



First Central Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 23, 2021

Pentecost Sunday

Prelude

Canzona in F

Guilmant

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Katie Miller

*Greeting and Passing of the Peace

"The Peace of God be with you."

In Unison: **Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

** Let us rise in body or spirit.*

Call to Worship

James Askew, liturgist

The day of Pentecost has arrived, and we are together.

Will the works of God be known among us today?

God comes to us as a gentle breath.

Breathe and be filled with the Spirit of God.

God's Spirit brings us new life, linking us to one another.

May the glory of God be known among us today.

*Processional Hymn

Wind Who Makes All Winds That Blow

Wind who makes all winds that blow – gusts that bend the saplings low, gales that heave the sea in waves, stirrings in the mind's deep caves – aim your breath with steady power on your church, this day, this hour. Raise, renew the life we've lost, Spirit God of Pentecost.

Fire who fuels all fires that burn – suns around which planets turn, beacons marking reefs and

shoals, shining truth to guide our souls – come to us as once you came: burst in tongues of sacred flame!

Holy Spirit, Wind and Flame, move within our mortal frame. Make our hearts an altar pyre. Kindle them with your own fire. Breathe and blow upon that blaze till our lives, our deeds and ways
Speak that tongue which every land by your grace shall understand.

***Invocation**

Amazing God, how manifold are your works. The earth is full of life you have created, in forms too numerous to count. You have linked us, your people, to the earth and to all living things. We are interdependent. Come among us now and make your ways known. Help us to dream dreams and see visions of your intentions for this world and for your church. Amen.

***Gloria**

Black Hymnal, No. 759

Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit, Three in One; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Conversation with the Children

New Testament Lesson

Acts 2:1-21

For the Word of God in scripture,
For the Word of God within us,
For the Word of God among us,
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

What Does This Mean?

Rev. Dr. Scott Jones

Musical Interlude

***Prayer of Confession**

Rev. Dr. Jim Harmon

Call us out of the deep ruts that keep us from knowing the fullness of life you reveal when we welcome your Spirit. We are not always as bold and open and visionary as we ought to be. Help us to flourish. Amen.

*** Assurance of Forgiveness**

The Spirit helps us in our weakness, interceding for us, and guiding us to truth. God restores us to the fullness of life, offers us hope, and assures us of our worth and value. Be filled with power and glory.

Prayers

Pastoral Prayer

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offertory

Share the Spirit

Bouma

***Hymn of Dedication**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

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!

***Offertory Prayer**

We bring our offerings as expressions of thanksgiving for all your gifts. May your glory be proclaimed in all we give and all we do. Amen.

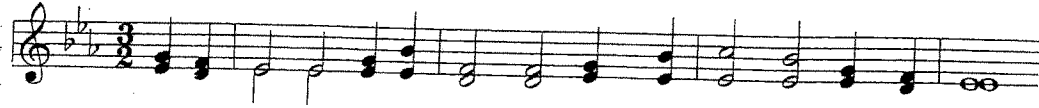
***Recessional Hymn**

Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

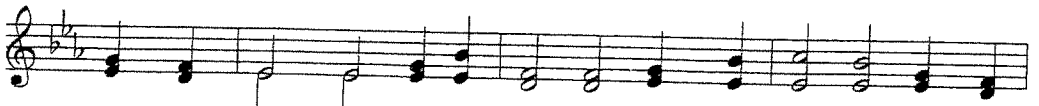
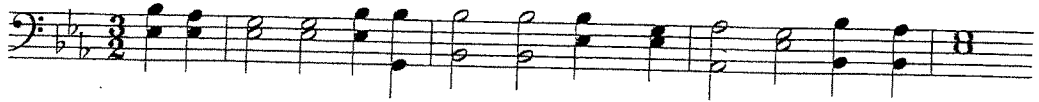
Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

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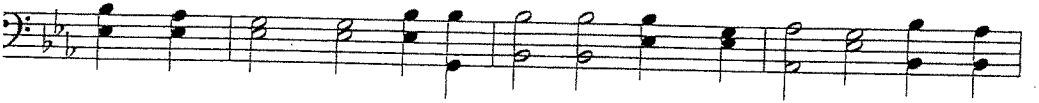
Timothy Rees, 1922; alt.



1 Ho-ly Spir - it, ev - er dwell - ing in the ho - liest realms of light;
2 Ho-ly Spir - it, ev - er breath - ing on the church the breath of life;
3 Ho-ly Spir - it, ev - er work - ing through the church - 's min - is - try—



Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er brood - ing o'er a world of gloom and
Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er striv - ing through your peo - ple's cease - less
Quick - ening, strength - ening, and ab - solv - ing, set - ting cap - tive sin - ners



blight; Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er rais - ing earth - bound souls to glo - ry
strife; Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er form - ing in the church the mind of
free; Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er bind - ing age to age and soul to



high; Liv - ing, life - im - part - ing Spir - it; you we praise and mag - ni - fy.
Christ: In our wor - ship we will praise you for your fruit and gifts un - priced.
soul, In com - mu - ni - ty un - end - ing you we wor - ship and ex - tol.



***Benediction**

Benediction Response

Bouma

May you hear laughter in the wind. May you see hope in the light.
May you find courage in your faith. May you know joy in your God.

Postlude

Laude Chapel

Open & Affirming Statement

In our ongoing quest for hearts that open, minds that understand,
and lives that serve, we welcome into our fellowship, membership, leadership, and employment,
all people, regardless of abilities, race, gender, sexual orientation, or any God-given characteristic.

Announcements

May 23, 2021

Joys: Congratulations to *Pete Fey & Katie Foster*, celebrating their marriage this week!

Happy Birthday this week: to *Kendra DelaCadena, Carrie Rath, Dorothy Rydberg, Brandon Weibel, Garret Higginbotham, and Adam Steffen.*

FirstKids: Memorial Hall following the Conversation with the Children. Masks required.

Activities for the Coming Week, May 24 – May 29

Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 61:8; Psalm 29; Romans 9:12-17; John 3:1-17.

Monday: Staff meeting, 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday: Evergreen Thrift Shop 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
End of Year Picnic: 5:30 p.m., Elmwood Park.
Vespers, 7 p.m., Elmwood Park, or FaceBook Live (*last for the season*)

Thursday: Evergreen Thrift Shop 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Friday: Evergreen Thrift Shop 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Saturday: Evergreen Thrift Shop 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Sunday, May 30

Worship: 10:30 a.m. on FaceBook Live, YouTube, or in person.

Want to donate electronically? Please scan the QR code.

