



Pentecost Sunday
Mt. Zion UCC
June 8, 2025 @ 9:45 AM

Mt. Zion United Church of Christ
1054 Ridgewood Road, York, Pennsylvania 17406
Telephone: 717-755-6117
E-mail: office@mtzionucc.org
Website: www.mtzionucc.org

Rev. Amy E. Northridge, Pastor
Mrs. Amy Peck, Worship Choir Director
Mr. Travis Pinci, Accompanist, Children's Music Coordinator, & Church Administrator

June 08, 2025

9:45 AM

Pentecost Sunday
Rite of Confirmation

Thank you for worshiping with us today. If you are a guest, we invite you to take a moment to complete a visitor's card located in the back of the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate when it is passed. We also invite you to sign your name in our guest book located in the back entrance of the sanctuary.

We welcome infants and children and all their wiggles & voices in our worship! For your comfort, we also have a children's corner in the back narthex where your child can relax and play and you can still participate in the worship experience. We have children's books and activity bags for them to enjoy! Additionally, after the children's message, children from 3 years old—6th grade are invited to participate in Sunday school in our classroom downstairs. They can choose to attend Sunday school or return to their seats to sit with their parents. Please see a member of the welcoming team for assistance!

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE (played by the hand chimes) *How Firm a Foundation* by Rippon

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: On Pentecost, the flames of God's Spirit descended,

C: Setting the church ablaze with new life.

L: Those flames danced on the heads of the disciples,

C: Igniting hearts with courage and hope.

L: From those flames, a fire of love spread wide,

C: Burning away fear and doubt, lighting the way forward.

L: The church was born that day, alive and unstoppable,

C: Fueled by the power of God's holy fire.

L: Today, the same fire burns in this place,

C: Breathing life and clarity into our faith.

L: We celebrate those confirmed this day—

C: Set ablaze by the Spirit, called to shine brightly.

L: Spirit of fire, kindle in us your flame—

C: That we may live fully, love boldly, and witness with joy.

L: Come, Holy Spirit,

C: Come and set us aflame!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Holy Spirit, Breath of God,

C: You came like fire and wind on Pentecost, bringing new life and power to your church. Today, we celebrate, not just the Confirmands, but the whole church—renewed, empowered, and alive by the movement of your Spirit. Open our eyes to see the church anew, and fill us with courage to live boldly in your love. Transform our doubts to faith, our fears to hope, and our silence to joyful witness. Lead us forward as your living body, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN NCH # 277** (black hymnal, see next page)

Holy, Holy, Holy



Holy, Holy, Holy

John B. Dykes, 1861

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$\text{♩} = 80$

Piano

1. Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly, God the Al - might-y!
 2. Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly! Saints a - dore you tru - ly,
 3. Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly! Though we know but dim - ly,
 4. Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly, God the Al - might-y!

5

Ear - ly in the morn - ing we
 Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a -
 Though the eyes of hum - an - kind your
 All your works shall praise your name in

7

praise your maj - est - ty. Ho - ly, ho - ly ho - ly!
 - round the glass - y sea; Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim
 glo - ry may not see, You a - lone are ho - ly,
 earth and sky and sea. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!

11

Mer - ci-ful and might - y! God in three per - sons,
 bow be-fore you on - ly, From the be - gin - ing,
 you a-lone are wor - thy, Per - fect in power, in
 Mer - ci-ful and might - y! God in three per - sons,

15

bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 God e - ter - nal - ly.
 love and pur - i - ty.
 bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

***TIME OF CONFESSION**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Flame of the Spirit,

C: you burn with power and love, but we confess that we often resist your fire. We settle for comfort instead of courage, silence instead of witness, fear instead of faith. Forgive us, O God. Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us. Set us ablaze with your mercy. Bring your church to life again.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

P: Hear the good news: The Spirit of God never tires, never gives up, never lets go. In Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and set free. The flame still burns in you—and in us--and the church will be renewed.

C: Thanks be to God! Amen.

***ACT OF PRAISE NCH # 524** (black hymnal, vs. 1-2)

This Little Light of Mine

ALL SING: This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let shine.

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine. Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine. Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

WORSHIP CHOIR ANTHEM

God is On the Move
by Williams, Howard, Eskelin, & Wood

SCRIPTURE SERMON

Acts 2:1-21 (CEB)

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW NO. 400 (see next page)

God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind

God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind

John Hughes, 1823-1932

Words and Music - ©2016 Hal Leonard Corporation (select catalogs)

Piano $\text{♩} = 80$

1. God of tem - pest, God of whirl-wind, as on Pen - te -
 2. God of blaz - ing, God of burn - ing, all that blocks your
 3. God of earth-quake, God of thun - der, shake us loose from
 4. God of pas - sion, God un - sleep - ing, stir in us love's

4

- cost de - scend! Drive us out from shel - tered com - fort;
 pur - pose purge! Through your church, Christ's liv - ing Bod - y,
 leth - ar - gy! Break the chains of sin a - sun - der,
 rest - less - ness! Where the peo - ple cry in an - guish,

7

past these walls your peo - ple send! Sweep us in - to cost - ly serv - ice
 let your flam - ing Spir - it surge! Where de - ceit con - ceals in - jus - tice,
 for earth's heal - ing set us free! Crum - ble walls that still di - vide us;
 may we share your heart's dis - tress. Rouse us from con - tent with ev - il;

11

there with Christ to bear the cross, there with Christ to
 kin - dle us to speak your truth, kin - dle us to
 make us one in Christ our Lord, make us one in
 claim us for your king - dom's work, claim us for your

14

bear the cross!
 speak your truth!
 Christ our Lord!
 king - dom's work!

RITE OF CONFIRMATION

*Mason Damon
Caroline Lee Kindig
Eloise Tomlyn Rhinehart*

INVITATION

QUESTIONS OF THE CANDIDATES

UCC STATEMENT OF FAITH IN THE FORM OF A DOXOLOGY

P: Friends, in celebration of these promises, and in affirmation of God's presence in our community and throughout the world, would all who are able please rise as we join together as a community saying what it is we believe in the United Church of Christ Statement of Faith:

ALL: We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify: You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death. You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin. You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

ACT OF CONFIRMATION

LAYING ON OF HANDS

PRAYERS OF BLESSING

VOWS OF PARTICIPATION

PROMISES OF THE MT. ZION CHILDREN

PROMISES OF THE CONGREGATION

P: Church Family of Mt. Zion United Church of Christ, you have heard that these young people desire to continue to grow in the Christian Faith with you. Let us pledge to these confirmands our continued support and care.

C: We will continue to support you, walk with you, and grow with you. With God's help, we will live out our baptism as a loving community in Jesus Christ: nurturing one another in faith, upholding one another in prayer, encouraging one another in God's work.

GREETING OF CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SENDING FORTH

HYMN NCH NO. 351 (black hymnal, see next page)

I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry



I Was There to Hear Your Born-ing Cry

John Ylvisaker

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Piano $\text{♩} = 80$

1. I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be
 2. When you found the won - der of the Word, I was
 3. In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too
 4. I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be

4

there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you
 there to cheer you on; You were raised to praise the
 old, no long - er young, I'll be there to guide you
 there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you

7

were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold. I was
 liv - ing God, to whom you now be - long. Should you
 through the night, com - plete what I've be - gun. When the
 were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold.

10

there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well; I'll be
 find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one, I'll be
 eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes, I'll be

14

there in case you wan - der off and find where de - mons dwell.
 there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun.
 there as I have al - ways been with just one more sur - prise.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

L: Let us join our hearts in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need—trusting the Spirit who burns within and around us.

L: Holy Spirit, You came with fire—not to destroy, but to awaken. You stirred the hearts of ordinary people and lit the spark of a movement that still burns. We thank you for the ways your flame is glowing in the church today—in the laughter of our children, in the boldness of young people confirming their faith, in the quiet faithfulness of those who pray and serve without recognition.

C: Thank you, Spirit, for your flame among us.

L: We see your fire glowing in acts of justice, in unexpected moments of peace, in neighbors helping neighbors, in movements toward healing and equity. Keep us open to the surprising ways your Spirit still speaks.

C: Keep us awake, Spirit. Keep us brave.

L: At the same time, we lift to you the places where we long for your flame to burn brighter. We pray for peace in lands torn by war and violence—for Ukraine, Gaza, Sudan, and all places where lives are shattered and hope is thin. Let your Spirit burn away hatred and fear, and breathe peace that passes understanding.

C: Spirit, burn brightly where the world is aching.

L: We pray for those facing sickness, grief, or heavy burdens—for those in the hospital, for those whose hearts are breaking, for those who feel alone. Bring the warmth of your comfort, and the light of your presence.

C: Spirit, bring healing and hope.

L: We pray for your church around the world—for leaders, pastors, teachers, and every believer who longs to be part of something alive and true. May we, your people, live into new and better ways—ways of peace, of justice, of love, all shaped by your fire and your breath.

C: Make us your church, alive and faithful.

L: Into your hands, O God, we place every joy and every sorrow, trusting in your Spirit who is always moving, always creating, always renewing.

C: Come, Holy Spirit. Set us aflame. Amen.

L: Moved by God's Spirit within and around us, let us pray the word that Christ Jesus taught us,

ALL: 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

A TIME FOR SHARING

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY & DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY

Spirit of Gentleness

by Anderson

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

L: Holy Spirit,

C: You gather us in and send us out,

You bless us and call us to be a blessing.

Receive these gifts, offered in hope and faith—

gifts that sustain this congregation,

and gifts that go beyond us to strengthen the church in new communities, in new voices, in new beginnings.

May our offerings, like that first Pentecost,

be used to build a church that is alive with your power,

brave in your love, and generous in your Spirit.

In the name of Christ, our flame and our guide, Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN NCH NO. 81** (see next page)

The Church of Christ in Every Age



The Church of Christ, in Every Age

William Knapp, 1738

John Hatton, 1793

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$\text{♩} = 80$

Piano



1. The church of Christ, in ev - ery age
2. A - cross the world, a - cross the street,
3. Then let the ser - vant church a - rise,

5



be - set by change, but Spir - it led,
the vic-tims of in - jus - ticce cry
a car-ing church that longs to be

9



Must claim and test its her - i - tage
For shel - ter and in for bread - to eat
A part-ner in Christ's sac - ri - fice,

13



and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
and nev - er live be - fore they die.
and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

One Spirit, One Church

by Keil

Welcome Team Members—Bob & Kathy Ensminger, Stella Fletcher

Liturgist—Connie Wolfe

Tech Team—Elaine Bevivino, Ron Miles, Joe Vacante

The flowers on the altar are presented in memory of Lina Everhart on her birthday by Tori Everhart.

Thank you to Mason Damon who provided the art for our bulletin cover. Mason's picture represents the 11 (not 12 anymore) disciples with fire resting on their heads allowing them to speak in many different tongues and languages.

All are invited to join in a time of Fellowship following worship to celebrate our confirmands joining the church this day!