



**COMMUNITY CHURCH OF WALKER
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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"No matter who you are, or where you are, you are welcome here!"

"We've Got the Spirit, Yes We Do!"
Pentecost Sunday – Year A
May 28, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.

Worship Leaders:
Pastor Michael Small
Preaching: Sue Grage
Liturgist: Deb Farrell
Special Music: Ryan Pels
Musician: Leisa Bragg
Music Coordinator: Joanna Aamodt

Tech: Aurora Diehl (Video), Esther Covert (Audio)
Spiritual Life, Chancel and Communion Preparation

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

HYMN **"On Pentecost They Gathered"** (verses 1 and 2) **#272**

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: When the day of Pentecost had come, the disciples were all together in one place.

All: Today, followers of the Way gather in many places,

One: From Jerusalem to Galilee, from Pago Pago to Apia.

All: From Rome to Arabia, from Las Vegas to Cleveland.

One: God's Spirit still blows like a mighty wind

All: Breathing new life into the sails of our canoes.

One: God's Spirit still burns like tongues of flame

All: Dancing over the heads of our brave ones.

One: God's Spirit still flows like currents of living water

All: Connecting hearts and islands of all believers.

One: Praise God!

All: Praise God! Let us worship God, from whom all life's blessings flow!

A TIME OF CENTERING

(During this time of centering, open your hearts to God; be in the present, here and now.)

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

One: O Holy Spirit, come and blow through this gathering space as Mighty Wind as you did with the apostles at the beginning of the Church. Pour your Spirit upon us all, both colonized and colonizer, of all ages, all genders, to speak your words, see your vision, dream your dreams toward your great and glorious day when everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. Flow like rivers of living water from the hearts of believers through the songs of praise, words of worship, and prayers of devotion. Amen!

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

All: Dear God, God of oceans and land and all life contained therein. You created this world by the power of your word. By your own hands and breath, you formed humankind in every conceivable shade of brown. You gave us islands and continents as a gift and charged us to be the stewards of what you have made.

Creator God, we have failed you and abused your gift to us. We have offended you and defiled your creation, including seeing fellow human beings as being less than created in your very image. Forgive us for betraying your trust. Forgive us for our greed and arrogance.

Hear the cries of islands drowning in the rising seas, oceans that rise with the melting of the ice.

Hear the cries of our world in distress through storm and drought. God of Life, heal your wounded earth. Embolden us to choose the path that leads to life. so that we may renew your Shalom in land, sea, and sky. This we ask in the name of the one who came that we may have life in abundance, your Son, our Savior Jesus the Christ. Amen.

PRAYER FOR RESTORATION

One: God's love does not belong to one person or group of people. God's love and forgiveness is available to all, even those who do not ask for it. You can also be agents of God's love and healing, so let us strive to receive and give this gift of God's restoration with Creation and with each other. Be God's love and healing for people and planet. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also, with you.**

SCRIPTURE: Acts 2:1-13

¹ When the day of Pentecost arrived, they all met in one room. ² Suddenly they heard what sounded like a violent, rushing wind from heaven; the noise filled the entire house in which they were sitting. ³ Something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each one. ⁴ They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as she enabled them.

⁵ Now there were devout people living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, ⁶ and at this sound they all assembled. But they were bewildered to hear their native languages being spoken. ⁷ They were amazed and astonished: "Surely all of these people speaking are Galileans! ⁸ How does it happen that each of us hears these words in our native tongue? ⁹ We are Parthians, Medes and Elamites, people from Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya around Cyrene, as well as visitors from Rome—¹¹ all Jews, or converts to Judaism—Cretans and Arabs, too; we hear them preaching, each in our own language, about the marvels of God!"

¹² All were amazed and disturbed. They asked each other, "What does this mean?" ¹³ But others said mockingly, "They've drunk too much new wine."

REFLECTION

"We've Got the Spirit, Yes We Do!"

Sue Grage

CELEBRATION OF LIFE



Remembrance and Honor on Memorial Day For those who have died in the past year

From the book of Hebrews, we hear, *"¹ Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside everything that impedes us and the sin that so easily entangles us. Let us run with perseverance the race laid out for us. ² Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection."*

The names shared today dwell in that "great cloud of witnesses". We celebrate and are thankful for their lives lived well. We remember them as their names are read and we give thanks to God for how they dwelt with us.

At the close of worship, a member or representative of the family may come forward to take a rose.

Name	Date of Birth	Date of Death	Celebration
Gene Alderson	01/19/1947	06/16/2022	06/27/2022

Lorraine Henselin	11/27/1930	09/09/2022	10/8/2022
Darlene Stilson	05/7/1933	11/26/2022	07/22/2023*
Sally Wulfekuher	05/21/1931	12/22/2022	01/22/2023
Vera Demars	11/11/1941	12/26/2022	01/6/2023
Gary Jacobson	06/6/1963	01/26/2023	03/18/2023
Rodney Burlingame (Linda Barber's Dad)	01/12/1936	03/24/2023	06/17/2023*
Lindy Johnson	01/12/1939	04/03/2023	04/12/2023
Jo Horak	10/09/1945	05/16/2023	06/13/2023*

SPECIAL MUSIC

"You'll Never Walk Alone"

Ryan Pels

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

One: At the birth of the Church, all who believed were together and had all things in common: they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. The work of the Holy Spirit, flows like living water from the hearts of believers. Shall our confidence in the mission of our congregation and the wider church also overflow freely with the generosity of the faithful? May each of our families give without measure so that the larger family of faith may be a vessel of Good News to the world!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING

All: Heavenly God, even as the first believers did in the early church, we lay our gifts at the feet of the apostles. May these gifts support the ministry of our congregation as well as strengthen the wider United Church of Christ and ecclesial partner, the Congregational Christian Church of American Samoa, as well as the whole of the Samoan ecclesial family here and everywhere. Give our leaders gifts of discernment for the wisest possible use of these resources which we dedicate to you today. Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you! Amen.

SONG

"God Bless America" by Kate Smith

Song Ryan Pels

Song by Kate Smith

God bless America, land that I love
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with the light from above

From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home

God bless America, land that I love
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with the light from above

From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home

From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home
God bless America, my home sweet home

PARTING WORDS

One: Dear Siblings, Sisters and Brothers, God's Holy Spirit goes with you, blows with you, and flows with you. So let us be as Living Water, flowing from within this worship service out to a thirsty world. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Flow Out from Within: Service Prayers for Pentecost Sunday was written by Rev. Mikey Kelemete, Senior Pastor of Faaaliga o le Alofa (Vision of Grace) Church in Las Vegas, Nevada, affiliated with both the Congregational Christian Church of American Samoa (Ekalesia Faapotopotoga Kerisiano Amerika Samoa) and the United Church of Christ and Rev. Samuelu "Sam" Tialavea, Associate Pastor of Faaaliga o le Alofa. Pastor Sam also serves as secretary for United Samoan Ministries of the UCC and in the Southern California Nevada Conference as Vice-Moderator for the Eastern Association as well as secretary for SCN Pacific Islander and Asian American Ministries. Would you like to see what worship in a Samoan church in the USA looks like? Visit us on facebook: (20+) FAAALIGA O LE ALOFA – VISION OF GRACE CHURCH in Las Vegas, NV USA | Facebook

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Due to Covid-19 It is recommended that:

We wear masks.

Keep distance from one another.

If you are feeling unwell, please stay at home!

Wi-Fi: CCOWUCC_Guest

**Scan QR Code
for Internet Access**



**Please join us for fellowship following the service in
the Fellowship Hall.**



The UCC All-Church Offering will be taken in the June 4th Worship Service. You may click on the QR code to hear the story of how the Strengthen the Church Offering is used. Give generously.