

**WELCOME TO SHILOH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
PENTECOST - MAY 23, 2021**

MEDITATION

“Without Pentecost the Christ-event - the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus - remains imprisoned in history as something to remember, think about and reflect on. The Spirit of Jesus comes to dwell within us, so that we can become living Christs here and now.”

Henri Nouwen

THE PRELUDE. *“Where the Spirit of the Lord Is Holy Spirit, Rain Down”*

WELCOME AND CONCERNS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: With tongues of flame, the Holy Spirit descends
to burn in our hearts anew.

All: Unite us, Holy Spirit!

One: Like the rush of wind, we sense God’s presence
blowing afresh throughout the world.

All: Unite us, Holy Spirit!

One: Across the barriers of language and culture,
Christ’s message of love and grace is heard.

All: Unite us, Holy Spirit!

One: Divine Advocate, we seek your guidance
as we search for the Spirit of Truth.

All: Unite us, Holy Spirit! Amen.

***UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Holy One, ignite within us a fiery passion for your mission in the world today. Warm us by the Spirit’s dancing tongues of flame, that we may feel your kindling blaze within, urging us to do your greater good. Make us wholly present to experience a new birth, and awaken possibilities within us to share your love in the world. In this love and abundance, we come to celebrate your harvest — a harvest bearing the first fruits of the Spirit within us. Show us how to use these gifts, as we listen for your truth in the gentle breeze of your Spirit. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

HYMN. *“Every Time I Feel the Spirit”*. No. 282

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Heavenly Father, you dwell within us
in sighs too deep for words,
yet we cannot hear you.

Brother Jesus, we yearn for your presence,
we seek your abundant grace,
yet we cannot feel it.

Sister Spirit, you prepare to sear our souls for your purpose,
yet we allow our somber selves to intrude,
shutting our minds to your power.

Remind us, we pray,
that we need only trust in the giver of life
to find the hope and faith you have promised.

Gather us up in the winds of your favor
and carry us to ever greater heights,
through Christ who loves us still. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

People of the Spirit, listen. The wind that drives the heavens—the wind that soars above and beyond us all, unifies us in God’s love.
Do not be afraid!

Our Comforter and Advocate has come. Rejoice in the knowledge that all is forgiven.

SHARING THE BLESSING OF CHRIST'S PEACE *(Please wave to one another)*

Feel the presence of the Holy Spirit in the healing breath of God. See the bright embers of faith beckon each of us to unity in God.
Greet one another in the assurance that God's peace is ever present.
The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.
Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's Peace.

CHILDREN'S TIME

WITNESS TO OUR SACRED STORY

Ezekiel 37:1-14; Second Lesson: Psalm 104:24-34; Third Lesson: Acts 2:1-21

SERMON. "The Language of the Spirit"

MEN'S CHORUS. "Sweet, Sweet Spirit" Akers

PASTORAL PRAYER

SILENT PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS BEFORE GOD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

The church exists because God's Holy Spirit has called us together and bound us in covenant for the purpose of a particular mission. With our gifts let us affirm and support God's mission.

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE** "Doxology" No. 778

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ and Spirit One. Amen.**

***UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Holy Spirit of God, we symbolically dedicate our lives through the dedication of our gifts. We ask for your blessings to magnify and multiply our tangible gifts to further your work of justice, peace, and charity in our neighborhood and around the world. Amen.

HYMN. "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness" No. 286

<p><i>Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free, Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.</i></p> <p><i>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."</i></p> <p><i>You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand and you goaded your people with a law and a land; and when they were blinded with idols and lies, then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes.</i></p>	<p><i>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.</i></p> <p><i>You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes. From the bondage of sorrow all the captives dream dreams; our women see visions, our men clear their eyes. With bold new decisions your people arise.</i></p>
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***BENEDICTION**

Now let us go forth into the world, our communities and homes with the joy of celebrating the birth of the church on Pentecost. Let us minister to those in need, advocate for justice for all people, and breathe the breath of new life! **Amen.**

THE POSTLUDE. "Pentecostal Power"

WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT YOU JOINED US FOR WORSHIP TODAY!

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK:

Morning Prayer (*Unknown Writer*)

Heavenly Father, clear my sleepy head and fill my mind with love in action. Ignite my spirit and set this day on me, show me your kingdom alive. Help me to see that Jesus' name. Amen.



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with expectation. Awake my slow body and energize my heart fire with promise. Make the ordinary extraordinary. Engage every waking moment is full of promise because of you. In

Evening Prayer (*Unknown Writer*)

Loving Lord, Dear Jesus, you know my worries and care for my troubles. So I give these heavy concerns to you. I lay these situations at your feet. The empty cross is a place of rest, where I can reflect upon your resurrection and the moment when love overcame. Thank you that your love in me can transform the landscape of my life. I walk with peace into the new day, and put my hope in you. Nothing is outside of your redeeming love, might I rest now in the knowledge that you will light my path and guide my life. In Your Holy name. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH

Nancy Hamme, Stewart and Marie Wagner, Marguerite Lochman, Arlene Myers, Charlotte Rohrbaugh, Helen Byers, Mary Emma Elicker, Catherine Lochman, Vanessa Seifarth, Bev Kirk, Julene Bechtel, Jim Bentzel Sr. Phil Myers, Joanne Overmiller, Milton Hoak, Dottie Limbert, Donna Krone, Elva Winter, Mary Rodgers, Oscar Bupp, Bob and Margie Behler, Chuck and Sandy Baboian, Sandy Barnes, Staff and Residents at Providence Place, Richard Gruver, Rosabel Bentzel, Donna Robertson

THOSE WHO GRIEVE FOR THEIR LOVED ONES

The Downs Family, The Heath Family, The Jacoby Family, The Luckenbaugh Family.

HIGH SCHOOL, COLLEGE, AND OTHER GRADUATES



The Recognition of Graduates will be held on Sunday, **June 6**. If you are graduating, please contact the church office by **May 23** with your graduation information. We would like to include this information in the bulletin on Recognition Sunday and also in the *June Communique*.

We will be celebrating the **Early Learning Center on Sunday, May 30th** and will be collecting a special offering to replenish the funds used to purchase children's bibles for the students of the ELC. The "Love Offering" envelopes on the tables in in the Narthex next to the bulletins can be used for this special collection or you can include it with your regular offering, using the blank line on your regular offering envelope.



GROCERY GIFT CARDS = CONTRIBUTION TO CHURCH. Weis and Giant grocery gift cards are available for purchase. For every dollar of gift cards purchased, \$.05 is donated to the church by the grocery store. This contribution is used to support our Missionaries, Sally Jane and Crosby Johnson in Costa Rica. Please contact the office if you interested in purchasing one.

OFFERING is continually being collected for our missionaries, **Sally Jane and Crosby Johnson**.





BULLETIN SPONSORS are needed. The cost is \$20 and may be placed in your regular offering envelope. Please call the church office **2 weeks prior** to your date to have your “Special” wording placed in the bulletin.



AS A REMINDER, THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, MAY 31 IN OBERSERVANCE OF THE MEMORIAL HOLIDAY.

*No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey,
you are welcome here at Shiloh UCC, where God is still speaking”*

THIS WEEK

- SUN 10:00 **Pentecost/Church Picnic**
- MON 8-12 ELC Summer Camp (100)
- TUES 8-12 ELC Summer Camp (100)
- WED 8-12 ELC Summer Camp (100)
- 9:30 Bible Study (202)
- 5:30 TOPS (100)
- THUR 8-12 ELC Summer Camp (100)
- 6:15 Hand Bell Choir (Sanct)
- 6:30 NA Group (100)
- SUN 9:15 ELC Sunday



➤ **LITURGIST:** Nathan Limbert

Attendance last Sunday: 88
THE CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Melinda LaMontagne, Ph.D.
	pastormelinda@shilohucc.com
Pastor Melinda office hours: Wednesdays and Thursdays 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	
Director of Music.....	Stephanie Limbert
Organist	Sandra Bamberger
Missionaries in Costa Rica	Sally Jane and Crosby Johnson
Early Learning Center Director	Allison Hartnett
Administrative Assistant.....	Maira Rivera

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