

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LACONIA  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

MAY 19, 2024 9:30 A.M.

*AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING AND JUST PEACE CHURCH*



## **Prelude**

## **Welcome and Greeting**

**Introit                      God Is Here! As We Your People Meet**

## **Lighting the Christ Candle**

### **Call to Worship\*\***

Come, Holy Spirit,

**The wind of God, the breath of Life.**

Come, Holy Spirit,

**Our Advocate, our Counselor.**

Come, Holy Spirit,

**Teacher of Wisdom, Reminder of Christ.**

Come, Holy Spirit,

**Granter of forgiveness, giver of peace.**

Come, Holy Spirit.

**May we feel God breathing through our worship. May we receive the Holy Spirit in this place. Amen.**

**\*Hymn of Praise 263**

**O Spirit of the Living God**

## **Prayer of Invocation**

**Holy One, For all of the ways you speak to us – in rushing wind, in dancing flames, in words we understand, and in all that transcends language, we give thanks. Grant that we might not be silenced by mockery; that we may speak boldly even when the world calls it foolishness. Give us courage to speak your love, everywhere we go, to everyone we meet, as we remember that each one is made in your holy image and a beloved member of this creation. Amen.**

## **Passing the Peace**

### **Sung Response: Halle-halle-hallelujah**

Hal-le,hal-le,hal – le – lu – ja!    Hal-le,hal-le,hal – le – lu – ja!

Hal-le,hal-le,hal – le – lu – ja!    Hal-le,hal-le,hal – le – lu – ja!

**Anthem**

**Glory to God!**

**George Frideric Handel**

### **Scripture Acts 2:1-13**

**When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 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. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

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

### **Romans 8: 22-27**

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

### **Sermon**

### **Prayers of the People**

#### **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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

### **Invitation to Offering**

#### **Anthem**

#### **I Feel The Spirit**

#### **Nancy Price/Don Besig**

## **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.*

## **Prayer of Dedication**

**Holy one, we ask your blessing upon us. It is easy for us to look at what we have to give, and find it lacking: what are our little gifts, in the face of a hurting world? Who are we, to work healing and bring justice? But we remember that it was the simple gifts of word and understanding that began your church. It was the willingness to incorporate all who seek your grace. Through the Holy Spirit, the small gifts that we give from our hearts are the gifts that can serve to bring your kin-dom, here on earth. Amen.**

**\*Closing Hymn 292**

**Breathe on Me, Breath of God**

**\*Benediction**

**Choral Response**

**In Christ There Is No East or West**

**Postlude**

**\*\*adapted from prayers by Joanna Harader and posted on Spacious Faith.  
<https://spaciousfaith.com/>**

## **Altar Flowers**

To celebrate the people, places, and experiences that lift up the Holy  
Donated by Janet Heslam

**Organ Recital**

**Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>-4:00 pm**

**Marshall Joos**

**Free – All are Welcome**

Women's Breakfast June 19<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 am at the Water Street Café  
Please RSVP to [bettobergstrom@gmail.com](mailto:bettobergstrom@gmail.com)

Mens Breakfast May 31<sup>st</sup>, 8:00 am at the Water Street Café