

# ORDER OF VIRTUAL WORSHIP

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**May 23, 2021**

**10:00 A.M.**

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**Welcome to Worship** at the virtual Ellington Congregational Church,  
*United Church of Christ. We're happy to have you with us this morning.*

## **Our Church Mission Statement**

*To be a dynamic and nurturing community  
called by God's grace  
to know Christ and make Him known  
through worship, love, and service.*

Adopted September 15, 2019

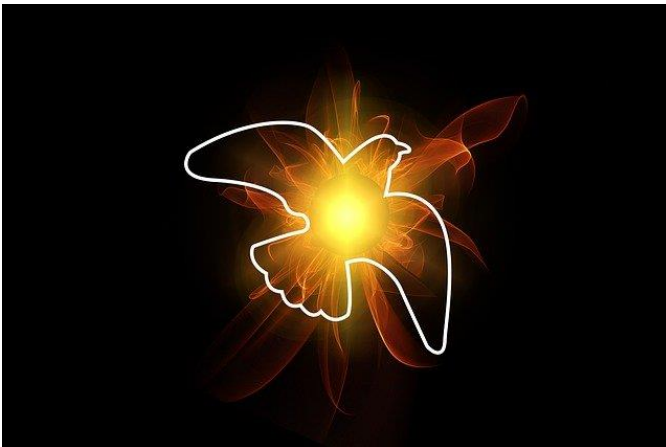


## **PENTECOST**

### **SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

### **OUR CHILDREN HELP TO**

### **CELEBRATE PENTECOST**



# WELCOME

## GATHERING FOR THE WORD

### RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The gift of the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, brings guidance to believers and an understanding of God's "Right Way for Living."

**All: God's people shall be empowered by the Holy Spirit to do God's work here on earth.**

One: Christ Jesus is always with us; Christ's name is to be praised in all that we do.

**All: Christ Jesus intercedes when we are weak and promises to uphold us in times of trouble.**

One: All things are now possible with the gift of empowerment when we call on Christ Jesus.

**All: Let us worship God through Jesus, the Christ!**

### HYMN

Chalice Hymnal #254

#### *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

<sup>1</sup> *Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
fill me with life anew,  
that I may love what thou dost love,  
and do what thou wouldst do.*

<sup>2</sup> *Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
until my heart is pure,  
until with thee I will one will  
to do and to endure.*

<sup>3</sup> *Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
till I am wholly thine,  
until this earthly part of me  
glows with thy fire divine.*

<sup>4</sup> *Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
so shall I never die,  
but live with thee the perfect life  
of thine eternity.*

WORDS: Edwin Hatch, 1878, alt. MUSIC: Robert Jackson, 1888 // CCLI #1326969

## **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All: With new life all around us, dear God, we still hold fast to old ways. Despite your promises, we seek self-assurance. You send your Holy Spirit to enliven and empower our existence. Instead of being empowered, the darkness of doubt dispels the new light the Holy Spirit brings. We are afraid to admit what it might mean if we surrendered our whole selves to you. We claim the indwelling Spirit, yet we abide by our own counsel. Please, forgive us and make us whole. Amen.**

## **ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

Pastor: God sent Christ Jesus with the universal message of salvation: "Whoever calls on Christ's name will be saved." Brothers and Sisters, trust that name and be assured: In Christ Jesus, we are forgiven! Amen.

## **TEACHER RECOGNITION AND PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

## ENGAGING THE WORD

### **CHILDREN CELEBRATE GIFTS of the HOLY SPIRIT**

**ANTHEM**

*Air*

Handel

Dave Robert ~ violin solo

**GOSPEL LESSON**

John 15:26-27; 16:12-15 (NLT)

<sup>26</sup> “But I will send you the Advocate—the Spirit of truth. He will come to you from the Father and will testify all about me. <sup>27</sup> And you must also testify about me because you have been with me from the beginning of my ministry.

<sup>12</sup> “There is so much more I want to tell you, but you can’t bear it now. <sup>13</sup> When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future. <sup>14</sup> He will bring me glory by telling you whatever he receives from me. <sup>15</sup> All that belongs to the Father is mine; this is why I said, ‘The Spirit will tell you whatever he receives from me.’

**NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE**

Acts 2:1-21 (NLT)

**2** On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. <sup>2</sup> Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. <sup>4</sup> And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.

<sup>5</sup> At that time there were devout Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> When they heard the loud noise, everyone came running, and they were bewildered to hear their own languages being spoken by the believers.

<sup>7</sup> They were completely amazed. “How can this be?” they exclaimed. “These people are all from Galilee, <sup>8</sup> and yet we hear them speaking in our own native languages! <sup>9</sup> Here we are— Parthians, Medes, Elamites, people from Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, the province of Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, and the areas of Libya around Cyrene, visitors from Rome <sup>11</sup> (both Jews and converts to Judaism), Cretans, and Arabs. And we all hear these people speaking in our own languages about the wonderful things God has done!” <sup>12</sup> They stood there amazed and perplexed. “What can this mean?” they asked each other.

<sup>13</sup> But others in the crowd ridiculed them, saying, “They’re just drunk, that’s all!”

<sup>14</sup> Then Peter stepped forward with the eleven other apostles and shouted to the crowd, “Listen carefully, all of you, fellow Jews and residents of Jerusalem! Make no mistake about this. <sup>15</sup> These people are not drunk, as some of you are assuming. Nine o’clock in the morning is much too early for that. <sup>16</sup> No, what you see was predicted long ago by the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup> ‘In the last days,’ God says,  
‘I will pour out my Spirit upon all people.  
Your sons and daughters will prophesy.  
Your young men will see visions,  
and your old men will dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup> In those days I will pour out my Spirit

even on my servants—men and women alike—  
and they will prophesy.

<sup>19</sup> And I will cause wonders in the heavens above  
and signs on the earth below—  
blood and fire and clouds of smoke.

<sup>20</sup> The sun will become dark,  
and the moon will turn blood red  
before that great and glorious day of the LORD arrives.

<sup>21</sup> But everyone who calls on the name of the LORD  
will be saved.’

## MESSAGE

Rev. Joanne Myer

“The Gift of God’s Spirit”

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

Chalice Hymnal #243

#### *Holy Spirit, Come*

*O God, the Holy Spirit, come to us, and among us:  
come as the wind, and cleanse us;  
come as the fire, and burn;  
come as the dew, and refresh.*

*Convict, convert, and consecrate many hearts and lives  
to our great good and your greater glory.*

Anonymous // CCLI #1326969

## SILENT MEDITATION

**PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts)**

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. Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

**HYMN OF PREPARATION**

Chalice Hymnal #387

***Bread of the World, in Mercy Broken***

*<sup>1</sup> Bread of the world in mercy broken,  
wine of the soul in mercy shed,  
by whom the words of life were spoken,  
and in whose death our sins are dead:*

WORDS: Reginald Heber, 1827 MUSIC: John S. B. Hodges, 1868 // CCLI #1326969

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*Our church welcomes to communion people of all ages  
who desire to follow Jesus Christ and grow in faith.*

All are invited to prepare communion elements in their home (loaf of bread, dinner roll, croissant, slice of bread, etc., and glass of orange or grape juice, wine or water, etc.).

**INVITATION**

***Remember Me***

*Upon the loaf and upon the cup of the Lord, in letters which speak not to the eye, but to the heart of every disciple, is inscribed, "When this you see, remember me." Indeed, the Lord says to each disciple, when he receives the symbols into his hand, "This is my body broken for you." The loaf is thus constituted a representation of his body – first whole, then wounded for our sins. The cup is thus instituted a representation of his blood – once his life, but now poured out to cleanse us from our sins.*

*Alexander Campbell, 19th-century Disciples forebear // CCLI #1326969*

**PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS**

**UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**All: Eternal God of Love, we thank you for uniting us by baptism into the body of Christ and by this meal filling us with joy and hope. Grant that in the days ahead our lips that have sung your praises may speak the truth. Grant that in the days ahead our eyes which have seen your love may look with compassion on the needs of the world. Grant that in the days ahead our hands which have held this loaf and cup may be active in your service. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Christ. Amen.**



## GOING WITH THE WORD

### HYMN OF DEDICATION

Chalice Hymnal #237

#### *On Pentecost They Gathered*

<sup>1</sup> *On Pentecost they gathered quite early in the day,  
a band of Christ's disciples, to worship, sing, and pray.  
A mighty wind came blowing, filled all the swirling air,  
and tongues of fire a-glowing inspired each person there.*

<sup>4</sup> *O Spirit, sent from heaven on that day long ago,  
rekindle faith among us in all life's ebb and flow.  
O give us ears to listen and tongues a-flame with praise,  
so people of all nations glad songs of joy shall raise.*

WORDS: Jane Parker Huber, 1981 MUSIC: *Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693; harm. Felix Mendelssohn, 1847; desc. O. I. Cricket Harrison, 1994 Words © 1981 Jane Parker Huber; desc. © 1995 Chalice Press // CCLI #1326969

### RESPONSIVE BLESSING

**One:** Go out into the world as Spirited people.

**All:** **We will be as powerful as the wind in doing God's work in the world.**

**One:** Be as energetic as fire in extending the love of Christ Jesus.

**All:** **We will be builders of understanding and architects for peace. Amen.**

