



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

WORSHIP FOR MAY 19, 2024  
PENTECOST

“We’re the body of Christ—not one of us, but all together—and we need each other. We’re different, and we’re meant to be different, and we’re meant to be together.”

Katherine Paterson

PRELUDE “Come Down, O Love Divine”

Robert A. Hobby

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Fieselmann, Liturgist

CHORAL INTROIT

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

Remember the promise of the Lord:

**God will pour out the Spirit on all flesh.**

Your sons and your daughters will prophesy,  
your old shall dream dreams, your young shall see visions!

**Indeed, God will pour out the Spirit on all! Let us worship God.**

\* HYMN 317           “Holy Ghost, Dispel Our Sadness”

**Holy Ghost, dispel our sadness;  
Pierce the clouds of nature’s night;  
Come, O Source of joy and gladness,  
Breathe Your life, and spread Your light.  
From the height which knows no measure,  
As a gracious shower descend,  
Bringing down the richest treasure  
Man can wish, or God can send.**

**Author of the new creation,  
Come, anoint us with Your power.  
Make our hearts Your habitation;  
With Your grace our spirits shower.  
Hear, O hear our supplication;  
Blessèd Spirit, God of peace!  
Rest upon this congregation,  
With the fullness of Your grace.**

\* OPENING PRAYER

**Holy Spirit, Comforter and Advocate, Energy and Breath, come to us as we gather today.  
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 (#325, vs. 1, 4 & 5)

**Spirit divine, attend our prayers;  
And make this house your home;  
Descend with all your gracious powers;  
O come, great Spirit, come!**

**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!

#### RECEPTION OF A NEW MEMBER

Introductions: Sylvia Woolums

Owning the Covenant

**We covenant with one another to seek and respond to the Word and will of God. We purpose to walk together in the ways of Jesus Christ, made known and to be made known to us. We hold it to be the mission of the Church to witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ in all the world, while worshipping God, and striving for truth, justice, and peace. As did our forebears, we depend on the Holy Spirit to lead and empower us. We pray for the coming of the reign of God, and we look with faith toward the triumph of righteousness and eternal life.**

Welcome of the Congregation

**We welcome you with joy into the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hope and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.**

ANTHEM "Come Down O Love Divine" David Ashley 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 "Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song" Michael Burkhardt

\*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

CELEBRATION OF THE MINISTRY OF THE REV. ANN MOLSBERRY

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE  
(The children are dismissed to Children's Church)

SCRIPTURE LESSON      Ezekiel 37:1-6

PSALM 84:1-8

How lovely is your dwelling place  
Lord God of power and might.

**My soul has a desire and longing  
to enter the courts of the Lord;  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God,**

The sparrow finds for herself a house  
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young.

**Even so have the singers a home at your altars;  
they stand always praising you, my king and my God.**

O Lord God of hosts,  
blessed are those who dwell in your house.

**Blessed are those whose strength is in you;  
who have set their hearts on pilgrimage.**

Going through the arid valley,  
they find a spring from which to drink;  
the early rain covers it with pools of water.

**They go from strength to strength  
and appear every one before God in Jerusalem.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON      Acts 2:1-21

SERMON                  "The Spirit of God Today"

\* HYMN 127 (vs. 1 & 3)      "Come, O Spirit"

**Come, O Spirit, with Your sound  
Like a wind, quick rushing;  
Come from heaven and stir our hearts,  
Each disciple touching!  
Mold our actions to Your will,  
You our service giving;  
Move within our fellowship,  
Transform now our living!**

**Come, O Spirit, fill Your church,  
Making strong our mission;  
Fill Your daughters and your sons  
With a mighty vision,  
Till the great and glorious day  
When the whole creation  
Sings Your praise as Lord and King,  
Giver of salvation!**

\*BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE      “Holy God, We Praise Your Name”      Flor Peeters

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

TODAY

❖ Choir Rehearsal	9:00 am
Church School Breakfast	9:00 am
Christian Education	9:15 am
Worship Service	10:15 am

TUESDAY

❖ Membership Board	5:30 pm
Diaconate	7:00 pm
Stewardship	7:00 pm
Trustees	7:00 pm

WENESDAY

❖ Confirmation Class/Diaconate Meeting	7:00 pm
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NEXT SUNDAY

❖ Choir Rehearsal	9:00 am
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**WE’RE GLAD THAT YOU ARE WORSHIPING WITH US THIS MORNING.** Everyone is invited to Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall after worship.

**THE FLOWERS IN MAY** are to honor all the mothers who have lost loved ones to suicide or accidental overdose, and are in Memory of Peter Fieselmann and Zachary Aschoff.

**WE WELCOME NICHOLAS RAINE** as our guest choir director this morning.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Jenn Harden will be leaving the office at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 21.

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE RECOGNITION:** Every year we recognize the high school graduates in our congregation. This year Sylvia Woolums will graduate from City High. The Diaconate has a book available in Rockwood Hall in which you can share your thoughts and good wishes with Sylvia.

**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.

**INSIDE OUT RECOVERY'S SPRING CONCERT, *BE AN INSTRUMENT FOR CHANGE*** will be held this afternoon from 3-5 at Chauncey Swan Park featuring the Awful Purdies! Bring your family and friends for an afternoon celebration of music, community, and shared experiences at this fundraising event in support of those returning to the community after incarceration.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO UNITED ACTION FOR YOUTH'S ANNUAL FUNDRAISER, FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS!** This is a fabulous event at the Graduate Hotel, Thursday, May 23 at 5:30 pm featuring appetizers, drinks, bidding on beautiful floral arrangements as well as incredible prizes including gift baskets, date nights and travel packages. As a presenting sponsor, we have a table of 8 reserved for our congregation. Contact the office (319-337-4301) if you are interested in attending this incredible event!

United Action for Youth (UAY) is a nonprofit organization which has been supporting young people and families in Johnson County and surrounding areas since 1970. Their vast array of services include (but are not limited to) art & music programming, counseling services, transitional housing, health education, a downtown youth center, teen parenting and LGBTQ+ support. Our church is a proud supporter of UAY and we were lucky to have their executive director, Talia Meidlinger visit our adult education series this year. You can find more information [here](#).

**JUNETEENTH CONCERT AND CELEBRATION,** Friday, June 14, 4:00-10:00, Downtown Iowa City. Royceann's Soul Food, Spoken Word, Fashion Show, Shining Star (Earth Wind and Fire cover band).

**MISSION BOARD MEMBERS ARE INVITING YOU TO PARTICIPATE WITH THEM AND OTHER CHURCH MEMBERS AT THE IOWA CITY PRIDE FESTIVAL EVENTS ON SATURDAY, JUNE 15.** There are sign-up sheets posted in Rockwood Hall with opportunities to be in the *parade* and work at the *booth*. Please join us as we celebrate diversity and support the LGBTQ+ community. If you have ideas, interest or concerns, visit with any of

the LGBTQ+ subcommittee members: Hope Spragg, Linda Muston, Julie Wittig, Dianne Atkins, Rebecca Weatherford, Martha Ann Crawford or Carson Fixmer.

**THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED WITH THE HOPE LODGE DINNER** on Monday, May 13: Dianne Atkins and Andy Bertolatus, Rebecca Weatherford, Marsha Lowe, Sally Strang, Michelle Bird-Leeds, Jane Kinney, Diane Dahl-McCoy, Bryan Clemons, Ray and Linda Muston, Sarah and Ali Seidl, and Chuck and Sue Dayton. And we were happy to have two confirmands helping - Tyler Seidl and Martha Willard, and one of their confirmation class leaders, Bill Lovin.

**THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD IS ACTIVELY SEARCHING FOR A NEW DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION.** A complete job description is posted on the church website. Advertising will commence by the end of March. Members of the congregation are encouraged to spread the word and have interested persons contact Rev. William Lovin [uccirev@uccic.org](mailto:uccirev@uccic.org) and Sally Strang [sallystrang@mchsi.com](mailto:sallystrang@mchsi.com).

**PLEASE HELP WITH PARKING IN THE CHURCH LOT:** Several people currently have mobility issues and need to park in our small parking lot on Jefferson St. If you are able, please park elsewhere so that the marked and unmarked spaces can be used by those who need them. Thanks.

**ANOTHER WAY TO HELP THE HOMELESS:** Trinity United Methodist Church of Riverside Iowa has purchased a loom and is using clean, plastic bags to construct Sleeping Mats for the homeless. These are lightweight, waterproof, and easy to pack and carry. By contributing our clean, plastic bags, we can help them help others. Bring your clean, unneeded, plastic grocery bags, or trash bags, any color, any size, here, to Rockwood Hall. We will see to it that they are delivered.

**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 (319-337-4301) know right away. 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.