

St. John United Church of Christ
“In Christ We Live, Celebrate, & Serve”

May 24, 2026

Pentecost Sunday (A)

Rev. Karla Frost, Pastor

David R. Ekstrand, Dir. of Music

9:30 Zoom & In-Person Worship

9:30 Sunday School for Children

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Large print bulletins are available from the Ushers.

Bold italic denotes congregation reads or sings.

*Denotes all who are able, please stand.

WE COME TO WORSHIP GOD

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC AND BELLS CALLING TO WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*GREETING ONE ANOTHER WITH A SMILE AND WAVE

*RESPONSE ***“Come, Thou Almighty King”*** Vs. 3 #148

***Come, Holy Comforter, thy sacred witness bear
in this glad hour: Thou who almighty art,
now rule in every heart,
And ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power.***

MESSAGE FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

John 14:26

Jesus said...“the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.”

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER¹

The good news of Jesus can't be kept in one place.

The Spirit blew the followers of Jesus out into the streets and gave them language to reach every person.

No one was left out!

All were important!

The Spirit comes today and welcomes everyone.

The Spirit opens our hearts to all!

Let us pray together:

Holy Spirit, power of God, come and fill us with your strength. May your Spirit touch each of us. Gather us with our different gifts into one community. May the winds of the Spirit blow away our fears and fill us with power. May we each recognize and honor our call to proclaim Jesus is Lord. Amen.

*HYMN **“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”** #326

*RESPONSIVE STATEMENT OF FAITH²

Inspired by the Spirit of God,

We proclaim Jesus is Lord, our Lord.

We believe there are many gifts,

But the same Spirit.

There are many ways of serving,

But the same Lord.

There are many sorts of skills,

But it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.

To each child of God is given an expression of the Spirit for the common good.

Words of wisdom and knowledge come by the Spirit.

Gifts of healing, gifts of extraordinary ability, gifts of prophetic insight,

Gifts of communication, many forms of leadership and countless ways of offering assistance—

All these are activated by one and the same Spirit,

Who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses,

To the glory of God and the joy of humankind.

THE COVENANT OF MEMBERSHIP (pages 9 & 10)

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Acts 2:1-21 pg. 111

ANTHEM *Pendaneni* Glockenspiel
Love One Another

EPISTLE LESSON 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 pg. 163

CHARGE

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

*HYMN **“Let Every Christian Pray”** #332

PASTORAL PRAYER & UNISON LORD’S PRAYER

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.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

STEWARDSHIP INVITATION

OFFERTORY

Just As I Am

*RESPONSE³ ***“On Pentecost They Gathered”*** Vs. 4 #334

O Spirit, sent from heaven on that day long ago, rekindle faith among us in all life’s ebb and flow. O give us ears to listen and tongues aflame with praise, so people of all nations glad songs of joy shall raise.

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION¹

Holy One, you give so many gifts to so many people. With grateful hearts we also give our gifts. In our community, your church, we celebrate the multitude of Spirit-filled gifts. May they spread your love everywhere. Amen.

INVITATION WITH SILENT CONFESSION AND PARDON

COMMUNION PRAYER

PREPARING AND SHARING THE ELEMENTS

All are invited to the Sacrament of Holy Communion. The inner circle of cups contain white grape juice. The outer circles contain wine. Please hold each element when served in the pews so all may partake together, remembering that in the upper room last supper Jesus said, “take this and divide it among yourselves.” (Luke 22:17b)

*UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Thank you, O God, for by your Spirit, you make us one with Christ at this table, one with the saints in glory, one with each other, and one in mission to all the world. As we walk in the light of Christ, may your Spirit breathe life into our testimony of truth and acts of compassion and kindness, justice and mercy. Amen.

MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE

READING

Memorial Day Remembrance
Written by Minnie Bowden

PRAYER

ANTHEM *Procession of the Patriots* Amen +
Service members and family, please stand for your branch's song.

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *America, the Beautiful*

¹Adapted from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2026*. Copyright © 2025 by Abingdon Press.

²Adapted from *Sourcebook of Worship Resources, Volume 2*. Copyright © 1996 by Communication Resources, Inc.

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We thank Joan Mueller for serving as liturgist, and Rae Ellen Vogeler for serving as greeter.