

**Welcome to the Community Church of Richmond
United Church of Christ
Our Church at Worship on the Festival of Pentecost
May 23, 10:00 A.M.**

Our Mission: To be an inviting, caring faith community connecting with Christ.

Tune into Facebook at 10:00 on Sunday to share this time of worship. If you can't join promptly at 10:00, the video will be available later as well.

You can access that video even if you don't have a Facebook account – just type in <https://www.facebook.com/CommunityChurchOfRichmond/>

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

Penny Kraft

GATHERING SONG

“Come, Holy Spirit, Come”

Come Holy Spirit come, come Holy Spirit come.

Come as the fire and burn,

come as the light and reveal,

come as the wind and cleanse

Convict us, show us Your way;

Convert us, day after day.

Consecrate us, until we're wholly Thine.

Repeat from the beginning

In Christ's precious name we pray.

Words and Music by Bryan Sirchio, Crosswinds Music, used with permission.

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Hope Moloziay

OPENING WORDS

Mike Kennedy

One: In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the Spirit of God was moving over the face of the waters. (Gen. 1:1-2)

All: Let the Spirit help us in our weakness. (Romans 8:26)

One: When you send forth your Spirit all living things are created; and you renew the face of the earth. (Ps. 104:30)

All: Let the Spirit help us in our weakness.

One: “I baptize you with water; but one more powerful than I is coming who will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.” (Luke 3:16)

All: Let the Spirit help us in our weakness.

One: “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth... (John14:14-15)

All: Let the Spirit help us in our weakness.

One: For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. (Romans 8:14)

All: Let the Spirit help us in our weakness.

One: Let us pray:
Wind of God, Breath of Life:
All: Come, Holy Spirit.
One: Our Advocate, our Counselor:
All: Come, Holy Spirit.
One: Teacher of Wisdom, Reminder of Christ:
All: Come, Holy Spirit.
One: Granter of forgiveness, giver of peace:
All: Come, Holy Spirit.
One: May we feel God breathing through our worship.
May we receive the Holy Spirit in the places where we are. Amen.

HYMN "Sweet, Sweet Spirit" #293

Verse 1: **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 they feel the presence of the Lord.**

Refrain: **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'll know that we have been revived
when we shall leave this place.**

Verse 2: **There are blessings you cannot receive
'Til you know that Spirit's fullness and believe;
You're the one to profit when you say,
I am going to stay with Jesus all the way.**

Repeat Refrain

#293, The New Century Hymnal; Lyrics, Tune: Sweet, Sweet spirit w/refrain | Doris Akers 1962

SCRIPTURE READING Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 12:4-11 (Good News Translation)

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord is served. There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to all for their particular service. The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all. The Spirit gives one person a message full of wisdom, while to another person the same Spirit gives a message full of knowledge. One and the same Spirit gives faith to one person, while to another person he gives the power to heal. The Spirit gives one person the power to work miracles; to another, the gift of speaking God's message; and to yet another, the ability to tell the difference between gifts that come from the Spirit and those that do not. To one person he gives the ability to speak in strange tongues, and to another he gives the ability to explain what is said. But it is one and the same Spirit who does all this; as he wishes, he gives a different gift to each person.

WORD FOR ALL AGES

SONG “Build Your Kingdom Here”

Verse 1: Come set Your rule and reign
In our hearts again
Increase in us we pray
Unveil why we're made
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope
Like wildfire in our very souls
Holy Spirit, come invade us now
We are Your church; We need Your power in us.

Verse 2: We seek Your kingdom first
We hunger and we thirst
Refuse to waste our lives
For You're our joy and prize.
To see the captive's heart released
The hurt, the sick, the poor at peace
We lay down our lives for Heaven's cause
We are Your church, We pray revive this Earth.

Chorus: Build Your kingdom here.
Let the darkness fear.
Show Your mighty hand.
Heal our streets and land.
Set Your church on fire.
Win this nation back.
Change the atmosphere.
Build Your kingdom here, we pray

Verse 3: Unleash Your kingdom's power,
Reaching the near and far.
No force of hell can stop
Your beauty changing hearts.
You made us for much more than this.
Awake the kingdom seed in us.
Fill us with the strength and love of Christ.
We are Your church. We are the hope on earth.

Chorus

Songwriters: Llewellyn Christopher Dean / Gilkeson Gareth Andrew / Herron William, 2012, © Thank You Music Ltd. CCLI License No. 1908882

SCRIPTURE READING

The Acts of the Apostles 2:1-18, Good News Translation

When the day of Pentecost came, all the Jesus followers were gathered together in one place. Suddenly there was a noise from the sky which sounded like a strong wind blowing, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then they saw what looked like tongues of fire which spread out and touched each person there. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to talk in other languages, as the Spirit enabled them to speak.

There were Jews living in Jerusalem who had come from every country in the world. When they heard this noise, a large crowd gathered. They were all excited, because all of them heard the believers talking in their own languages.

In amazement and wonder they exclaimed, “These people who are talking like this are Galileans! How is it, then, that all of us hear them speaking in our own native languages? We are from Parthia, Media, and Elam; from Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia; from Pontus and Asia, from Phrygia and Pamphylia, from Egypt and the regions of Libya near Cyrene. Some of us are from Rome, both Jews and Gentiles converted to Judaism, and some of us are from Crete and Arabia—yet all of us hear them speaking in our own languages about the great things that God has done!”

Amazed and confused, they kept asking each other, “What does this mean?” But others made fun of the believers, saying, “These people are drunk!”

Then Peter stood up with the other eleven apostles and in a loud voice began to speak to the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, listen to me and let me tell you what this means. These people are not drunk, as you suppose; it is only nine o'clock in the morning. Instead, this is what the prophet Joel spoke about when he said:

“This is what I will do in the last days, God says:

I will pour out my Spirit on everyone.

Your sons and daughters will proclaim my message;
your young men will see visions,
and your old men will have dreams.

Yes, even on my servants, both men and women,
I will pour out my Spirit in those days,
and they will proclaim my message.”

HYMN

“Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling”

#59

Verse 1:

**Holy Spirit, ever dwelling in the holiest realms of light;
Holy Spirit, ever brooding o’er a world of gloom and blight;
Holy Spirit, ever raising earthbound souls to glory high;
Living, life imparting spirit; you we praise and magnify.**

Verse 2:

**Holy Spirit, ever breathing on the church the breath of life;
Holy spirit, ever striving through your people’s ceaseless strife;
Holy Spirit, ever forming in the church the mind of Christ:
In our worship we will praise you for your fruit and gifts unpriced.**

Verse 3:

**Holy Spirit, ever working through the church’s ministry
Quickening, strengthening, and absolving, setting captive sinners free;
Holy Spirit, ever binding age to age and soul to soul,
In community unending you we worship and extol.**

#59, The New Century Hymnal: Tune: Nettleton 8.7.8.7.D | John Wythes
Repository of Sacred Music, 1813

PASTORAL PRAYER

The 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Doxology – You are invited to sing with new words for Pentecost:

**Praise God, the wind that stirs our hearts,
Praise God, the one who grants fresh starts,
Praise God, the source of each new birth,
Praise God who loves all those on earth.**

OFFERING

Invitation to Give – We are so thankful for the continued financial support that we have continued to receive during this time! Though we rarely see each other in person these days, our church is still: providing worship; providing Sunday school for our church kids; connecting members with each other; supporting neighbors in need, locally and further away. We believe those things are parts of God’s calling for us in this place and we can do them because of steady financial support.

You may always send your check directly to the church at PO Box 246, Richmond IL, 60071.

Prayer of Dedication

– You might pray as you write your check and address your envelope to the church... **Dear God, Your Spirit flows over us. May we overflow with love. Take us and our gifts, and use us to change the world with you. Amen.**

NEWS OF THE CHURCH

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Pastoral Benediction

From where we are to where you need us,

Spirit, now lead on.

From the security of what we know to the adventure of what you will reveal,

Spirit, now lead on.

To refashion the fabric of this world until it resembles the shape of your kingdom,

Spirit, now lead on.

Because good things have been prepared for those who love God,

Spirit, now lead on.

Amen.

Sending Song “When the Lord’s in You”

**When the Lord's in you, and the Lord's in me,
there's a bridge between our spirits, wherever we may be.
'Til we meet again, let us hold the Mystery of the Lord in you and me.**

(Used with permission. Crosswinds Music, Madison WI)

POSTLUDE

Call, Worship ways 2011; Opening words, adp from 2020 Pentecost; Music copyright, CCLI 1908882.

NEW NEWS

COME TO OUTDOOR WORSHIP

We plan to gather for worship together outdoors on June 13 and June 20, weather-permitting. More details will be out soon, but for now mark your calendars and ready your lawn chairs!

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

GIFT CARD FUNDRAISER

Penny Kraft regularly places orders of gift cards on our behalf, and the church gets a percentage of the cost of those cards. As you might be starting to get out into the world more often again, remember that there is a HUGE variety of gift cards available, from specialty stores to gas stations and grocery stores. Jewel, Walmart, Meijer, Marathon Gas, SO MANY RESTAURANTS, department stores, etc. Though the percentages might seem small, small bits can add up to a meaningful contribution to the church, and are especially great with places that you’re going to shop at anyway. (Remember, you get the full value of the gift card; the church gets our donation when you purchase the card, whether you lose, spend, or whatever.) Find the full list of participating retailers at

<https://www.shopwithscrip.com/shopwithscrip-retailers>. Contact Penny with your order any time by calling/texting her at 815-236-6172 or emailing her at mriapk@gmail.com.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Hey! How did those people get to go to the sanctuary for worship?! They contacted Kelli Brossart at kellibrossart@gmail.com. We remain cautious and follow guidelines, including wearing a mask, maintaining social distancing, and sitting with members of your household in the assigned pew(s). We also ask everyone to bring a copy of the bulletin. We are taking ‘reservations’ now for upcoming Sundays where we will allow TWO household groups per Sunday to join us. If you would like to sign up, email Kelli. You’ll be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis. You’ll receive an email reminder before the Sunday you are scheduled to attend. We know this is not a replacement for “regular” church, but we hope it provides a chance to reconnect with our beautiful worship space.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Thanks, all you “snow sponsors and “snowmen” and “snow-women” for supporting our snow clearing costs from this past winter. Even with our efforts to reduce the needed services, we’ve still had to pay over \$2000 in 2021 for snow removal

Through special gifts from thirteen households, we’ve received \$1600 toward those costs! – Thank you! If others of you still want to contribute, your special gift of \$50 will make you a “snow sponsor”! If you’re able to give \$100, we’ll consider you a “snowman” (or woman) and maybe even arrange for a token of our appreciation. Thanks for any way you can help!

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY continues Tuesday at 2PM open to everyone to read and discuss the Bible passage for the coming Sunday. Tell Pastor Hope if you want the Zoom link.

Our Part in the Story: Daily Readings based on Sunday’s Text

Fruits of the Spirit

Acts 2:1-4; Galatians 4:1-7, 5:16-26

Read a different text each day, and consider how it relates to Sunday’s lesson and to your daily experiences.

Monday: The Spirit in Joseph

Genesis 41:37-43

❖ What characteristics did Joseph display that showed he was filled with God’s Spirit?

Tuesday: The Spirit and Moses

Exodus 3:1-6

❖ One common image used to describe the Spirit is fire. What are other images that you know of?

Wednesday: The Spirit they Grieved

Isaiah 63:10-12

❖ What does this reading tell you about the relationship between God’s Spirit and the people in Isaiah’s time?

Thursday: The Spirit of the Lord is Upon Me Luke 4:16-21

❖ How does God’s Spirit prompt you to live out the scripture that Jesus read?

Friday: Freedom in the Spirit

2 Corinthians 3:12-18

❖ How are you different when you are reflecting God’s Spirit?

Saturday: Message of the Spirit

Revelation 3:5-7

❖ The author of Revelation says several times, “Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.” What is the Spirit saying to your church?

www.theartoffaith.net

PRAYERS FOR MAY 23, 2021

If you have prayer updates or announcements to share, please send them to BOTH Pastor Hope (pastorhope@richmonducc.org) AND our office manager, Brandi Pletcher (office@richmonducc.org). THANKS! *We will leave a person on our list for four weeks, unless asked to leave them on longer.*

JOYS: We celebrate with the graduates of Richmond-Burton High School today, including our own Zofia Obara. May they be blessed in their journeys onward!

CONCERNS

For Afghanistan

For Israel and Palestine, and the peace of Jerusalem

Carol Sligting's great-grandson, Aiden

Deann Workmon

Julie Leighninger

Bill Haase's daughter, Barb, facing health concerns

Dawn Conley's mother, Diane

Ongoing Prayers:

School teachers, staff, administrators; school children and their parents, including college students

Those whose household relationships are strained

Healthcare workers, especially Cheryl Kazimier's niece and Rob Rummel's daughter-in-law

Marti Swanson's brother, John Baldwin

Ella Watts, Melissa Jones's mother

Louise Strah's niece, Amy Lenik

Members and Friends who are Homebound or in Nursing Facilities:

Mercedes Ahlgrim (New Mexico), Sharon Mensing (Sterling), June Whitney (at home)