdays of Pioneer Church members and friends not listed here, please let us know. Thanks!



## Wearing Pentecostal Colors

You are invited to wear red, orange, or yellow for Sunday's Pentecost service. It'll be like having tongues of fire over the congregation. A special thanks to William Ruygt for decorating the sanctuary for the service!

## Get Your Pride Kit: \$8

Gay Pride in Sacramento will take place on June 14-15, 2025. The Pride Parade begins at 12:00 Noon, and booths will be open on the Capitol Mall Saturday and Sunday of that weekend. Our church shares an information table with the First United Methodist Church, which allows us to share the expenses of renting the table. This year, we are selling Pride Kits to help us cover the cost of the table we share with the First United Methodist Church. The kits are \$8 and include a miniature pride flag, stickers, and other pride items, including a lei, wristband, and bandana in a colorful bag. Please consider purchasing a kit for yourself or a friend. Kits will be available on Sunday and throughout the week in the church office. Thanks!







### Staffing the Pride Table

If you are interested in staffing the Pioneer Pride table at Gay Pride, please contact the Outreach Committee led by Kat Copple or Pastor Bo. We will be staffing the table Saturday, June 14 from 12:00 PM – 9:00 PM and Sunday, June 15 from 12:00 PM – 6:00 PM. We are looking for two volunteers for each 3-hour segment. Candy and information from the church will be provided.

## The Good Place



## BIBLE STUDY

Join us as we watch an episode from the hit Netflix series, The Good Place, Season 2, and then have a Bible study led by our pastor in the Pastor's office. Learn about the Bible and our faith journeys in a judgment-free zone.



WEDNESDAYS | 6:30 PM

PIONEER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



[www.pioneerucc.org](http://www.pioneerucc.org)



2700 L Street, Sacramento, CA

### 3 Ways to Give to Pioneer

1. [Follow this link to Paypal](#) and make your donation there.
2. Worship services on Sunday at 10:00 AM or stop by the church office.
3. Mail in your donation: Pioneer Congregational Church, 2700 L Street, Sacramento, CA 95816



#### Signup Sheets Available

Have you been interested in volunteering at the church? One way to do that is to volunteer to be a Sunday reader, an usher, a teller, or to bring treats and food for Fellowship Hour. You are invited to see where you'd like to help out and sign up. Look for the signup sheets in Fellowship Hall on Sundays after church. Your help and contribution make Pioneer shine!



#### Offices and Spaces to Rent @ Pioneer

We need your help in finding people to rent our available rooms, Fellowship Hall, weddings or funerals in the sanctuary, use our kitchen as a 'ghost kitchen' or anyone who would like to work out of one of two offices at the church. Please spread the word, share with your friends, and let us utilize these spaces that often sit empty throughout the week. We have office spaces and a stainless-steel commercial kitchen for rent. Our beautiful stained-glass sanctuary is an ideal setting for weddings. The large fellowship Hall has a full theatrical stage with lighting. A 100" screen is available for visual presentations, perfect for business meetings. Underground parking is available for rent.

For more information, please call the church office or visit <http://www.pioneerworking.com>.

## CONTINUING ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE CHURCH

+ If you're looking for a **home health aide**, we have a regular church attendee who is available to meet your needs. For more information, please call the church office or talk with the Pastor.

+ **Where to Park.** There is no free metered parking outside the church. However, there is free parking underground next door/behind the church in the underground car park at the Teichert/Sutter underground parking garage. Enter Capitol Street between the garage and the hospital. The parking gate is open 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM on Sundays. You may park in any space, even if it says reserved.

# Pioneer Congregational Church

# WHERE TO PARK



- \* Metered Street Parking around Church, download Park Mobile App for easier pay-to-park experience
- \* Teichert/Sutter Underground Garage
 

Free parking on Sundays for Pioneer Church members and visitors! Enter on Capitol Ave btw 27th and 28th Streets, drive down the ramp and park anywhere. The gate remains open until 1 PM. Exit and re-enter through the hospital.
- \* Free Street Parking without meters, 2-hour time limit
- \* Pay-to-park Sutter Garage, 27th St, 1 block north of N St.










During the weekdays, we have the entire basement level (B2) available for our parking needs. However, you will need to obtain a parking card to access the closed gate, unless we have prearranged an event for the gates to be open. On-street parking is available where meters are present. If you are willing to walk a couple of blocks, on-street parking with no meters allows for 2 hours of free parking.



+ **Do you have a prayer request?** Heidi Munoz collects prayer requests and emails them to our prayer champions, and we pray over all prayer requests each Sunday. If you have a prayer request, please email Heidi at [prayingpioneers@gmail.com](mailto:prayingpioneers@gmail.com).

+ We provide **large-print bulletins and hearing devices** for individuals who are hearing or visually impaired.