



CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
30 N. CLINTON ST.
IOWA CITY, IA 52245
319-337-4301

WORSHIP FOR MAY 28, 2023
PENTECOST

“The breath of God, the Holy Spirit, is not somehow tied to the steeple of the church. It is truly free. It is active in the whole of creation, and in the religious lives of many people. The language of the Holy spirit reminds those of us who are Christians that God touches, inspires, and is present in the lives of all people.”

Diana Eck

PRELUDE

“All Glory Be to God on High”

Paul Manz

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marsha Lowe, Liturgist

CHORAL INTROIT

* CALL TO WORSHIP

We all breathe in the air that is life-giving.

We all feel the force of the blowing wind.

We all long for the source of inspiration.

The Spirit blows where it will.

The Spirit may come as a loud, rushing wind.

The Spirit may come as a gentle breath.

Let us seek the Spirit that will sustain us.

Let us worship God.

*HYMN 325 (vs. 1, 2, 4, & 5)

“Spirit of God, Attend Our Prayers”

Spirit divine, attend our prayer,

And make this house Your home;

Descend with all Your gracious powers;

O come, great Spirit, come!

Come as the light! to us reveal

Our emptiness and woe;

And lead us in those paths of life

Where all the righteous go.

Come as the dove and spread Your wings,

The wings of peaceful love;

And let the Church on earth become

Blest as the church above.

Spirit divine, attend our prayers;

Make a lost world Your home;

Descend with all Your gracious powers,

O come, great Spirit, come!

*OPENING PRAYER

Holy Spirit, you sustain all of life. We give thanks that you have carried us to this day. You warm and comfort us, giving us courage and energy beyond our own strength. Open our minds to your wisdom. Open our hearts to your love. Open our spirits to your healing power.

Come, Holy Spirit, revive us and equip us for those new tasks to which your people are called today. Carry your church forward with new life, new hope, new vision. Let the gifts of all be valued and used for the common good. May we act in the myriad richness of the one body of Christ. Amen.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**Like the murmur of the dove's song,
like the challenge of her flight,
like the vigor of the wind's rush,
like the new flame's eager might:
Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

**With the healing of division,
with the ceaseless voice of prayer,
with the power to love and witness,
with the peace beyond compare:
Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

ANTHEM “Come Down, O Love Divine” Bianco da Siena/David Ashely White

TIME OF PRAYER

Prayers of the People

Silent Prayer

The Prayer of Our Savior

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.

Choral Response

SERVICE OF GIVING

Invitation

Offertory “Come Down, O Love Divine “ Wilbur Held

*Response

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Christ, all creatures here below,
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

(Children are dismissed to Children’s Church)

SCRIPTURE LESSON Acts 2:1-21

PSALM 104:24-32, 35b

O Lord, how manifold are your works!
in wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.

Yonder is the great and wide sea

**with its living things too many to number,
creatures both small and great.**

There move the ships,
and there is that Leviathan,
which you have made for the sport of it.

**All of them look to you
to give them their food in due season.**

You give it to them; they gather it;
you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

**You hide your face, and they are terrified;
you take away their breath,
and they die and return to their dust.**

You send forth your Spirit, and they are created;
and so you renew the face of the earth.

**May your glory, O Lord, endure forever;
may you rejoice in all your works.**

You look at the earth and it trembles;
you touch the mountains and they smoke.

**I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will praise my God while I have my being.**

May these words of mine please you;
I will rejoice in the Lord.

**Bless the Lord, O my soul.
Hallelujah!**

SCRIPTURE LESSON John 20:19-23

SERMON "Pentecost Loud and Quiet"

*HYMN 274 "O God of Earth and Space"

**O God of earth and space,
Of sea and fire and air,
Your providence surrounds us here
And everywhere.
In fruit and grain and tree,
In shelter from the cold,
In cooling breezes, flowing wells,
Now as of old.**

**Where faithfulness is shown,
Where love and truth abound,
Where beauty graces human life,
There You are found.
Inspirer of all thought!
Creative force of art!
The melody on every tongue,**

In every heart!

**Wherever freedom reigns,
Where sin is overthrown,
Where justice fused with mercy rules,
There You are known.
Give us the courage clear
To make the earth a home
For all to live in harmony
In Christ's shalom.**

**Your word commands response
And summons us to life.
We follow, strengthened by Your grace,
In calm or strife.
Our ever-present help,
Our challenge and our prod,
We praise You now and to life's end
Eternal God.**

***BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE**

POSTLUDE “Holy God, We Praise Your Name” Timothy Flynn

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Minister:	The Rev. Bill Lovin
Director of Children’s Programs:	The Rev. Ann Molsberry
Organist:	Bill Crouch
Choir Director	Chris Nakielski
Children’s Choir Director	Majesty Constable
Office Manager	Jenn Harden

TODAY

❖ Pentecost Sunday Worship

10:15 am

Recognition of High School Graduate
Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am
Children's Church During Worship
Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall After Worship

NEXT SUNDAY

❖ Sunday Worship 10:15 am
Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am
Children's Church During Worship
Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall After Worship

WE'RE GLAD THAT YOU HAVE JOINED US FOR WORSHIP THIS MORNING. We are putting the safety of both the vaccinated and the unvaccinated in our congregation and the community first. Masks are welcome. Everyone is invited to Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall after worship.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED TOMORROW, MAY 29, in observance of Memorial Day.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE RECOGNITION: This morning we recognize Ben Hofer, who will graduate from West High. Ben will attend The University of Iowa starting in August and plans to study engineering. The Diaconate has a book available in Rockwood Hall in which you can share your thoughts and good wishes with Ben. May and June bring other graduations as well. If you or someone you know is graduating from college, please let the church office know so that we can include this information in the church newsletter.

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING WILL BE RECEIVED THIS MORNING: Each year we receive a special offering that helps the church's love to grow and thrive. The "Strengthen the Church" offering grows the United Church of Christ's future by supporting new and renewing churches, youth and young adult ministries, and lay and pastoral leadership development—especially among women and people of color. It also funds the "Stillspeaking" Ministry, spreading the message of God's extravagant welcome, reaching out especially to those who have felt there is no room for them within Christianity and the church. Your generous gift will help the UCC create vibrant church communities of extravagant welcome.

WE'RE SERVING AT THE FREE LUNCH PROGRAM ON MONDAY. When there is a fifth Monday in a month, Congregational UCC serves at the Free Lunch Program. We'll be there tomorrow, May 29. Interested in helping in some way? Please email Vicki Thomae at vickithomae@gmail.com. Thanks!

THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED WITH THE MAY 22 HOPE LODGE DINNER: Darcie Hutzell, Fielding Woolums, Sally Strang, Rebecca Weatherford, Dianne Atkins, Andy Bertolatus, Ginny Clemons, Linda Muston, Chuck Dayton, Sue Dayton, Julie Wittig, Marsha Lowe, and Diane Dahl-McCoy. Our next Hope Lodge dinner will be Monday, July 17. Watch for a sign-up sheet in Rockwood Hall.

JUNE 4—STREETS CLOSED DURING IOWA ARTS FESTIVAL: Spring and summer bring great festivals to Iowa City—and close off some of the streets! Sunday, June 4, is the final day of the Iowa Arts Festival. Clinton, Dubuque, and Linn Streets will be closed between College and Jefferson Streets. Access to the church will be available from Jefferson Street and from Clinton Street coming from the north. Join us for worship at 10:15 a.m., but plan on a slightly longer walk.

MISSION BOARD MEMBERS ARE INVITING YOU TO PARTICIPATE WITH THEM AND OTHER CHURCH MEMBERS ON THE SATURDAY, JUNE 17, IOWA CITY PRIDE FESTIVAL EVENTS. There will be a sign-up sheet on a clipboard circulating in Rockwood Hall during coffee hour with opportunities to be in the *parade* and work at the *booth*. Please join us! As LGBTQ people and their Allies and consistent with our welcoming and affirming commitment, a display in Rockwood Hall continues to present timely opportunities and information supporting our efforts. If you have ideas, interest or concerns, visit with any of the subcommittee members: Hope Spragg, Linda Muston, Rebecca Weatherford, Julie Wittig, Paula Forest, Martha Ann Crawford, or Dianne Atkins.

PRIDE 2023 Vacation Bible School at the Congregational UCC is cancelled. But all is not lost! All the material that would have been covered in this setting will be shared during Children's Church at worship this summer.

FOR PENTECOST, HOPE SPRAGG IS CREATING A SPECIAL INSTALLATION of the Holy Spirit using her Storyteller's Tree that was first presented to our congregation at our Christmas Pageant...and you get to participate! Look for a table set up in Rockwood Hall with supplies for you to use to decorate your own version of a Bird of the Holy Spirit. Hope will use the birds to re-create her Storyteller's Tree for Pentecost Sunday.

OUR MISSION BOARD HAS AGREED TO HAVE AN ALL-CHURCH FOOD DRIVE THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF JUNE. The need for food at the CommUnity Food bank continues to increase. Members and friends may bring the needed items to the church and place them by the big peanut butter jar in Rockwood Hall. Items will be taken to the food bank during the week. Alternatively, you may take the food yourself to the back door of the CommUnity Food Bank in Pepperwood Mall. Monetary donations at CommUnity are also welcome.

The most-needed items include:

- Financial Donations
- Canned Fruit in Juice
- Peanut Butter
- Canned Meat
- Baby Diapers
- Baby Formula
- Rice and Pasta
- Hearty Soups and Stews
- Toilet Paper
- Laundry Detergent

Our last food drive effort was wildly successful, so let's do our part once again to help meet this need.

ALL CHURCH PICNIC—SUNDAY, JUNE 25: Summer is here and it's time for the Church Picnic. Bring your family, bring your friends and join us at SHELTER 12 IN LOWER CITY PARK from 4-7 p.m. Restrooms and parking are near the shelter. Our Membership Board will provide drinks and dessert. Please bring a dish to share and your own plates and tableware. You're welcome to bring games and play equipment, musical instruments, lawn chairs, and anything else that will make for a happy gathering.

CPR AND AED TRAINING: Dianne Atkins is offering free CPR and AED training to the congregation. The training will consist of watching two 2-minute videos, watching demonstrations of CPR and AED use and getting the chance to practice. Trainings will be offered at various times. Sign up on the sheets in Rockwood Hall (Under the Upcoming Events Bulletin). You can learn to save a life in just a few minutes.

DO YOU HAVE A CHURCH KEY? We have recently made new keys and are working at getting a better list of people who have keys. If you have a key to the church, please contact Trustee Chairperson, Kevin Richards, at (608) 807-7195 or at kd Richards1958@gmail.com. Thanks.

SEE SOMETHING—SAY SOMETHING: If you notice something in the building that needs attention—a leaky faucet, a loose railing, etc.—please let the church office or Trustee Chairperson, Kevin Richards, know right away. You can reach Kevin at (608) 807-7195 or at kd Richards1958@gmail.com. Thanks.

USHERS, GREETERS, AND HOSPITALITY OPPORTUNITIES: There are still some opportunities to greet people coming to worship, to usher, and to provide hospitality during coffee hour after worship. Please sign up on the sheets in Rockwood Hall or call the church office--319-337-4031.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE AS A LITURGIST ON SUNDAY MORNING? This is a great opportunity to welcome people and to lead them in worship. Bill Lovin provides the material. You provide the spirit. Contact Bill if you are interested or would like more information.



Want to give online? Scan the QR code for our giving app.
Your giving makes a world of difference.

WE LIVE STREAM OUR WORSHIP SERVICES AT 10:15 ON SUNDAY MORNING. You can join us online in real time at <https://vimeo.com/event/1424751>. This streaming address is the same each week.

RECORDINGS OF THE WORSHIP SERVICES are posted after worship on Sunday at <https://vimeo.com/channels/154m7852>. The recordings remain up permanently, so you can watch past worship services at your convenience or recommend them to a friend.