



CHURCH OF THE
GOOD SHEPHERD
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

05/24/26

11:00am



No matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.
May 24, 2026

WELCOME.....

CALL TO WORSHIP.....

(Inspired by Acts 2:1 and Psalm 104)

One: When the day of Pentecost had come,

Many: They were all together in one place.

One: We join for worship online and in person, in real time and days later.

Many: Across time and space, God sends the Spirit upon us.

One: The Spirit unites us, connects us, and forms us as a community.

Many: The Spirit renews all Creation.

One: Come, let us celebrate God in Spirit and Truth.

HYMN #401 “O God in Whom All Life Begins”

1 This is the day, this is the day that our God has made, that our God has made;

We will rejoice, we will rejoice and be glad in it, and be glad in it.

This is the day that our God has made,

We will rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day, this is the day that our God has made.

3 This is the day, this is the day when the Spirit came, when the Spirit came;

We will rejoice, we will rejoice and be glad in it, and be glad in it.

This is the day when the Spirit came,

We will rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day, this is the day when the Spirit came.

OPENING REFLECTION.....

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

JOYS AND CONCERNS.....

PRAYER.....

SCRIPTURE.....

Acts 2:1-21, New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

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.”

14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Fellow Judeans and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. 15 Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. 16 No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

17 ‘In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.

18 Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit,
and they shall prophesy.

19 And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

20 The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.

21 Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

Hechos 2:1-21, Nueva Versión Internacional

El Espíritu Santo desciende en Pentecostés

2 Cuando llegó el día de Pentecostés, estaban todos juntos en el mismo lugar. 2 De repente, vino del cielo un ruido como el de una violenta ráfaga de viento y llenó toda la casa donde estaban reunidos. 3 Aparecieron entonces unas lenguas como de fuego que se repartieron y se posaron sobre cada uno de ellos. 4 Todos fueron llenos del Espíritu Santo y comenzaron a hablar en diferentes lenguas, según el Espíritu les concedía expresarse.

5 Estaban de visita en Jerusalén judíos piadosos, procedentes de todas las naciones de la

tierra. 6 Al oír aquel bullicio, muchos corrieron al lugar y quedaron todos pasmados porque cada uno los escuchaba hablar en su propio idioma. 7 Desconcertados y maravillados, decían: «¿No son galileos todos estos que están hablando? 8 ¿Cómo es que cada uno de nosotros los oye hablar en su lengua materna? 9 Partos, medos y elamitas; habitantes de Mesopotamia, de Judea y de Capadocia, del Ponto y de la provincia de Asia, 10 de Frigia y de Panfilia, de Egipto y de las regiones de Libia cercanas a Cirene; visitantes llegados de Roma; 11 judíos y convertidos al judaísmo; cretenses y árabes: ¡todos por igual los oímos proclamar en nuestra propia lengua las maravillas de Dios!».

12 Desconcertados y perplejos, se preguntaban: «¿Qué quiere decir esto?». 13 Otros se burlaban y decían: «Lo que pasa es que están borrachos».

14 Entonces Pedro, con los once, se puso de pie y dijo a voz en cuello: «Compatriotas judíos y todos ustedes que están en Jerusalén, déjenme explicarles lo que sucede; presten atención a lo que voy a decir. 15 Estos no están borrachos, como suponen ustedes. ¡Apenas son las nueve de la mañana! 16 En realidad lo que pasa es lo que anunció el profeta Joel:

17 »“Sucederá que en los últimos días —dice Dios—, derramaré mi Espíritu sobre todo ser humano.

Los hijos y las hijas de ustedes profetizarán,
tendrán visiones los jóvenes
y sueños los ancianos.

18 En esos días derramaré mi Espíritu
aun sobre mis siervos y mis siervas,
y profetizarán.

19 Arriba en el cielo y abajo en la tierra mostraré prodigios:
sangre, fuego y nubes de humo.

20 El sol se convertirá en tinieblas
y la luna en sangre
antes que llegue el día del Señor,
día grande y esplendoroso.

21 Y todo el que invoque el nombre del Señor será salvo”.

A TIME FOR ALL AGES.....

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 power to love and witness,
with the peace beyond compare:
come, Holy Spirit, come.

SERMON.....**Rev. Dr. Sarah Townes**

PASTORAL PRAYER.....

PRAYER OF JESUS

Our Father, Our Mother,
Who is in Heaven, Holy be Your name,
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.....

CLOSING HYMN #286 “Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”

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

LIFE OF OUR COMMUNITY.....

CLOSING REFLECTION.....

“Dorenda Morse, piano

BENEDICTION.....

Permissions:

“This Is the Day” Contributors: Les Garrett (1967)

“Breathe on Me, O Breath of God”

Contributors: Chaz Bowers

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“Like the Murmur of the Dove’s Song”

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“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”

Contributors: James K. Manley, Pilgrim Press

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Welcome!

Thank you for joining us in worship today

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 vibrant ministry in the community. Our church is a part of a blend of five major Protestant denominations that united together in 1957 to form the United Church of Christ: Congregational, Christian, Afro-Christian, German Evangelical and Reformed. We 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 say at our church that "God is still speaking!" "There is still more light and truth to break forth from God's holy word."

- We are a church that:
 - Centers our faith and practice in the life and ministry Jesus Christ.
 - Takes the Bible seriously, not literally.
 - Builds community partnerships across differences.
 - Worships God with joyful hearts and open minds.
 - Includes children in the life and ministry of the church.
 - Celebrates creativity and the arts.
 - Encounters Christ in Creation, community, sacraments, music, scripture, and service.
 - Listens and responds to the movement of the Holy Spirit.
 - Celebrates an open table and seeks to be inclusive of ALL people.
 - Seeks to live out our faith in the world as we build God's reign of love and justice on earth.
 - Believes that growth in wisdom and understanding happens at all stages of life.
 - Embraces solidarity, not just charity.
 - 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.

Vision Statement

Mission Statement

Church of the Good Shepherd desires to be an

The mission of Church of the Good

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

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