

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST EAST GOSHEN

We Are a Church of Extravagant Welcome for All People!

May 24, 2026—10AM



Come, Holy Spirit

First Sunday of Pentecost

We are a Congregation that celebrates our LGBTQIA+ kindred

Rev. Lynice Pinkard, Pastor

Carolyn Scherer, Office Administrator

Marty Meyer, Music Director

Warren Cooper, Musician

Prelude *More Love to You, O Christ*
 Come Down, O Love Divine

arr. T. Fettke
arr. C. Callahan

Pastoral Welcome

Announcements

Ringling of the Singing Bowl

Beth Sayler

Invocation

Pastor Lynice

***Call to Worship**

Leader:

Come, Holy Ghost—
wind through the rooms
we have learned to survive inside.

People:

Come, Breath of God,
and make us alive again.

Leader:

Come into the places
where laughter has gone missing.
Come into the weary heart,
the frightened mind,
the overburdened spirit.

People:

Blow through every locked door.

Leader:

Some of us have learned

how to look alive
while quietly disappearing.

People:

Blow through every place we have learned to disappear.

Leader:

Come, Fire of Love—
burn through cruelty,
burn through numbness,
burn through all that keeps us
from one another.

People:

Teach us again
the language of mercy,
the sound of joy,
the courage of tenderness.

Leader:

Come, Spirit who leaks
through every boundary
human fear has built.

People:

Make us porous to life again.

Leader:

Church, the Spirit is here.

All:

And we have come to breathe.

Amen.

Acts 2:1–8, 12–18 (NRSVUE)

1 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3 Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

5 Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. 6 And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. 7 Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?

12 All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” 13 But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. 15 Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. 16 No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

17 ‘In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.

18 Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit,
and they shall prophesy.

***Passing the Peace** *(in a safe and sensitive manner)*

We Regather in Song:

Blessed Be the Tie That Binds

NCH 393 vs 1

Blessed be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The sharing of a common life
Is like to that above.

Prayers of the People

Prayer leader: after a prayer: Lord in your mercy

Congregation: Hear our prayers.

***All:**

**Our Creator/Mother/Father/Spirit,
who is in Heaven,**

hallowed be your name.

Your Kin-dom come,

your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our faults, as we forgive the faults of others.

and deliver us from evil.

For yours is the kin-dom, power, and glory, forever. Amen.

**On Pentecost They Gathered*

NCH 272 (1,3,4)

Listening To Our Sacred Text

Webb Mealy

John 20:19–23 (NRSVUE)

19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus

came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Sermon The Holy Ghost Is Hard on Dead Things

Pastor Lynice

Time of Silent Reflection

[In the silence after the sermon, we allow the sacred text and dialogue of the sermon to settle in our hearts, bones, bodies, and souls. We do this by opening our hearts and inviting God to settle the message we needed to hear.]

***Prayer of Commitment**

Leader:

Come, Holy Ghost—
wind through the rooms
we have learned to survive inside.

People:

Blow through every place
we have learned to disappear.

Leader:

Come into the weary heart,
the guarded spirit,
the wounded places within us
that have forgotten joy.

People:

Come, Breath of God,
and make us alive again.

Leader:

Come, Fire of Love—
burn through fear,
burn through numbness,
burn through all that keeps us
from one another.

People:

Teach us again
the language of mercy,
the courage of tenderness,
and the joy of belonging.

Leader:

Spirit of the Living God,
move through every boundary
human fear has built.

People:

Make us porous to life again.

Leader:

Church, the Spirit is here.

All:

And we have come to breathe.

Amen.

Offertory Music *I Need Thee Every Hour*

arr. S. Henry

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

If you prefer to give electronically, please use your cell phone camera to scan this QR code.



***Doxology** *(sung)*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.**

***Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

O God,
We share our offerings from our resources, that they may be used to extend your liberating reign. With them, we offer our varied ministries, in the days ahead, that each of us may be a part of your answer to the cries of the world. Amen.

**God of the Sparrow God of the Whale*

NCH 32 (1,3,5)

***Benediction**

Our worship has ended, and our service has just begun...
Please join us for fellowship in the Parlor.

THANK YOU to ALL helping with Worship Today:

Beth Sayler: Greeters/Offering Collection
Susan Ward: Tech Support
Webb Mealy: Lay Reader(s)
Erica Britton, Webb Mealy: Fellowship Hour
Beth Sayler and Ann Boohar: Counters

Worship Volunteers for Sunday, 5/31/26

: Greeters/Offering Collection
Bart Yost: Tech Support
: Lay Reader(s)
Beth Sayler and Kang Chen: Fellowship Hour
Bonnie Yost and Greg Sayler: Counters

Church Office Hours This Week

	<u>Pastor Lynice</u>	<u>Administrator</u>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Memorial Day (day off)</i>	<i>Memorial Day</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	10-4	<i>Work from home</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	10-4	<i>Work from home</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	10-4	11-1
<i>Friday</i>	<i>Day Off</i>	<i>Work from home</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>Work from home</i>	---

UCCEG Worship & Events

5/26/26: 1pm: Café Script (Hybrid-Come in person or join via Zoom)
5/26/26: 6pm: Council Meeting (Zoom)
5/30/26: 9am – 1pm. Spring Workshop #2: Loving the Stranger
5/31/26: 10am-Worship

Prayer Requests

Please fill out a prayer request form (on the table in the Foyer) and place in the offering plate, email office@ucceastgoshen.org, or contact Carol Swingle for any updates or additions to our prayer list.

We pray for the following members and friends of UCCEG:

Cliff Keljikian, Anne Phinney, Ron Rising, Family of Jim Wilson, Cherri Murphy, Marquita Kinard, Bunny Watts, Jeff Fletcher and family, Roger Meacham, Joanie Youse, Rain Willover, Nancy Jane van Krieken (mom of Beth Anne Keates), Andy and Thea Mahard, Johari Jabir, Jane and Frank Resides, Family of Walt Halberg, Barbara Booth and family, Phyllis



Taylor, Rafael Barber, family and friends of Beverly Catt (Don Rising's sister), Debra Ann Leapheart and family, Family and friends of Jack Prior, husband of Paula Roe Prior, Lanning and Deanne Risher as they deal with serious health issues, Lester Allen (uncle of Bonnie

Jackson and brother of Beverly Myles), Bonnie Jackson and family on the loss of her brother Roy Garlisch, Bayleigh and her husband Ian and baby who are facing a health crisis during pregnancy, Pete Speece, Annie Sherman, Claudia Morrow

Announcements and Community Notices

WELCOME:

We welcome Gail Craven to our worship service this morning and thank her for playing. Gail is the former music director at UCC Valley Forge.

CAFÉ SCRIPT IS BACK — ALL ARE WELCOME!

Café Script meets Tuesdays from 1–2 pm on Zoom as we continue our journey through the Gospel of **Mark, with Matthew, Luke, and John** still ahead. All are welcome — come as you are, whether you join regularly or drop in from time to time. Cafe Script is now hybrid—taking place at the Church House and on Zoom. Carolyn sends the Zoom link

out every week. We hope you will join us for this time of Scripture, reflection, and shared learning.

FROM ACCEPTANCE TO ADVOCACY SPRING WORKSHOP SERIES

UCCEG holds at its center a commitment to welcoming all into the wholeness of God's love and the flourishing of God's justice. This commitment summons us to an ongoing journey of transformation. Come deepen your skills and capacities for this work of transformation toward Beloved Community and expansive belonging.

May 30, 9am-1pm | Loving the Stranger: Moving toward Collective Liberation.
June 13, 9am-1pm | Wrestling toward a Blessing: Fostering Generative Conflict in Community

Location: UCCEG Church House Parlor

Facilitated by **Rev. Dr. Sharon R. Fennema**, this series is part of our ongoing intercultural work through the *Belonging Beyond Whiteness* project, supported by the National Church of the UCC.

WEST CHESTER FOOD CUPBOARD (WCFC)

Thank you from WCFC: Thank you so much for your continued generosity to the West Chester Food Cupboard. In these especially challenging times, your support means more than ever – not just to us, but to the growing number of families who rely on us. Last year we served over 8,000 people. Many are turning to us for the first time. We are deeply grateful for your compassion and commitment. You are truly making a difference in the lives of so many people throughout our community, and we are so thankful for your loyal support. WCFC continues to need cereal, non-grape jelly, canned meat, canned fish, peanut butter, spaghetti sauce (cans or plastic jars), hearty soups, and canned fruit. Personal care items including feminine products, soaps, toothbrushes, toothpaste, toilet paper, diapers (sizes 5 and 6), and baby wipes are always needed. Please put donated items in the bin located in the hallway. No glass items please. Many thanks. Or, if you care to give a monetary donation, please write a check payable to UCCEG with

WCFC on the memo line or put cash in a church envelope, label it for WCFC, and drop it in the collection plate. Thank you.

OUTREACH FOR SAFE HARBOR

Thanks to all who contribute to this essential ministry of service to the houseless and those working towards a permanent housing situation. The Director of Operations reports that they would appreciate donations of the following practical items at this time: Lunch snack items (packaged chips, pretzels, etc.), water, juice boxes (or jugs), baked goods (e.g. brownies), and toilet paper. If you would like to learn about volunteering opportunities, please see Webb Mealy. It's very easy to get involved. Monetary donations will support purchase of special baskets/bins for refrigerated food storage in the kitchens at Safe Harbor. If you care to donate to this effort, please write a check payable to UCCEG with Safe Harbor on the memo line or put cash in a church envelope, label it for Safe Harbor, and drop it in the collection plate. Thank you for your kind generosity.