



Everyone is welcome here

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BINGHAMTON

ACT JUSTLY • PRACTICE KINDNESS • WALK HUMBLY WITH GOD




**Sunday
June 8, 2025**






10:00am

Day of
Pentecost



 Our worship service is
livestreaming on our YouTube
Channel: [upcbgm.org/youtube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpCbGm)

Join via phone call on Zoom:
(+1) 646-558-8656,
Meeting ID 865 274 8433

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Today we are celebrating Pentecost, which is the Greek word for “fiftieth”. It comes fifty days after Easter, and most years it falls at the same time as the Jewish festival of Shavuot. In Judaism, the holiday celebrates the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai. In Christianity, it celebrates the gift of the Holy Spirit to the community of disciples.

THEY SAW WHAT
SEEMED TO BE
TONGUES
OF FIRE
THAT SEPARATED
AND CAME TO REST
ON EACH OF THEM.



ACTS 2:3, NIV

God did not change the covenant relationship with the Jewish people but offered a new kind of covenant relationship to the rest of us, grounded in the knowledge of God’s love as shown in Jesus, and guided by the Holy Spirit. We remember God’s gracious love that invites us into a relationship with God, with the congregation, and with the world. God’s promise is to be with us and guide us in our life together, creating new possibilities, sustaining us in hard times, and freeing us to live together in love.

Welcome to the Celebration!

June 8, 2025 • 10:00am

*Our rainbow swag display is in honor of Pride Month to celebrate love.
UPC Binghamton fully supports our LGBTQIA+ members, friends, and allies.*

We Gather as a Community of Faith

OPENING BELL *The bell tolls to center our hearts and minds for worship.*

GATHERING MUSIC (together) "God of Many Names"

The leader will sing the verses; congregation is invited to join in singing the Refrain (see page 3).

God of many names, gathered into One, in your glory come and meet us, moving, endlessly becoming;
God of hovering wings, womb and birth of time, joyfully we sing your praises, breath of life in every people:

Refrain

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in the key of D major (two sharps). The time signature is 4/4. The melody is a simple, joyful tune. The lyrics are: "Hush, hush, hal-le - lu-jah, hal-le - lu-jah! Shout, shout, hal-le - lu-jah, hal-le - lu - jah!"

Hush, hush, hal-le - lu-jah, hal-le - lu-jah! Shout, shout, hal-le - lu-jah, hal-le - lu - jah!

1, 2 | 3

The musical score continues with a repeat sign and three endings. The lyrics are: "Sing, sing, hal-le - lu-jah, hal-le - lu-jah! Sing God is love, God is love! love!"

Sing, sing, hal-le - lu-jah, hal-le - lu-jah! Sing God is love, God is love! love!

God of Jewish faith, exodus and law, in your glory come and meet us, joy of Miriam and Moses;

God of Jesus Christ, rabbi of the poor, joyfully we sing your praises, crucified, alive forever: [*Refrain*]

God of wounded hands, web and loom of love, in your glory come and meet us, carpenter and new creation;

God of many names, gathered into One, joyfully we sing your praises, moving, endlessly becoming: [*Refrain*]

Words: Brian Wren. Music: William P. Rowan (MANY NAMES). © 1986 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved.

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WORDS OF WELCOME

* = *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

by Moira Laidlaw, based on Jeremiah 31:31–34

One: The days are surely coming, says the Lord,
when I will make a new covenant...
it will not be like the old covenant:

All: written on stone.

One: This will be a radically new covenant:
my laws will be within you,

All: written on hearts.

One: And God added these wonderful words —
I am your God and you are my people.

**All: Imprint these words anew on our hearts, O God,
so that we know you in all your fullness,
love you as you love us,
and worship you as you deserve.**

One: Let us worship God.

***SONG OF GATHERING** “Gather Us In” (see page 5)

GATHERING PRAYER (*together*)

by Joanna Harader

**Holy One,
For all of the ways you speak to us —
in rushing wind,
in dancing flames,
in words we understand,
and in all that transcends language,
we give thanks.**

**Give us courage to speak your love,
everywhere we go,
to everyone we meet.
Amen!**

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

We Gather at the Lord's Table, Where All Are Welcome

INVITATION

Family of faith,
on the first Pentecost day,
Peter stood up and said to the crowd:
“Whether you are Jew or Greek,
Parthian or Mede, young or old, slave or free, Cretan or Arab,
you are welcome here — for this is God's table.”

Gather Us In



1. Here in this place, the new light is stream-ing; shad-ows of doubt are
 2. We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery; we are the old who
 3. Here we re - ceive new life in the wa - ters; here we re - ceive the
 4. Not just in buil - dings, small and con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way. See in this space our fears and our dream-ings;
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through - out all of his - tory,
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a - way, here in this place, the new light is shin - ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day. _____ Gath-er us in, the
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race. _____ Gath-er us in, the
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth. _____ Give us to drink the
 now is God pres-ent, and now is the day. _____ Gath-er us in and



lost and for - sak-en; gath-er us in, our spir - its en - flame. Call to us now, and
 rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the proud and the strong; give us a heart, so
 wine of com - pas-sion; give us to eat the bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and
 hold us for - ev - er; gath-er us in and make us your own; gath-er us in, all



we shall a - waken; we shall a - rise at the sound of our name. _____
 meek and so low-ly; give us the cour-age to en - ter the song. _____
 teach us to fashion lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true. _____
 peo - ples to - geth-er, fire _____ of love in our flesh and our bone. _____

Two thousand years later,
as we gather around this table, I say to you:
Whether you are Presbyterian or nondenominational,
male, female, nonbinary, or gender-fluid,
immigrant or US born, young or old, gay or straight, or in between,
you are welcome here.

For this table is God's table.
And at this table we proclaim the kingdom of God.
At this table we are united.
At this table we are hopeful.
At this table we come hungry and leave fed.
At this table there is space for everyone.
At this table the young can see visions, and the old can dream dreams.
And at this table, if you listen closely,
you just may hear the rush of a mighty wind.

So come, for at this table
you will, are, and will always be welcome.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

We remember the witness of Jesus to challenge the empires of the world, to stop at nothing to declare God's love for all people.

We remember how the world responded to Jesus's ministry and teaching, by killing him. And we remember God's bold challenge to the world in bringing Jesus back to life. And because of all this, we dare to remember the night when Christ was betrayed.

Gathered at table with his closest followers, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to the disciples, saying, "Take this. Eat this. It is my body, given for you. Do this — and remember me."

After supper he took a cup, gave thanks, and offered it also, saying, "This is the cup of a new and everlasting covenant, poured out willingly and lovingly. Drink this — and remember me."

And so we remember, and we reconnect with one another in this season, and as we invite Christ anew into our hearts, so we rededicate ourselves to proclaiming in word and deed Christ's realm. Amen!

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION *(together)*

adapted from Full to the Brim | sanctifiedart.org

And so we pray:
Come, Holy Spirit, come.
Bless this bread and
bless this cup.

Bless all of us in our eating and drinking that our eyes might be open,
that we might recognize the risen Christ in our midst,
indeed in one another.
Come, Holy Spirit, come.

We pray in Jesus's name, who taught us when we pray to say...

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*together*)

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!

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS (*responsive*)

If your elements of Communion are with you at home, rest your hands lightly upon them. If you are here in person and they are in the front of the sanctuary, open your hands to be sacramental, filled with the power to change your heart and the world. We ask God's grace on us and on all those who are in our prayers this morning, and God's blessing on our elements and our hands.

One: We are welcome to this gift of God, the Bread of Heaven.

All: We are Christ's family in the Bread we share.

One: We are welcome to this gift of God, the Fruit of the Vine.

All: We are Christ's family in the Cup we share.

COMMUNION MUSIC "We Are One in the Spirit" Aimée Backus, Andrea Gilebarto, Starletta Noll-Long,
Austin Shadduck, *vocals*; Rebecca Mebert, *piano*

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord, we are one in the Spirit,
we are one in the Lord; and we pray that all unity may one day be restored.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, and they'll know we are Christians by our love.

*Somos uno en espíritu y en el Señor, somos uno en espíritu y en el Señor; y rogamos que en día
se complete la unión. Y que somos cristianos lo sabrán, lo sabrán, porque unidos estamos en amor.*

*Wir sind einig im Geste, wir sind einig im Herrn, wir sind einig im Geste,
wir sind einig im Herrn; lasst uns beten um Einheit durch den Geist unsres Herrn.
Denn wir werden als Christen an der Liebe erkannt, ja, wir werden an der Liebe erst erkannt.*

*Tous unis dans l'Esprit, tous unis en Jésus, tous unis dans l'Esprit,
tous unis en Jésus; nous prions que bientôt ce qui divise ne soit plus.
Et le monde saura que nous sommes chrétiens par l'amour dont nos actes sont empreints.*

Words and Music: Peter Scholtes (ST. BRENDAN'S); trans. Federico J. Pagura (Spanish), Anton Schulte & Bernd Schlottoff (German),
Claire-Lise de Benoit (French). © 1966 F.E.L. Publications, assigned to The Lorenz Corp., 1991 (admin Music Services). All rights
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Holy God,
you have fed us all
out of your own generous and gracious hands.
From them, we have received welcome,
nourishment, hope, and consolation.

May these things grow in us,
alongside the gift of faith,
so that we may plant their seeds
in the world around us.

Through the Holy Spirit,
guide us in the days ahead
to follow your light as you lead us
in your great and ongoing story
of resurrection, redemption, and restoration
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen!

We Tell and Hear the Word

FOCUS LESSON Acts 2:1–41, CEB

¹ When Pentecost Day arrived, they were all together in one place. ² Suddenly a sound from heaven like the howling of a fierce wind filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ They saw what seemed to be individual flames of fire alighting on each one of them. ⁴ They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them to speak.

⁵ There were pious Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶ When they heard this sound, a crowd gathered. They were mystified because everyone heard them speaking in their native languages. ⁷ They were surprised and amazed, saying, “Look, aren’t all the people who are speaking Galileans, every one of them?” ⁸ How then can each of us hear them speaking in our native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes, and Elamites; as well as residents of Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the regions of Libya bordering Cyrene; and visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism), ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs — we hear them declaring the mighty works of God in our own languages!” ¹² They were all surprised and bewildered. Some asked each other, “What does this mean?” ¹³ Others jeered at them, saying, “They’re full of new wine!”

¹⁴ Peter stood with the other eleven apostles. He raised his voice and declared, “Judeans and everyone living in Jerusalem! Know this! Listen carefully to my words!”

Summary of vv. 15–36: Peter’s speech on Pentecost declares that the miraculous events witnessed are the fulfillment of prophecy, not drunkenness. He explains that God sent Jesus, proved his authority through miracles, and raised him from the dead after his crucifixion. Quoting King David, Peter shows that Jesus’s resurrection was foretold. Jesus is now exalted at God’s right hand

and has sent the Holy Spirit. He concludes by proclaiming that Jesus, whom they crucified, has been made both Lord and Christ.

³⁷ When the crowd heard this, they were deeply troubled. They said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?”

³⁸ Peter replied, “Change your hearts and lives. Each of you must be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

³⁹ This promise is for you, your children, and for all who are far away — as many as the Lord our God invites.” ⁴⁰ With many other words he testified to them and encouraged them, saying, “Be saved from this perverse generation.” ⁴¹ Those who accepted Peter’s message were baptized. God brought about three thousand people into the community on that day.

REFLECTIONS “When the Walls Come Down”

Rev. Kimberly P Chastain

We Respond to the Word

*SONG OF RESPONSE “The Church of Christ in Every Age” verses 1, 3, 5 (see page 8)

WE SAY WHAT WE BELIEVE (*together*)

from “A Song of Faith”, United Church of Canada, 2006

We sing of God the Spirit,

**who from the beginning has swept over the face of creation,
animating all energy and matter
and moving in the human heart.**

We sing of God the Spirit,

**faithful and untameable,
who is creatively and redemptively active in the world.**

The Spirit challenges us to celebrate the holy

**not only in what is familiar,
but also in that which seems foreign.**

We sing of the Spirit,

**who speaks our prayers of deepest longing
and enfolds our concerns and confessions,
transforming us and the world.**

We offer worship

**as an outpouring of gratitude and awe
and a practice of opening ourselves
to God’s still, small voice of comfort,
to God’s rushing whirlwind of challenge.**

Through word, music, art, and sacrament,

**in community and in solitude,
God changes our lives, our relationships, and our world.**

The Church of Christ in Every Age 623



1 The church of Christ in ev - ery age, be - set by
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
4 For Christ a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
be - dience to our Lord: to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
bread to eat, and nev - er live un - til they die.
sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
out re - serve, and spread Christ's lib - er - at - ing word.

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OFFERING

You are invited to support the ministry of this congregation through online giving at upcbgm.org/give, or by sending a check to the church office or putting an offering in the plates by the door.

*You can contribute to the PC(USA)'s Pentecost special offering online at pcusa.org/give/pentecost or text *PENTECOST* to 91999, or use one of the Special Offering envelopes located near the plates by the doors, or send a check to the church office marked with "special offering" in the memo line.*



MUSICAL OFFERING "O Lord, Give Thy Holy Spirit"

UPC Choir

O Lord, give thy Holy Spirit into our hearts, and lighten our understanding,
that we may dwell in the fear of thy Name, all the days of our life:
that we may know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent.

Words: Thomas Tallis; ed. A. Ramsbotham; rev. ed. Anthony Greening. © 1969 Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.
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PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*together*)

Loving God, we know that ministry is not a service we receive at church so much as it is a life-giving work you call us to do with others. Use our gifts and our talents, blended with the gifts and talents of others around the world, to make a difference in our lives and the lives of others. Amen!

We Go Forth in Gratitude to Serve

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INVITATIONS

***SONG OF SENDING** "Lift Every Voice and Sing" (see pages 12–13)

BLESSING

Go in peace.
Be of good courage.
Hold fast to what is good.
Return to no one evil for evil.
Support the weak, strengthen the frightened, help the suffering.
Honor every person.
Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Lift Every Voice and Sing



1 Lift ev - ery voice and sing till earth and heav - en ring,
 2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chast - ening rod,
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,



ring with the har - mon - ies of lib - er - ty;
 felt in the days when hope un - born had died;
 thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;



let our re - joic - ing rise, high as the lis - tening skies,
 yet with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry feet
 thou who hast, by thy might, led us in - to the light,



let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
 come to the place for which our peo - ple sighed?
 keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

Words: James Weldon Johnson, alt. Music: J. Rosamond Johnson (LIFT EVERY VOICE). Public Domain.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered,
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee,

sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought
 we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh -
 lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get

us; fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be -
 tered, out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at
 thee; shad - owed be - neath thy hand, may we for - ev - er

gun, let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.
 last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 stand, true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

One: And may the peace that passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of God's son, Jesus Christ, and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you and abide with you this day and always.

Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

(Please exchange a greeting of peace with those around you as our worship concludes.)

SENDING MUSIC "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

United Ringers handbell choir

Music: Jamaican folk tune (Linstead), adapt. Doreen Potter, © 1975 Hope Publishing Co.; arr. Michael Helman, © 2001 Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved.

After the service, everyone is invited to join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments as we celebrate all the birthdays in the month of June.

Get Involved! Without any doubt, the ministry of our congregation depends largely on the dedication and selfless contributions of volunteers — the incredible individuals who give generously of their time, energy, and unique talents. Here are some ways you can help us do Christ's work in our community:

Community Meal & Pantry: Each Tuesday at 5pm, we offer a sit-down meal that is free for anybody, serving about 160 meals a week. Volunteers are needed during the day on Monday and Tuesday to help with food prep, and on Tuesday evening to serve the meal and clean up afterwards.

On Wednesdays from noon to 5pm, we run a free food pantry that also offers personal care & hygiene items when they're available. Volunteers help staff the pantry, and donations of non-perishable food and personal care items are always welcome.

Contact Kitchen Coordinator Sherry Conklin for more info: meal@upcbgm.org

Worship services: You may not have noticed how many people are involved in our Sunday morning worship services, but most weeks there are at least a dozen of us, and often there are more than 20: folks who read prayers and scripture, greet visitors, share musical talents, operate technology, set up refreshments, help serve communion, or contribute their ideas and support behind the scenes. If you'd like to take part, contact Worship Team chair Suzie Raboy: sraboy54@stny.rr.com

Music at UPC: Music is an important part of our coming together at United Presbyterian Church. We are excited to make music with every resource that we have, and to use a variety of styles, not all at once but intermingled. What emerges is a vibrant worship service with music that includes everyone who wishes to participate.

With summertime on the way, the choirs will soon be taking a break until after Labor Day. We invite instrumentalists and vocalists who'd like to share their gifts to talk with any of our music leaders about providing special music for worship — you can call the church office, email music@upcbgm.org, or speak with them in person after worship.



Other ministries: Our ministry teams are always welcoming new team members. If you'd like to help with or learn more about the workings of the church, talk to one of the pastors or the elders on Session: **Campus Ministry**, Pastor Becky bkindig@upcbgm.org; **Card Committee**, Margaret Davis mdavis.margaret@gmail.com; **Community Outreach**, Pastor Kimberly pastor@upcbgm.org or Sherry Conklin meal@upcbgm.org; **Finance**, Andy Chadwick cchadwick1@stny.rr.com; **Hospitality**, Sally Hunt shunt1@stny.rr.com or Sherry Conklin meal@upcbgm.org; **Personnel**, Cindy Burger csburger@frontiernet.net; **Property**, Pastor Becky bkindig@upcbgm.org; **Sewing Group**, Cindy Burger csburger@frontiernet.net.

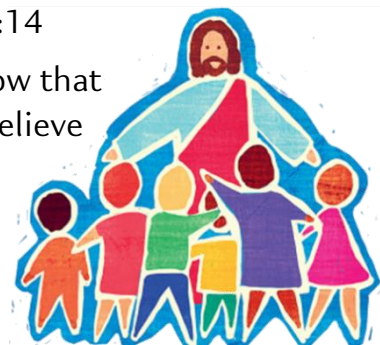


Gathering at the Lord's Table — Our Communion Elements:

We are celebrating communion during today's worship service. Our communion bread is gluten-free, and our shared cup is cherry juice, so that all may partake of the same elements during our communion. Please speak to one of the technicians at the back of the sanctuary if this creates any difficulties for you.

Children in Worship: "Let the little children come to me..." —Matthew 19:14

We are glad that your children are here today, and we hope that you know that they are welcome and encouraged to be in worship with you. We truly believe that a community of faith is made up of people of ALL ages. There is a PrayGround space with coloring sheets and quiet toys in the front of the sanctuary to use there or can be taken to another pew, if that suits your family's needs. Sunday school materials are mailed to our families once a month to do together at home.



There is also a nursery space at the end of the hall at the front of the sanctuary that is open for use with a parent or guardian. It has a changing table, a rocking chair, and some toys appropriate for age two and under. There is a speaker in the room so you can listen to the service. Please let us know if you have questions.

PRAYER CREDITS: *Call to Worship* by Moira Laidlaw, posted on Liturgies Online, reposted on re:Worship, re-worship.blogspot.com. *Gathering Prayer* by Joanna Harader, posted on Practicing Families, reposted on re:Worship, re-worship.blogspot.com. *Invitation* and *Prayer of Consecration* adapted from prayers by Rev. Sarah Are Speed, © A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org. *Prayer After the Meal* by Julia Seymour. *We Say What We Believe* from "A Song of Faith: A Statement of Faith of The United Church of Canada," © 2006.

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Pastors Rev. Kimberly P Chastain and Rev. Becky Kindig

Reader Cheryl Nguyen-Wishneski ~ ***Musicians*** Aimée Backus, *Music Coordinator*; Rebecca Mebert, *accompanist*; Austin Shadduck, *United Ringers director*; Andrea Gilebarto, Starletta Noll-Long, Phil Westcott, the United Ringers handbell choir, and the UPC Choir

Technicians Chris Burger, Andy Chadwick, Matt Johnson, Scott Kindig, Sara Lieberman, Ken Mebert