

**Pentecost May 23, 2021**  
United Church of Christ, Neillsville  
Pastor Jacoba Koppert

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**PRELUDE** Eileen Zank

**RINGING OF THE BELLS**

**WELCOME**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

God's Spirit blows into our world and all is new.

**The disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit.**

The Holy Spirit gave them skills they could never have imagined.

**In amazing ways, they spoke of God's deeds of power so all could understand.**

Many came to believe in Jesus Christ, repenting of their sin, devoting themselves to the teachings, gathering in prayer and fellowship and the breaking of the bread.

**Come Holy Spirit, come; touch our lives and your church that we might grow in faith and faithfulness.**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION<sup>1</sup>**

Faithful God, you send your Spirit upon us. Forgive us when we get too busy or too set in our own ways to pay attention to the Spirit's leading. Forgive us when we have focused on our own personal gains, on our own security and well-being, and neglected the call of the Spirit for the sake of the world. Call us into accountability, and move us into Your ways of love, justice, and mercy. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

**SILENCE FOR PERSONAL CONFESSION**  
**THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**SCRIPTURE READING** Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup>Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup>Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup>Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." <sup>12</sup>All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup>But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

<sup>14</sup>But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup>Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup>No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup>*'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,*

*and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. <sup>18</sup>Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. <sup>19</sup>And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. <sup>20</sup>The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. <sup>21</sup>Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'*

**MEDITATION** Rev. Jacoba Koppert  
"A New Wind Blows Among Us"

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

Strengthen the Church Offering Dedicated  
**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

### THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION<sup>2</sup>

#### THE INVITATION

#### GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

May the Spirit of Pentecost touch you this day.

**And touch you, as well.**

May the gentle breeze of love fill your hearts.

**We open them to the Spirit who would overflow from our hearts.**

May the words of Pentecost lead us to the new life Christ offers.

**We praise and give thanks to our God.**

*Pastor continues prayer...*

With those of every time and place, we praise you filled with hope and joy:

**Holy, holy, holy are you, Shattering Spirit.**

## WELCOME

**Happy Pentecost! And Happy Birthday Church!**

**May God's Spirit be made known among us.**

Welcome to our service of worship! We are glad that you have joined us in-person, through the internet or on the radio. We pray that you will experience the love of Christ and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

We will receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion today. All who believe in God and desire to follow Jesus are welcome to participate in the meal Christ hosts for his disciples.

**All creation will sing until it has no more breath.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who stands in our midst speaking peace.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

*Pastor continues prayer*

We tell of that faith grounded in Pentecost's mystery:

**Drawing his last breath, Christ died for us;**

**With the sudden breath of the**

**resurrection, Christ was raised;**

**As Christ returns, his breath**

**sends the Spirit upon us.**

## THE CONSECRATION

### THE BREAKING AND THE POURING

#### 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.**

## SHARING THE ELEMENTS

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

#### BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE** The Ecumenical Chimers

"*Spirit of God*" by Kevin McChesney

"*There is a Fountain*" by Linda Lamb

<sup>1</sup>Written by Rev. Mindy at <http://rev-o-lution.org>  
adapted by Pastor Koppert

<sup>2</sup>The Communion liturgy, substantially adapted by  
Pastor Koppert -was written by Thom M. Schuman  
<http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com>

## Announcements

### THIS SUNDAY

10 AM Sunday in person and online worship. Masks and social distancing required. *Please do not come if you feel ill.*

11 AM Sunday radio broadcast on WCCN 98.5FM; 1370AM

### OFFICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Janice's hours – Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am-1pm.

We will be preparing the Newsletter this week. If you have any articles or information you want in the Newsletter, please email them to the office or call Janice.

### MEETINGS

Constitution meeting Thursday 10AM May 27



### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

*VBS is coming this summer. On Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup> 9:00am – 2:30 pm the UCC will be hosting a Vacation Bible School program held Tock Field, behind the church on Park Street. Contact the church office or Stephanie Heck.*

### CHURCH CAMP

*If any youth is interested in attending UCC camp this summer, we do have scholarships available. The council is willing to fund any kid wanting to attend a UCC camp. Contact the church office for an application. There are camps for all ages – the young ones can go to camp with an adult. There are camps with a variety of themes – check it out at [UCCI.org](http://UCCI.org) A listing of camps will publicized in the June Newsletter.*

### RADIO BROADCAST

We would like to thank an anonymous donor for sponsoring this week's radio broadcast in praise and thanksgiving of God Our Father.

### YOUR CHOICE - HYMNS

On June 5, we are going to begin singing in the Sanctuary again. The Council in their April Meeting suggested we sing one hymn at the end of the service in order that those who are not ready to sing, can leave.

What hymn (s) have you most missed? Pastor Jacoba will choose from among them. Email, or text her or call the church office.