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Rev. Amy E. Northridge, Pastor  
Louis Allison, Tech Director  
Cody Messersmith, Worship Music Director  
Travis Pinci, Accompanist, Children's Music Coordinator, & Church Administrator

May 24, 2026

9:45 AM

**Pentecost Sunday**  
**With a Service of Affirmation of Baptism (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! We have children's books and activity bags for them to enjoy in the side narthex! Please see a member of the welcoming team for assistance!*

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR ANTHEM**

*Psalm 150*

**CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>**

L: The Spirit is here among us

**C: within us, around us, between us.**

L: The Spirit is here to strengthen us

**C: bringing courage, bringing conviction.**

L: The Spirit is here to move us,

**C: making us sing and praise.**

L: The Spirit is here.

**C: May we feel the Spirit as we gather. May we be fed by her fiery strength.  
May we be emboldened by her powerful wind.**

L: We gather in the Spirit's arms to be nurtured as we worship.

**C: And may our worship fill us with the Spirit to equip us for the week ahead.**

\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

# PRAYER OF THE DAY<sup>1</sup>

L: Spirit God,

**C: We come into your presence with awe and wonder, praying that we would be touched with your power. In this time of worship remind us of your constant presence, your gentle guidance, your hope for the world. As we remember those of old who were moved into speech by the Spirit, so too may we find our voice to be prophetic witnesses in the world today. Remind us that we can all speak Spirit-language, that we too can burn with the fire of hope. Amen.**

OPENING HYMN (see below)

*God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind*

## God of Tempest God of Whirlwind

John Hughes, 1823-1932

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*Piano*

$\text{♩} = 80$

1. God of tem - pest, God of whirl-wind, as on Pen - te - cost de - scend!  
2. God of blaz - ing, God of burn - ing, all that blocks your pur - pose purge!  
3. God of earth - quake, God of thun - der, shake us loose from leth - ar - gy!  
4. God of pas - sion, God un - sleep - ing, stir in us love's rest - less - ness!

Drive us out from shel - tered com - fort; past these walls your peo - ple send! Sweep us in - to  
Through your church, Christ's liv - ing Bod - y, let your flam - ing Spir - it surge! Where de - ceit con -  
Break the chains of sin a - sun - der, forearth's heal - ing set us free! Crum - ble walls that  
Where the peo - ple cry in anguish, may we share your heart's distress. Rouse us from con -

cost - ly ser - vice there with Christ to bear the cross, there with Christ to bear the cross!  
- ceals in - justice, kin - dle us to speak your truth, kin - dle us to speak your truth!  
still di - vide us; make us one in Christ our Lord, make us one in Christ our Lord!  
- tent with ev - il; claim us for your king - dom work, claim us for your king - dom work!

\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

## \*TIME OF CONFESSION<sup>2</sup>

### CALL TO CONFESSION

L: Gathered this day by the Holy Spirit, we assemble just as lost and confused as Christ's followers on the day of Pentecost. Together, we confess before God the ways we have turned away from God's open way of love and we hold hope that God inspire us anew this day.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: O God,

**C: You who are always doing a new thing, we confess that we sometimes close windows against the fresh air of new ideas, against the noise of other people's worries, against the winds of change.**

**God of every place and time, we confess that we often draw the curtains against people who are different, against world news or community concerns.**

**Forgive us our insulation in our locked homes, our shuttered churches, the security systems on our hearts. Open up our lives, and let your Spirit blow through. Amen.**

### WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

L: The Holy Spirit is here in our midst, filling us again this day with God's Holy creativity and inspiration. And it is my joy to tell you that because God's creativity is loving and gracious, you are forgiven this day by God. What a gift that we are all forgiven—in celebration let's move forward wherever the Spirit calls. Amen.

\*ACT OF PRAISE NCH NO. 524 (black hymnal, vs. 1 & 2)

*This Little Light of Mine*

**ALL: 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 it 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

**SPECIAL MUSIC** (Holy Dingalings)

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

Traditional

\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

HYMN OF THE DAY (see below)

*Come Down, Holy Spirit*

# Come Down, Holy Spirit

Jennifer Wakely, admin. The Jubilate Group

$\text{♩} = 80$

Piano

1. Come down, Holy Spir - it, come in wind and flame. Shin - ing in our  
2. Come down, Holy Spir - it with a gen - tle word. In this world of  
3. Come down, Holy Spir - it, hov - er like a dove. Seek the lost and

dark - ness, con - flict lone - ly, blow a - way our shame. Lend us your strength and light us on our  
let your voice be heard. Hope for the weak and warn - ings for the  
fill them with your love. Fly to our souls where doubts and questions

way. strong, dwell, Till our night of weeping turns in - to joy - ful day.  
till the noise of bat - tle fades in - to prayer and song.  
Till by faith and hope we know that all shall be well.

\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

## RITE OF CONFIRMATION

*Jackson Charles Markel*

*Danny McCracken*

INVITATION

QUESTIONS OF THE CANDIDATES

UCC STATEMENT OF FAITH IN THE FORM OF A DOXOLOGY

Liturgist: 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:

**C: 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

\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

## PROMISES OF THE CONGREGATION

Pastor: 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 below)

*I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry*

# I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry

John Ylvisaker

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$\text{♩} = 80$

Piano

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER<sup>3</sup>**

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.

*(brief pause)*

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 Jackson and Danny 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 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.**

\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

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.**

**WORSHIP CHOIR ANTHEM**

*Canticle to the Spirit*

by Tweedy & Larson

**TIME FOR SHARING**

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY & DISCIPLESHIP

L: God, as the Spirit moves within and around us we are moved in response. Part of that response is to offer these gifts of time, talent, and treasure. As we join now in a time of generosity and discipleship, may the gifts and the givers be ways your love and hope is spread. Let us offer back from our hearts to God.

OFFERTORY

*Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*

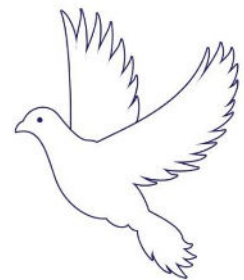
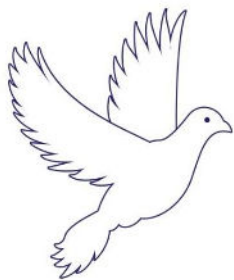
by Manley

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

L: God of change, take these gifts to change a world that leaves people out in the cold. May they be used to spread the fire of Word, so that all may experience your love, peace, and grace. Amen.

**\*SENDING HYMN NO. 284 NCH** (see next 2 pages, black hymnal)

*Blessed Quietness*



\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

# Blessed Quietness

Manie Payne Ferguson, 1850

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$\text{♩} = 120$

Piano

1. Joys are flow - ing like a riv - er, since the  
 2. Bringing life and health and glad - ness all a -  
 3. Like the rain that falls from heav - en, like the  
 4. See, a fruit - ful field is grow - ing, bless - ed  
 5. What a won - der - ful sal - va - tion, when we

Com - fort - er has come; Christ a bides with us for  
 - round, this heav - en - ly Guest banished un - be - lief and  
 sun - light from the sky, so the Spir - it, too, is  
 fruit of righ - teous - ness; and the streams of life are  
 al - ways see Christ's face, what a per - fect hab - i -

\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

- ev - er, makes the trusting heart a home. Blessed quietness, holy  
 sad-ness, changed our wea - ri - ness to rest.  
 giv - en, com - ing on us from on high.  
 flow - ing in the lone - ly wil - der - ness.  
 - ta - tion, what a qui - et rest - ing place.

quietness, what as - surance in my soul. On the stormy sea, Jesus

speaks to me, and the bil - lows cease to roll.

\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

## **\*BENEDICTION<sup>4</sup>**

L: As you go forth from this place, may the wind of the Spirit startle your senses and blow through your life; may the fire of the Spirit scorch your complacency and light your way. And may the blessing of the Holy One—Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer—rest with you now and forever more. Amen.

## **POSTLUDE**

*Thanks Be to Thee*

by Handel

### **References**

<sup>1</sup>The Call to Worship and the Prayer of the Day are written by Gord Waldie on his blog Worship Offerings, <https://worshipofferings.blogspot.com/2008/04/for-may-11-2008-pentecost-sunday.html> and accessed for use on 5/6/24.

<sup>2</sup>The Prayer of Confession is written by Teri on the RevGalBlogPals A Place for Prayer blog. <http://revgalprayerpals.blogspot.ca/> and accessed for use on 5/6/24

<sup>3</sup>The Prayers of the People are adapted from the prayers written by Rev. Joanna Harader, pastor of Peace Mennonite Church in Lawrence, KS. She blogs at SpaciousFaith.com. This prayer was posted on RevGalBlogPals. <https://revgalblogpals.org/2018/05/19/saturday-prayer-speaking-in-tongues/>

<sup>4</sup>The Pentecost Benediction was written by Joanna Harader, and posted on Spacious Faith. <http://spaciousfaith.com/> and accessed through the resource hub Re:Worship on 5/18/26

### **Service Participants**

Thank you to the Holy Dingalings, the children's choir, & the worship choir for enhancing the service with their talents this morning.

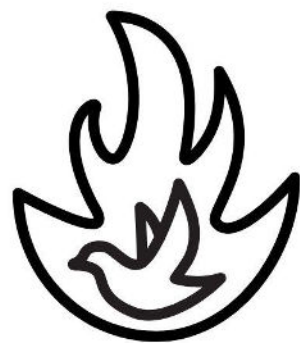
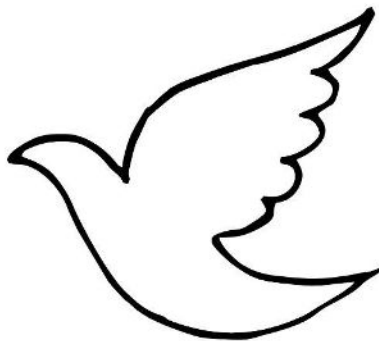
**Welcome Team Members**— Rick & Cindy Hogentogler

**Service Leader**— Deb Herlocker

**Liturgist**— Jen Miller

**Tech Team**— Jack Herlocker, John Kollasch

\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.



\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.