



**NEWTON  
CONGREGATIONAL  
UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**  
God is still speaking,

**An Open and Affirming Congregation**

*No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here!*

**Virtual Worship • May 31, 2020 • 10:00am • Pentecost Sunday**

**Digital Bulletin**

This document is prepared so you can join our Sunday morning live-stream worship via our Facebook page ([facebook.com/NewtonUCC](https://facebook.com/NewtonUCC)) or call in via Zoom (Dial 312-626-6799, when prompted enter Meeting ID: 624 681 423 followed by #) or worship on your own at a time convenient for you (visit our Facebook page or website—[uccnewton.org](http://uccnewton.org)).

We are new to online and streaming worship at Congregational UCC and still working on smoothing out a few “hiccups” and technical difficulties. Of course, there is nothing that compares to being physically present with one another in worship, and yet this is what we need to do to “love our neighbors” during the current national emergency.

We apologize in advance for any problems that you may encounter in connecting to the service and welcome your feedback on how to improve the virtual worship experience over the coming weeks when we will not be able to worship in our sanctuary.

**PREPARING FOR VIRTUAL WORSHIP**

As you prepare to join in online worship with us, in addition to making whatever technical preparations you need to make, consider how to prepare your personal space for worship:

- Silence your phone and eliminate distractions
- Light a candle or some incense
- Open your Bible or browser to Acts 2:1-21
- Position your body in a posture of worship and prayer

*They were all filled with the Holy Spirit  
and began to speak in other languages as she enabled them.  
Acts 2:4*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### REMEMBERING WHO WE ARE

One: As we prepare ourselves to join together in worship,  
let us remind ourselves who we are  
as members and friends of Congregational United Church of Christ.

**All: We are a community of God's beloved  
dedicated to following the teachings of Jesus as we live our faith  
by loving and serving all of God's creation  
and striving for justice and peace  
throughout our community, our nation, and the world.**

### THE BREATH OF GOD

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

One: From the very beginning and throughout the course of history,  
the divine spirit has breathed life into creation  
inspiring growth and empowering transformation.

**All: Come, wind! Come, spirit! Come, breath!**

One: From the very beginning and throughout the course of history,  
the divine spirit has broken into rooms where the faithful were gathered  
inspiring them to speak, empowering them to act.

**All: Come, wind! Come, spirit! Come, breath!**

One: Spirit of love, Spirit of life, Spirit of truth move among us this day.  
Break into all of the places where we gather.

**All: Fill our lungs, fill our minds, fill our hearts  
that we might breathe out your compassion, your justice, your peace  
with every action we take and every word we speak  
that all may come to know the amazing things  
you have done and are doing with us and through us  
and be inspired to walk in your way and live in your light.  
We pray in the name of Jesus, Amen.**

#### OPENING HYMN 249

*Spirit*  
Refrain:

Spirit

*Spir-it, Spir-it of gen-tle-ness, blow through the wil-der-ness, call-ing and free,  
Spir-it, Spir-it, Spir-it of rest-less-ness, stir me from plac-id-ness, wind, wind on the sea.*

*You moved on the wa-ters, you called to the deep,  
then you coaxed up the moun-tains from the val-leys of sleep,  
and o-ver the e-ons you called to each thing,  
"A-wake from your slum-bers and rise on your wings."*

Refrain

*You swept through the des-ert, you stung with the sand,  
and you gift-ed your peo-ple with a law and a land,  
when they were con-found-ed with i-dols and lies,  
then you spoke through your proph-ets to o-pen their eyes.*

Refrain

*You sang in a sta-ble, you cried from a hill,  
then you whis-pered in si-lence when the whole world was still,  
and down in the cit-y you called once a-gain  
when you blew through your peo-ple on the rush of the wind.*

Refrain

*You call from to-mor-row, you break an-cient schemes,  
from the bond-age of sor-row the cap-tives dream dreams;  
our wo-men see vi-sions, our men clear their eyes.  
With bold new de-ci-sions your peo-ple a-rise.*

Refrain

CALL TO PRAYER

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND RECONCILIATION

One: We turn away, O God, from individual racism—

the ways in which we perpetuate racism on an individual basis.

**All: We turn to you committing ourselves to beginning and continuing  
the work of identifying and uprooting the racist thoughts and ideas  
that reside in each of us as individuals  
along with their accompanying racist actions and behaviors.**

One: We turn away, O God, from cultural racism—

when the norms, values, or standards  
of the dominant white society are simply assumed.

**All: We turn to you committing ourselves to learning about  
the cultures of our black and brown siblings  
that we might grow in our appreciation of the beauty and diversity of your people  
who have been pushed to the margins by white supremacy.**

One: We turn away, O God, from institutional racism—

the ways in which our institutions – Housing, Government, Education,  
Media, Business, Health Care, Criminal Justice, Religion,  
yes, even the church – perpetuate racism.

**All: We turn to you committing ourselves to dismantling racism in our organizations,  
as we examine the policies, procedures, and structures  
that serve to disproportionately benefit white folks  
and harm individuals and communities of color.**

One: Inspire and empower us to keep these commitments  
to love and serve your people more faithfully

and create with you and one another a beloved community  
where your justice and peace reign supreme.  
We pray in the name of Jesus.

**All: Amen.**

## **ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

### **SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE**

One: The peace of God be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

### **HYMN**

*The Spirit in Me*

by Jim Strathdee

***The Spir-it in me greets the Spir-it in you. A-le-lu-ia!  
God's in us, and we're in God. A-le-lu-ia!***

## **A TIME WITH CHILDREN**

### **SCRIPTURE**

*Acts 2:1-21*

### **GLORIA PATRI**

Greatorex

***Glo-ry to the Cre-a-tor, the Christ, the Ho-ly Spir-it, Three-in-One;  
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now and ever shall be,  
world with-out end. A-men. A-men.***

### **SERMON**

*Inspired to Speak*

Rev. Jessica Petersen

### **PAUSE**

*(What did you hear yourself saying as you were listening to the presentation of the scripture and the sermon? How is God speaking to you today?)*

### **HYMN 264**

*Where the Spirit of the Lord Is*

Adams

***Where the Spir-it of the Lord is, there is peace.  
Where the Spir-it of the Lord is, there is love.  
There is com-fort in life's dark,  
there is light and life, there is help and pow-er  
in the Spir-it, in the Spir-it of the Lord.***

## **EMBODIED PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*(For this time of prayer, you are encouraged to stand up and find an open space as we pray with movement and with our bodies.)*

### **PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR** (\*Other options for "Father" include "Mother," "Creator," "Parent.")

**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.**

**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

## **INVITATION TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

**DOXOLOGY**

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

*Praise God from whom all bles-sings flow,  
praise God all crea-tures here be-low. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!  
Praise God for all that love has done,  
Cre-a-tor, Christ, and Spir-it, One. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!  
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!*

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**HYMN**

*Go, Tell It on the Mountain  
(Pentecost Version)*

Go Tell It on the Mountain  
by Jessica Petersen

**Refrain:**

*Go, tell it on the moun-tain, over the hills and ev-ery-where;  
go, tell it on the moun-tain the great deeds God has done.*

*The Child of God named Je-sus, from Na-za-reth he came.  
He preached and taught his fol-l'wers: God loves us all the same.*

**Refrain**

*The Ro-mans booked and tried him and cru-ci-fied our Lord.  
No tomb could ev-er hold him; love broke right through that door.*

**Refrain**

*His fol-low-ers were gath-ered, they prayed both day and night;  
the Spir-it bust-ed in there—wind, fire—what a sight!*

**Refrain**

*They could not keep their si-lence; they had to spread the word,  
to sing in ev-'ry lan-guage 'til all the world had heard.*

**Refrain**

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

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