

**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.**

*\*Please do not sing the hymn, just follow along\**

**HYMN.** . . . . . *“Every Time I Feel the Spirit”* . . . . . No. 282  
(See Insert)



“All of  
them  
were filled  
with the  
Holy Spirit...”

Acts 2:4

**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.

**\*Please do not sing the hymn, just follow along\***

**HYMN**..... “*Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*” ..... No. 286  
*(See Insert)*

**\*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*”.....

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**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 expectation. Awake my slow body and energize my heart with love in action. Ignite my spirit and set this day on fire with promise. Make the ordinary extraordinary. Engage me, show me your kingdom alive. Help me to see that every waking moment is full of promise because of you. In Jesus' name. Amen.



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### 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](mailto:pastormelinda@shilohucc.com)

**Pastor Melinda office hours: Wed. and Thurs. 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

Website: [www.shilohuccyorkpa.org](http://www.shilohuccyorkpa.org)

Facebook Page . . . . . [www.facebook.com/shilohuccyorkpa](http://www.facebook.com/shilohuccyorkpa)



**PENTECOST SUNDAY**

May 23, 2021

Acts 2:1-21

**Spirit for All  
Strengthen the Church Offering**

Today is Pentecost, sometimes called the church's birthday. Every church was a new church start at one time and this is the day we recall and celebrate the day we were a new church. In that spirit, many churches receive the Strengthen the Church offering on this day.

“The Strengthen the Church offering supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. Your support of this offering will help the UCC fulfill its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities.

As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults.” ([ucc.org/stc](http://ucc.org/stc))

Your congregation's offering provides the financial resources for the United Church of Christ to be a Spirit-inspired and world-changing Christian movement. Strengthen the Church funds ministry that allows us to benefit from best practices, insights, and innovations across the life of the UCC.

Because of your support, new church starts have emerged, congregations have been revitalized, and leadership skills have been enhanced.

To find out more about how your church can Strengthen the Church, visit: <https://www.ucc.org/stc>

