

CHURCH OF THE  
**GOOD SHEPHERD**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

05/19/24

11:00am



*No matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.*

**May 19, 2024**

# Worship Leader: Douglas Longfield

**PRELUDE**.....

Dick Goins, organ

**WELCOME**.....

**HYMN #270** Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song

**1** Like the murmur of the dove's song,  
like the challenge of her flight,  
like the vigor of the wind's rush,  
like the new flame's eager might:  
come, Holy Spirit, come.

**2** To the members of Christ's body,  
to the branches of the Vine,  
to the church in faith assembled,  
to our midst as gift and sign:  
come, Holy Spirit, come.

**3** With the healing of division,  
with the ceaseless voice of prayer,  
with the pow'r to love and witness,  
with the peace beyond compare:  
come, Holy Spirit, come.

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**OPENING REFLECTION**.....

“Breathe on Me, O Breath of God” - Chaz Bowers  
Chancel Choir

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**.....

**PRAYER**.....

**SCRIPTURE**..... **Douglas Longfield**

**Acts 2:1-15**

2 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3 Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

5 Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. 6 And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. 7 Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? 9 Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” 12 All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” 13 But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

## Galatians 5:19-23

**19-21** It is obvious what kind of life develops out of trying to get your own way all the time: loveless, sex; a stinking accumulation of mental and emotional garbage; frenzied and joyless grabs for happiness; trinket gods; magic-show religion; paranoid loneliness; cutthroat competition; all-consuming-yet-never-satisfied wants; a brutal temper; an impotence to love or be loved; divided homes and divided lives; small-minded and lopsided pursuits; the vicious habit of depersonalizing everyone into a rival; uncontrolled and uncontrollable addictions; ugly parodies of community. I could go on.

This isn't the first time I have warned you, you know. If you use your freedom this way, you will not inherit God's kin(g)dom.

**22-23** But what happens when we live God's way? God brings gifts into our lives, much the same way that fruit appears in an orchard—things like affection for others, exuberance about life, serenity. We develop a willingness to stick with things, a sense of compassion in the heart, and a conviction that a basic holiness permeates things and people. We find ourselves involved in loyal commitments, not needing to force our way in life, able to marshal and direct our energies wisely.

**A TIME FOR ALL AGES**.....

**HYMN #290** Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

1 Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;

wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;

Stoop to my weakness, mighty as you are,  
and make me love thee as I ought to love.

**2** I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,  
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,  
No angel visitant, no opening skies;  
but take the dimness of my soul away.

**4** Teach me to feel that you are always nigh;  
teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,  
To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh;  
teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

**5** Teach me to love you as your angels love,  
one holy passion filling all my frame;  
The baptism of the heaven-descended dove,  
my heart an altar, and your love the flame.

**SERMON**.....**Rev. Matthew Baugh**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**.....

**PRAYER OF JESUS**

Our Father, Our Mother,  
Who is in Heaven, Holy be Your name,  
Your Kin(g)dom come, Your will be done,  
On Earth as it is in Heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread

And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

And do not lead us into temptation,

But deliver us from evil,

For yours is the Kin(g)dom and the

Power and the glory,

Now and forever, Amen.

**SHARING OUR GIFTS**.....

**OFFERTORY**.....

Dorenda Morse, piano

**DOXOLOGY**.....

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God the source of all our gifts.

Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts.

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**.....

**COMMUNION HYMN #286** Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness 1,3, 4

**Refrain:**

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,

Blow through the wilderness

Calling and free,

Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,

Stir me from placidness,

Wind, wind on the sea.

**1** You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,

Then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;

And over the eons you called to each thing:

“Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings.”

**Refrain**

**3** You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,

Then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;

And down in the city you called once again,

When you blew through your people on the rush of the wind.

**Refrain**

**4** You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes,

From the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams;

Our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.

With bold new decisions your people arise.

**Refrain**

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**LIFE OF OUR COMMUNITY**.....

**BENEDICTION**.....

**CLOSING CELEBRATION**.....

Thank you for joining us in worship today

# Welcome!



***We are delighted to have you worshipping with us today!***

Church of the Good Shepherd, UCC is a dynamic congregation with a rich history and an exciting ministry in the community.

Our church is a part of a blend of four major Protestant denominations that united together in 1957 to form the United Church of Christ.

We claim the early Pilgrim and Puritan settlers of this country as part of our heritage, and celebrate the words of Pastor John Robinson, who in his farewell remarks to the Pilgrims as they were leaving for the “new world,” said,

***“There is still more light and truth to break forth from God’s holy word.”***

We are a church that:

- Takes the Bible seriously, but not literally.
- Worships God with joyful hearts and open minds.
- Includes children in the life and ministry of the church.
- Celebrates creativity and the arts.
- Seeks to be inclusive of ALL people.
- Believes that growth in wisdom and understanding happens at all stages of life.
- Is committed to work for justice for all people and for the environment.
- Cares for one another, laughs easily, and rests in God’s love.
- Looks to Jesus as teacher, prophet and Child of God.

## Vision Statement

**Church of the Good Shepherd desires to be an inclusive community that shares Divine love as a path to peace and justice in the world.**

## Mission Statement

**The mission of Church of the Good Shepherd is to build a just world through community one life at a time.**

***An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ***

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