

*Pentecost*  
SUNDAY



**First Congregational  
United Church of Christ**

3465 N. MacArthur Rd.  
Decatur, Illinois 62526  
(217) 877-2216  
[firstchurchdecatur.org](http://firstchurchdecatur.org)

**Sunday, May 24, 2026**

**9:00 a.m.**

**Pentecost Sunday**

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2026  
9:00 A.M.  
PENTECOST SUNDAY**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Ryan D. Travis, Pastor

**PRELUDE**

**"Reflections on the Spirit"**

arr. Joel Raney Copyright © 2013 Hope Publishing Company ARR  
Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #M-400804 All rights reserved

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*from Galatians 5, NRSV*

Liturgist: Paul writes, "So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law..."

**People: "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control... Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires."**

**SUNG RESPONSE**

There's A Sweet, Sweet Spirit in This Place

#134

Doris Akers arr. Mark Hayes. ©1962, renewed 1992 Manna Music  
Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #M-400804 All rights reserved

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,  
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;  
There are sweet expressions on each face,  
And I know that it's the presence of the Lord.

*Chorus*

*Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet heavenly dove,  
Stay right here with us, filling us with Your love;  
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise  
Without a doubt we know that we'll have been revived,  
When we shall leave this place.*

**INVOCATION**

Liturgist

All: Lord of heaven and earth, the One who has all power and wisdom: We gather today to sing your praises and to receive your holy Word. May the Word take root in our hearts and grow, teaching us to follow in your way and to engage in your work of making new disciples. Let us grow in your grace and resolve ever more clearly to carry out your mission in the world. Through Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

**\*OPENING HYMN**

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

#358

Public Domain

### **\*CONFESSION**

Liturgist: Let us call to mind those ways this week that we sinned and fell short of the glory of God. *(Silence is kept for about 30 seconds to reflect on our sins.)*

**All: Father in Heaven, through the power of the Holy Spirit, you have granted us many gifts. We admit that we have not cultivated and used them as we ought, for the good of your church and the glory of your holy name. Please forgive us. We often resist the promptings of your Spirit, fighting against the change and progress it seeks to work within us. We turn to sinful ways rather than godly ones. Teach us to be obedient to your Spirit, and open our eyes and ears so that we might know and willingly follow where your Spirit leads. We ask this in Jesus' name, trusting in Christ's work along for our salvation. Amen.**

### **\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Pastor: There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus! We are forgiven of our sins, not because of anything we have done, but because of what Christ has done. We receive this forgiveness through faith. Trust now in Jesus Christ and live in the world to honor him.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **\*GLORIA PATRI**

#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 without end. Amen, Amen.***

### **MUSIC MINISTRY**

"Like a Mighty Wind"

Karen Marrolli Copyright © 2019 Birnamwood Publications, a division of MorningStar Music Publishers ARR  
Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #M-400804 All rights reserved

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Mindy Bunselmeyer

New International Version (NIV) Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®  
Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Every good and perfect gift is from above...

*James 1:17*

## SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 2:1-21: Philippians 4:4-7

Liturgist

New Revised Standard Version, Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Liturgist: A reading from the book of Acts in the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter, and the Epistle of Philippians in the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter; according to St. Paul.

**People: Glory to you, O Lord.**

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 people 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,

“Fellow Jews 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:

‘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.

Philippians 4:

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup> Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Liturgist: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

“Pentecost”

Pastor Ryan

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Pastor: Spirit of the Living God, we call upon you and ask you to pray for us...

**All: 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.**

## **\*APOSTLES' CREED**

Lay Leader: Please rise and join me in confessing what Christians have believed throughout history in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**All: I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy universal Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**OFFERTORY**

**“Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether”**

Harold Friedell arr. Haig Marderosian Copyright © 1995 Concordia Publishing House ARR  
Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #M-400804 All rights reserved

**\*DOXOLOGY**

*Lasst Uns Erfreuen*

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God, all creatures here below.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God above, ye heav’nly host!  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!  
O praise him! O praise him!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Liturgist

Lord, we thank you that we are able to offer back to you a small portion of what you have given us. Bless these gifts that they might enable us to carry out your work, and that lives would be changed by the life-giving message of Jesus Christ.

**All: Amen.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

**“Spirit of the Living God”**

**#492**

Daniel Iverson, vs. 2 Michael Baughen Copyright © 1935 renewed © 1963 Birdwing Music (Admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing vs. 2 © 1982 Jubilate Hymns (Admin. Hope Publishing Company) ARR

Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #M-400804 All rights reserved

**\*OPENING HYMN**

**“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”**

**#358**

Public Domain

**\*BENEDICTION**

**Pastor:** May you go out with joy and be led forth in peace. May the mountains and hills break forth in song before you, and for you, may the trees of the fields clap their hands! Go in peace and serve the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

*O God of love, help me to be more loving.  
God of forgiveness, help me to forgive.  
God of all grace, help me to be more gracious.  
God of all gifts, help me more freely give.  
O God of truth, help me to work for justice.  
O God of mercy, help me to be kind.  
O God of peace and goodness, help me serve you,  
with all my heart and strength and mind.*

"Benediction" Composed by Laurie Matheson. Used by permission.

**POSTLUDE**

**"Everytime I Feel the Spirit"**

Spiritual arr. Adolphus Hailstork Copyright © 2001 Concordia Publishing House ARR  
Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #M-400804 All rights reserved





**May 24, 2026**

**From Our Prayer Chain**

**Please Remember in Your Prayers**

Joan Wolfram, Katie Elvidge, Larry Huckile, Martha Crookshank,  
Clint Whitrock, Robin Reynolds, Marian Simpson-Rorick,  
Helen Johnson, Steve Martin, Kelly Gonzalez, Dean Lorbach,  
Robert Bean, Norma Morrison, Tom Irwin, Margaret,  
Diana Kitchell, Jennifer K, Brad Johnson, Becky Corbin,  
Nancy Leoucis, Marilee Gordon, Letsa, Randy Habbe,  
Eric Wolfram, Don S, Mary Stewart, Murray Elliott,  
John & Lois Pennock, Preston Wikoff, Richard Laswell,  
Amanda, Ellen Heavner, Tom Cooley, Matt,  
Olivia Wernecke Dees, Kerry Waltenbaugh, Glenn Wolfram,  
Sara Foreman, Jerrold Fallstrom, Laura Ylander, Pat Woodcock,  
Erika Kelley, Meg Phillips, Casey Henderson, Shelly Long,  
Michelle, Mathew Clary, Gary Heymen, Erica Moster,  
David Marshal, Steve Centola, Jason Mumm, Julie Bond,  
Norma Lingenfelter, Rick Bein, PJ Patterson, Sheila S,  
Malinda Callaway, Steve Morrison, Ty Ditty, Lexi Boyer,  
Kim Leon, Kristin Hargrove, Ryan Habbe, Band Family, Anne,  
Aaron Heartt, Carl Erbsen, Michelle Unruh, Connie Hall,  
Jodie Trembe, Katie, Kay Penk-Burrus, Heather, Quinton Lefler,  
Mike Travis, Jeannie Miseles, August Scherer.

*~ Sympathy ~*

Doug Travis Family and Friends  
Thompson High School Students and Community  
Vienna High School Students and Community