

# Central Congregational United Church of Christ

May 28, 2023

Ministers / **All of us**

Pastor / **Rev. Gage Church**

Worship Leader / **Melanie Ralston**

Music Director & Accompanist / **Linda Smith**

Song Leader / *Mitch Dziewior*

## Prelude

*"In the Sweet By and By"*

## \* Opening Hymn

*"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"*

See page 6.

## Call to Worship

All creation looks to you, O God.

**When you send out your Spirit, everything comes to life,  
and we are created anew.**

I will sing to you, O God, as long as I live.

**I will praise you with every breath I take.**

Come, Holy Spirit — light up our hearts.

**Come, Holy Spirit — fill us with wonder. Amen!**

## Greetings and Announcements

### Passing the Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you!

**And also with you!**

### Prayer of Confession

**Author of life, we humbly confess that too often we fall short of your intentions for us and of our expectations of ourselves. We would touch the world with goodness, but often we withdraw in anxiety and self-concern. We would live with integrity and stand for truth, but**

\* indicates to rise in body or spirit.

**Bold** indicates to speak or sing in unison.

**we are torn with uncertainties. We would go about our daily tasks with confidence and joy, but find ourselves struggling with self-doubt. We need your presence, O God, if we are to be what we could be and want to be. Let our worship heal us, renew us, strengthen us, that we may go out in joy and be led forth in peace. Amen.**

## **Assurance of Pardon**

### **The Reading**

*Acts 2:1-21*

When Pentecost Day arrived, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound from heaven like the howling of a fierce wind filled the entire house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be individual flames of fire alighting on each one of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them to speak.

There were pious Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. When they heard this sound, a crowd gathered. They were mystified because everyone heard them speaking in their native languages. They were surprised and amazed, saying, "Look, aren't all the people who are speaking Galileans, every one of them? How then can each of us hear them speaking in our native language? Parthians, Medes, and Elamites; as well as residents of Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the regions of Libya bordering Cyrene; and visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism), Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the mighty works of God in our own languages!" They were all surprised and bewildered. Some asked each other, "What does this mean?" Others jeered at them, saying, "They're full of new wine!"

Peter stood with the other eleven apostles. He raised his voice and declared, "Judeans and everyone living in Jerusalem! Know this! Listen carefully to my words! These people aren't drunk, as you suspect; after all, it's only nine o'clock in the morning! Rather, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

*In the last days, God says,  
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.  
Your sons and daughters will prophesy.  
Your young will see visions.  
Your elders will dream dreams.  
Even upon my servants, men and women,  
I will pour out my Spirit in those days,  
and they will prophesy.  
I will cause wonders to occur in the heavens above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood and fire and a cloud of smoke.  
The sun will be changed into darkness,  
and the moon will be changed into blood,  
before the great and spectacular day of the Lord comes.  
And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.*

*\* indicates to rise in body or spirit.*

**Bold** indicates to speak or sing in unison.

**Special Music**  
Mitch Dziewior

**Message**  
Rev. Gage Church

**\* Congregational Hymn**  
*"Every Time I Feel the Spirit"*

*Refrain*

Ev - ery time I feel the Spir - it mov - ing in my heart I will  
pray. Yes, ev - ery time I feel the Spir - it mov - ing

*Last time, end*

in my heart I will pray. **1** Up - on the moun - tain my God  
**2** Oh, Jor - dan riv - er, chil - ly and

spoke, out of God's mouth came fire and smoke. Looked all a -  
cold, it chills the bod - y, not the soul. There's on - ly

*to Refrain*

round me; looked so fine; I asked my God if all were mine.  
one train on this track; it runs to heav - en, then right back.

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## Joys and Concerns

*We respond with "Lord, hear our prayer."*

### Time of Silence

#### Prayer of Pentecost

Come, Spirit who is our Light. Shine among the shadows within.

**Warm and transform our hearts.**

Come, Spirit who makes home in us. Draw us to the treasures of your dwelling.

**Reveal to us the inner journey of love.**

Come, Spirit, Comforter and Consoler. Heal the wounded. Soothe the anxious.

**Be consolation for all who grieve and ache.**

Come, Spirit who energizes our being. Keep us from tangles of toil and travail.

**Lead us to moments of prayer and play.**

Come, Spirit, consuming Fire of Love. Fill us with enthusiasm for your vision.

**May the desire for truth be vibrant within us.**

Come, Spirit, Joy of our souls. Dance amid life's hills and valleys.

**Encircle us with the delights of your dance.**

Come, Spirit of wisdom and insight. Draw us toward your goodness and light.

**Direct our growth and guide our ways.**

Come, Spirit, Strength of wounded ones. Be warmth in hearts grown cold.

**Empower the powerless. Rekindle the weary.**

Come, Spirit, Source of our peace. Deepen in us the action of peacemakers.

**Heal the divisions that ravage the earth. Come, Spirit, come. Amen.**

#### The Prayer of Jesus

**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, the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

#### Offering

God is good! **All the time!**

All the time! **God is good!**

Let us share the goodness of our God.

*We are "centralchurchtopeka" on Venmo.*

### \* Doxology

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

### \* Prayer of Dedication

Bless these gifts that they may be used to further your realm of heaven on earth, that all may be nourished, that all may know you, and that all may flourish. Amen.

### \* Closing Hymn

*"There's a Spirit in the Air"*

1 There's a spir - it in the air, **tell - ing** Chris - tians ev - ery - where:  
 2 Lose your shy - ness, find your tongue; **tell** the world what God has done:  
 3 When be - liev - ers break the bread, when a hun - gry child is fed:  
 4 Still the Spir - it gives us light, **see - ing** wrong and set - ting right:  
 5 When a strang - er's not a - lone, where the home - less find a home:

"Praise the love that **Christ re - vealed,** liv - ing, work - ing in our world."  
 God in Christ has come to stay. **Live to - mor - row's** life to - day.  
 Praise the love that **Christ re - vealed,** liv - ing, work - ing in our world.  
 God in Christ has come to stay. **Live to - mor - row's** life to - day.  
 Praise the love that **Christ re - vealed,** liv - ing, work - ing in our world.

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## \* Benediction

### Postlude

"Soon I Will Be Done"

"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

C F G Dm G C G

1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:  
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at his ta - ble he set the tone,  
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,

C F G Dm7 C G C

bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.  
 teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.  
 gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - ery - where!

*Refrain (first time p, second time f)*

C C7 F Dm G C F C

Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!