



Hope United Church of Christ
 Worship Bulletin May 31, 2020
 Pentecost Sunday
*No matter who you are or where
 you are on life's journey,
 you are welcome at Hope UCC.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The peace of God be with you today. Receive with joy the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Many: We feel the winds of God blowing among us. We sense the tongues of fire empowering us.

One: How amazing is the power God gives us. How manifold are the works of our Creator.

Many: The breath of God fills us with confidence. The Spirit creates new life within and among us.

One: God calls us to be dreamers and prophets. God gives us a vision for a world of peace.

Many: May the glory of God endure forever. We will sing praise to God as long as we live.

OPENING HYMN

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Music by Carl Gotthelf Glaser, Words by Charles Wesley

INVITING GOD INTO OUR MIDST

Powerful God, whose ways are beyond our knowing, we long to grow spiritually. We are thirsty for the living water you have promised to those who seek. We are eager to catch the Spirit, to be set on fire with confidence and trust to use the gifts you have given. Let Pentecost happen again in this gathering of your people. Inspire us to witness to your love and to speak boldly in your name. Give us courage to speak of your deeds of power, and to take the risks of daring discipleship. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we are frightened by strange tongues and people who are out of control. We want to manage our own lives and assure our own safety. We are afraid that you will ask more of us than we are willing to risk. We do not want others to consider us strange or fanatical. We are skeptical of dreams and visions. We cannot trust some people you ask us to love. We want to believe, but how can we know that you are more than our collective imagination, a hope we cling to in our despair? Help us, God. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS AND OFFERING OF PEACE

God comes unexpectedly to those willing to wait and listen and trust. The Spirit amazes and astonishes even those who wait expectantly. There is more to life than the things we can see – and more in the things we see than our eyes can discern. So, too, God is more than we can know or think. Even now, the Holy Spirit is resting on you and on this family of God's people. Do not be afraid.

Let us offer one another the gift of peace. May the Lord's peace be with you!

(If you are using this liturgy as a private devotion or participating in the live stream worship, please hold out your hands in blessing for all you are joined with in spirit. If you are participating in the live stream worship, please type in your peace greeting.)

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

One: May the Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us pray:

Come, Holy Spirit come and set our hearts on fire with your love and compassion and power. O God, creator of the universe and lover of all people, we are grateful for your invitation to worship, for this opportunity to adore you, to hear your word, and to receive it with into our hearts. Breathe into us the fresh breath of your Spirit. Let us be so filled with your presence that we live today and every day with greater grace, deeper love, and renewed joy. Come, Holy Spirit come and set our hearts afire with your love and compassion and power. On this day, when we celebrate the birth of your church, we pray that you will give each of us and the people of this world your peace...your shalom. We look out and see the people in our community and neighborhoods - those who have much and those who very little of the things that bring us such comfort and joy. Guide us and strengthen us to minister and serve – to bring light and love where they are needed. We ask your blessings be known by those who make decisions on behalf of our city, state, and country. We pray that the decisions that are made work for the good of all of us; the rich and poor, the powerful and the powerless, the decision makers and the marginalized. We pray that you will help us be engaged with one another and with our local and global community so that we can make a difference at all times and all places. Come, Holy Spirit come and set our hearts afire with your love and compassion and power. Give us courage to hold the value of your Kingdom in the midst of the choices we make for ourselves and for your church. Thank you for the privilege of coming to you this morning. Do not abandon us. Let light shine where there is darkness, let there be peace where there is now strife, let there be courage and confidence where now there is sorrow and anxiety. Hear our pray, not because we deserve your mercy, but because you have sent us Jesus through whom you have claimed us to be your children, and have redeemed us for your work in this world. Strengthen us through our service to you in our church and in our community. Bring us all at last into the awareness of your presence, where we shall praise you, and honor you, in all we say and do.

We lift in prayer to you....

Come, Holy Spirit come and set our hearts afire with your love and compassion, and power. We pray in the name of your Son and our Savior, Jesus the Christ, who taught all his followers to pray saying: **Our Father, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your 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 yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

24 O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. 25 Yonder is the sea, great and wide, creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great. 26 There go the ships, and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it. 27 These all look to you to give them their food in due season; 28 when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things. 29 When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. 30 When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground. 31 May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in his works— 32 who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the

mountains and they smoke. 33 I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being. 34 May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the Lord. 35b Bless the Lord, O my soul. Praise the Lord!

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2 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. 3 Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. 5 Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. 6 And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. 7 Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? 9 Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." 12 All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" 13 But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." 14 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. 15 Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. 16 No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: 17 "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. 18 Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. 19 And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. 20 The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. 21 Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

SERMON HYMN

Spirit of the Living God

By Daniel Iverson, ©Words & Music: 1963 Birdwing Music; used with permission CCLI License #'s 11387335 & 20360783

SERMON

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Your gift is needed for the church to be complete. Your gift is expressed through your personal investment of time and talents, but also through the treasure you have earned through using your gifts that you feel called to return as an offering to the mission of this church. We thank you for your investment in this mission.

We are profoundly grateful for your continued support of Hope UCC as we stay connected as a faith community in this time of social distancing and spiritual connection. We are continuing the ministry of our church throughout this stay at home order and we thank you for making this possible. We now have two ways to make your offering. Hope UCC is now able to offer e-giving through Breeze Management System to make it safer and easier for you to give anytime. You are able to safely donate electronically using your credit card or ACH transfer. You can find the link on our church website (www.hopeuccqc.org). We also invite you to mail your offering to the church office – mail and messages are checked daily by Pastor Santana. Thank you for your generosity- your commitment is

vital to continuing our congregation's ministries and commitments. Hope Grows! And there is nothing-not even a global pandemic - that can stop it! ☺

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Thank you God, for filling our lives with good things. The abundance of your gifts to us is beyond our counting. Bless all that we return to you for the work of ministry among us and beyond us. Let your Spirit enliven our caring and add effectiveness to all our doing. Make us one in Christ Jesus our Savior, in whose name we pray. Amen

CLOSING HYMN

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

By Doris Akers; ©1990 Manna Music, Inc.; used with permission CCLI License #'s 11387335 & 20360783

BENEDICTION

One: May God's glory endure forever. May God take pleasure in works done through us.

Many: We have found renewal in our time together. Now God sends us forth to serve in Jesus's name.

One: May the empowerment of Pentecost continue with us. May the Spirit lead and guide us every day.

Many: We have acknowledged our many gifts. Now we seek to use them for the common good.

One: We are one body with many members. When we work together, much is accomplished. Let us commit ourselves to live as people of vision and action as God equips us to serve. In the name of God our creator, Jesus our redeemer, and the Holy Spirit our empowerer, go in peace and may you be blessed as you are a blessing to others. Amen

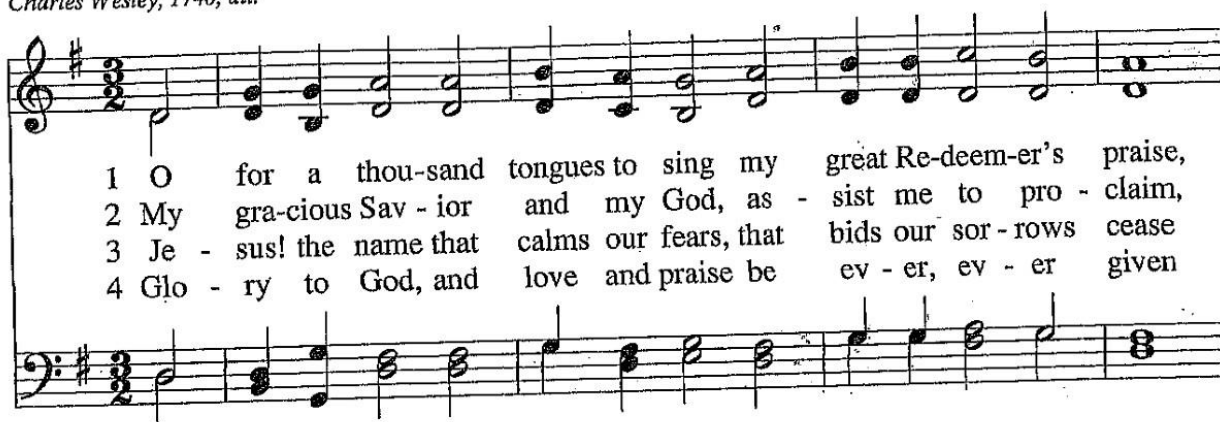
Announcements

Please remember to complete and return the survey you received regarding your opinions about a gradual return to in person worship and activities at Hope UCC. Your confidential responses will help us to determine how our congregation will move forward as state and local guidelines allow us to safely and slowly return to in person worship and gatherings at church. Fill in the survey and return them to church in the self-addressed stamped envelope that will be included with the survey by June 7. Thank you for your feedback!

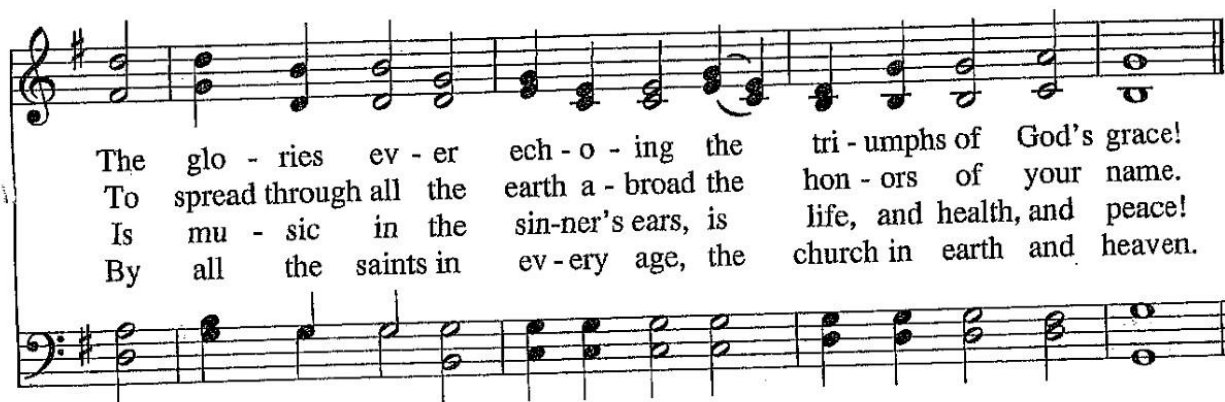
O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

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Charles Wesley, 1740; alt.



1 O for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
2 My gra-cious Sav - ior and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
3 Je - sus! the name that calms our fears, that bids our sor - rows cease
4 Glo - ry to God, and love and praise be ev - er, ev - er given



The glo - ries ev - er ech - o - ing the tri - umphs of God's grace!
To spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.
Is mu - sic in the sin-ner's ears, is life, and health, and peace!
By all the saints in ev - ery age, the church in earth and heaven.

The hymn is a cento from a longer poem of eighteen stanzas written by Charles Wesley on the first anniversary of his conversion. The present form of the hymn is one edited by John Wesley for The Wesleyan Hymn Book, 1780.

Tune: AZMON C.M.
Carl G. Gläser, 1828
Adapt. in L. Mason's Modern Psalmody, 1839
Alternate tune: RICHMOND

Spirit of the Living God

Daniel Iverson, 1926

Acts 11:15; 2 Cor. 3:1-6; Gal. 5:25

F Gm D Gm F Dm C F

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me;

Detailed description: This system contains the first two lines of music. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The bottom staff is in bass clef. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. Chord symbols are placed above the treble staff: F, Gm, D, Gm, F, Dm, C, F.

F Gm D Gm F Bb/C C7 F

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

Detailed description: This system contains the second two lines of music. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The bottom staff is in bass clef. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. Chord symbols are placed above the treble staff: F, Gm, D, Gm, F, Bb/C, C7, F.

Bb F G7 C

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Detailed description: This system contains the third two lines of music. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The bottom staff is in bass clef. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. Chord symbols are placed above the treble staff: Bb, F, G7, C.

F Gm D Gm F Dm C7 F

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

Detailed description: This system contains the fourth two lines of music. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The bottom staff is in bass clef. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. Chord symbols are placed above the treble staff: F, Gm, D, Gm, F, Dm, C7, F.

Presbyterian minister Daniel Iverson was inspired to write this chorus one evening while attending revival services led by the George T. Stephans Evangelistic Party in Orlando, Florida, in 1926. It became widely popular at similar meetings before it was published several years later.

Tune: IVERSON 7.5.7.5.8.7.5.
Daniel Iverson, 1926

2 Cor. 3:17-5:5

Doris Akers, 1962; alt.

Slowly

1 There's a sweet, sweet Spir - it in this place, and I
2 There are bless - ings you can - not re - ceive till you

know that it's the Spir - it of the Lord; there are
know that Spir - it's full - ness and be - lieve; you're the

sweet ex - pres - sions on each face, and I
one to prof - it when you say, "I am

to Refrain

know they feel the pres - ence of the Lord.
going to stay with Je - sus all the way."

This is one of the most popular gospel songs from the corpus of African-American songwriters who emerged during the golden age of gospel (1930-1969). Although this era was dominated by

Tune: SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT
9.11.9.11. with refrain
Doris Akers, 1962

Refrain

Sweet Ho - ly Spir - it, sweet heav-en-ly Dove, stay right here

with us, fill-ing us with your love; And for these bless-ings we

lift our hearts in praise. With-out a doubt we'll know that we have

been re - vived when we shall leave this place.