

First Congregational United Church of Christ
“Where No One Is A Stranger”
Pentecost Sunday
June 8, 2025

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JESUS ENCOUNTERS+

***Call to Worship** (read responsively)

One: With a rush of wind and kisses of fire, God’s Spirit invites us to dance.

Many: As dust is shaken off our souls and our hearts are stirred, we take her hand in joy.

One: Our tongues touched with flames, with hope tingling our tongues, we utter words lodged deep in our souls

Many: The Breath of God fills our lungs so we can sing God’s praises.

One: Come, Holy Spirit, come, blowing away our weariness and rekindling our faith.

Many: Blessed by the Spirit, given new life by the Spirit, we worship our God this day.

***Opening Song:** “On Pentecost They Gathered” #334

***OPENING PRAYER** (prayed together)

God of wind and flame, pour out your Holy Spirit on a world in need of Pentecost fire. Fill your people with courage and power, and set our hearts ablaze, that our young may have visions, and our elders may dream dreams. Ignite passion within us to spread the good news of your salvation, through Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

You send your Spirit to rattle our windows, Inspiring God, and we call for repairs. You long to set us free from our hiding places, but we try our best to cling to the familiar. You want to create your Beloved Community with all of us, but we hold tight to old grudges and keep highlighting our differences. But you do not let a little thing like fear’s bolt get in your way of transforming our lives, Locksmith of Love. There is no door too thick that you cannot open to be with us. There

is no window which can keep your Spirit from breathing new life into us. There is no hiding place where Jesus, who promised to be with us, will not find us to place our hands, our hearts, our lives into the Spirit who is our Companion. Amen.

A TIME FOR SILENT REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Not with judgement, friends. The Spirit comes with forgiveness. Not with angry words, the Spirit comes with grace. Not with a sentence of shame, the Spirit comes with love.

Many: The Advocate comes to remind us that we are forgiven, filled with new life, and sent out to share. This is the good news today and, indeed, every day. Thanks be to God! Amen.

SHARING THE FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Romans 8:14-17

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:** (read together)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit: Justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Jesus through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage: to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Jesus as Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

*** GLORIA PATRI:** “Glory Be to the Father” #734
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world with-out end. A-men, A-men.

FOCUS SCRIPTURE: Acts 2:1-21 read from the *Good News Bible*

MESSAGE: “What’s Going On Here?” Pastor Chris

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD’S PRAYER (with debts/debtors)

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

*** DOXOLOGY:** “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” #34
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**
God of wind and flame, may our offering bring the warmth of your love, the glory of your
holy flame, to those who are shaken by the buffeting winds all around us. Amen.

CLOSING SONG: “Wind Who Makes All Winds that Blow” #333

***Going Forth with the Peace of Christ**

POSTLUDE

***Indicates all who are able please stand**
The Call to Worship, Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession (adapted), and Words of Assurance are from *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom M. Shuman. The Opening Prayer (adapted) and Offering Prayer of Dedication (adapted) are by B.J. Beu from *The Abingdon Worship Annual-2025* edited by Mary Scifres and B.J. Beu. The Affirmation of Faith is from the worship bulletin of the Second Annual “Pentecost in the Park” with St. Mark’s Episcopal Pro-Cathedral, First Presbyterian Church, and First Baptist Church, all of Hastings, NE.

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Organist:	Liz Fehr
Worship Leader:	David Burrow
Pastor:	Rev. Chris Burtnett
June Radio Sponsor:	Sky Meraz

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Birthdays: June 3-Karen West; 5-Becky Bibler; 7-Ashley Grindberg; 8-Anita Secrease; 12-Luke TerHark; 13-Shelly TerHark

Sunday, June 8: 10:30am: Worship-Pentecost Sunday- Wear Red
Coffee
Strengthen the Church Offering

Monday, June 9: Pastor Chris is on vacation through June 16

Sunday, June 15: 10:30am: Worship
Coffee

Thank you to David Burrow for leading worship on Sunday, June 15.
Pastor Chris will be on vacation June 9-16. If you need pastoral assistance, please call Dave Skilling at 319-290-2302.

Our Daily Bread June/July/August devotion book may be picked up in the Fellowship Hall entry.

Tuesday, June 17: 4:30-7 PM-CARE Team Pork Meal



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