



**May 28, 2023**

**11:15 am**

*+Stand as you are able*

***Bold type--everyone reads***

## **Gathering**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Lighting of the Christ Candle**

### **Centering Music**

### **+Call to Worship**

L: The Spirit descends like a dove, bringing peace to unite the world in a just and caring community.

**P: The Spirit comes like a breath, bringing life to renew the people of God.**

L: The Spirit spreads like fire, bringing energy for witnessing to the love of God.

**P: Spirit of the living God, come to us and transform our lives by your power.**

Let us pray: **Holy God, you spoke the world into being. Pour your Spirit to the ends of the earth, that your children may return from exile as citizens of your commonwealth, and our divisions may be healed by your word of love and righteousness. Amen.**

### **+Hymn**    *On Pentecost They Gathered #289*

### **Prayers of Confession and Forgiveness**

Jesus says: *Let anyone who is thirsty come to me. Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.* Trusting in God's grace, let us speak to God of places we have wronged God and others and seek forgiveness:

**God of wind and fire, you poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples creating bold tongues, open ears, and a new community of faith. Forgive us when we hold back the force of your Spirit among us, when we forget to listen for your word of grace, when we don't speak the good news of your love, or live as a people made one in Christ. Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit, and fill us with a flaming desire to be your faithful people, doing your will for the sake of our community and our world. (moment of silent prayer)**

Through Christ, God has poured out the Holy Spirit upon us for the forgiveness of sins.

**By the power of the Spirit and in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen.**

### **Response of Praise**    *Spirit of the Living God*

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

*Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

### **Passing of the Peace**

L: As God has forgives us, let us forgive one another: Peace be with you!

**P: And also with you!**

### **Anthem**

## Hearing the Word

### Prayer for Illumination

Perplexing, Pentecostal God, you infuse us with your Spirit, urging us to vision and dream. May the gift of your presence find voice in our lives, that our babbling may be transformed into discernment and the flickering of many tongues light an unquenchable fire of compassion and justice. Amen.

**Scripture Reading Acts 1:1-13** 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."

**Hymn** *Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness* #291

**Scripture Reading I Corinthians 12:3-13** <sup>3</sup>Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit. <sup>4</sup>Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; <sup>5</sup>and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; <sup>6</sup>and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. <sup>7</sup>To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. <sup>8</sup>To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup>to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, <sup>10</sup>to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup>All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

<sup>12</sup>For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup>For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

### Sermon

#### Responding to the Word

#### Affirmation of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God.

Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

**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 Christ 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.**

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

L: Heaven and earth are yours, O Lord,

**P: and of your own we give you.**

L: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love; through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### **Joys and Concerns**

Prayers of the People

In the communion of the Holy Spirit, we call on the name of the Lord, saying: By your Spirit, O God, **transform our lives.**

For your Church in every place, that we may worship and serve you faithfully . . .

For leaders and people in every land, that they may know your way and do your will . . .

For justice throughout the world, that there may be peace and plenty for all . . .

For the earth you have made, that it may flourish in beauty and show your glory . . .

For all those who hunger and thirst, that they may be filled with good things . . .

For those who are ill or close to death, that they may know your loving care . .

Gracious God, continue to pour out your power in the church, in the world, and in our daily lives, so all will know that you are at work among us; through Jesus Christ, our living Lord. Hear us now as we pray the prayer Christ taught to his disciples: ***Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.***

### **Taking the Word into the World**

**+Song**     *God of Grace and God of Glory #307*

*Prayers from [lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu](http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu) and the PCUSA Book of Common Worship*

**Toll free conference call number (844) 855-4444, access code 654132#**

**Worship will also be connected through Facebook Live**

# COMMUNITY OF FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MAY 28, 2023

## Contact

Pastor:  
Rev. Sharon Carter  
865-385-5003

Choir Director:  
Jie Fang Goh

Admin Assistant:  
Stephanie Class

P.O. Box 121038  
Covington, KY 41012  
Office: 859-331-3238  
communityoffaith@fuse.net  
www.cofnky.org

## Scriptures for Sunday, June 4

Genesis 1:1–2:4a  
Psalm 8  
2 Corinthians 13:11–13  
Matthew 28:16–20

## In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Betty Murphy  
Ruth Roeber  
The McDermott family  
Johanna Willis  
The Kleier family  
Jean Jennings' family  
Emilee Walden  
Kelly Montana  
Lynda Jaeger  
Ron Carlin  
Ella Grace Marksberry

## Worship Services

Join us for in-person services at 710 Western Reserve Rd., Crescent Springs, KY. You can also worship with us online via Facebook Live, or by joining the conference call. Worship services begin at 11:15 am.

## Liturgists Needed

Liturgists are needed to help lead worship. Please sign up on the sheet located on the welcome table. Thank you!

## Congregational Meeting

Mark your calendars for Sunday, June 11. We will be having a lunch meeting after church to discuss the way forward for COF as Rev. Sharon prepares to leave. A guest from the Presbytery's Commission on Ministry will be with us to facilitate the discussion and answer questions. Please do your best to attend this important meeting.

## Treasurer Position Opening

The COF session is looking for a new Treasurer. The position of Treasurer is required by the Book of Order, and entails working with our accounting firm to pay bills, manage pledges and offerings, and report to session and the congregation regarding the finances of the congregation. Training will be provided. For further questions or a job description, please contact Rev. Sharon.