

**Clifton Presbyterian Church** is a welcoming Christian Community driven by compassion, generosity, resilience and service to others.

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## Breath Prayer

*INHALE: Spirit of the Living God*      *EXHALE: fall afresh on me*

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Church of the Ascension (Johnstown, Ohio).

Detail from "Stained glass Window: The Holy Spirit as Fire," via Wikimedia Commons.

May 24, 2025  
9:45 Prayer & Care  
10:00 AM Worship

Day of Pentecost

### **WE GATHER TOGETHER TO WORSHIP GOD**

*An asterisk \* indicates that the congregation may stand, as able.*

*Songs marked GtG are from the Glory to God Hymnal, and are printed with permission.*

*All other songs are from the Presbyterian Hymnal, which can be found in the pews.*

**Gathering Song GtG 399      God Welcomes All**  
**God welcomes all, strangers and friends;**  
**God's love is strong and it never ends.**

**Time of Prayer and Care**

**Prelude**

### \*Opening Sentences

One: Spirit of the living God, visit us again on this day of Pentecost.

**All: Come, Holy Spirit.**

One: Like a rushing wind that sweeps away all barriers,

**All: Come, Holy Spirit.**

One: Like tongues of fire that set our hearts aflame,

**All: Come, Holy Spirit.**

One: With speech that unites the Babel of our tongues,

**All: Come, Holy Spirit.**

One: With love that overlaps the boundaries of races and nations,

**All: Come, Holy Spirit.**

One: With power from on high to make our weakness strong,

**All: Come, Holy Spirit.**

### \*Presbyterian Hymnal 322 Spirit of the Living God

**Spirit of the living God,  
fall afresh on me.**

**Spirit of the living God,  
fall afresh on me.**

**Melt me; mold me;  
fill me; use me.**

**Spirit of the living God,  
fall afresh on me.**

### Prayer of Confession

One: The Spirit of the Lord fills the world and knows our every word and deed.

Let us then open ourselves to the Lord and tell the truth about the ways we are caught up in the ways of a sinful world. Let us pray.

**All: Generous God, you send us a Spirit of courage, but too often we hold tight to our fears. You send us the Spirit of truth, but too often we cling to our illusions. You send us a Spirit of healing, but too often we hold on to our hurts. Holy Spirit of forgiveness, come to us again: shake our hearts; set our souls on fire with your love; send us out into the world rejoicing in your presence. Free us from our sins, and free us for a life in your love. Amen.**

### Assurance of God's Grace *from Ezekiel 36:24-28*

One: The Lord declares, "I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries... I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleanness... I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit within

you; and I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and move you to follow my teachings...You will be my people, and I will be your God.” Friends in Christ: by the power of God’s Spirit we are united to Christ and given a new spirit. Live in the joy and peace of that assurance.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**Sing Praise GtG 609 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.**

**Praise God, all creatures high and low.**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Praise God, in Jesus fully known:**

**Creator, Word, and Spirit one.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

### **The Peace of Christ**

One: The Holy Spirit has been poured out upon us and lives within us. That Spirit strengthens us to be courageous peacemakers in the world, challenging the ways of violence, enmity and division. Can you trust that God can use you to be a part of bringing that peace to the world? Can you begin by offering signs of peace to those around you, and wishing peace upon those who are far off? The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

*Those in the sanctuary are invited to greet those around you.*

*Those on zoom are invited to offer greetings in the chat.*

### **Offering our Gifts to God**

*For those who would like to make a physical offering, the offering plates are available in the middle of the sanctuary.*

*Donations can also be made online. [www.cliftonpc.org](http://www.cliftonpc.org)*

One: In thanksgiving for all the gifts that are ours through the grace of the Spirit’s work in our lives, we return a portion to support the work that the Spirit is doing in the world. Let us pray.

**All: God of wind, word, and fire, we bless you for sending the light and strength of your Holy Spirit. We give you thanks for the gifts, great and small, that you pour out upon us. Accept the offerings of our lives: that we might be living praise and witness to your love throughout all the earth, through Jesus Christ who lives with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever. Amen.**

**WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Come and Fill Our Hearts**

**Come and fill our hearts with your peace.**

**You alone, O Lord, are holy.**

**Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!**

**First Reading Philippians 2:1-13**

<sup>1</sup> If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup> make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup> Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup> Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,  
<sup>7</sup> but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,  
<sup>8</sup> he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
<sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
<sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup> for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

One: God be in our listening, God be in our understanding.

**All: Amen.**

**Anthem**

## Second Reading Acts 2:1-21

<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup> Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup>Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?' <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup>Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' <sup>12</sup>All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' <sup>13</sup>But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.'

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

<sup>17</sup> "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.

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

<sup>19</sup> And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

<sup>20</sup> The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

<sup>21</sup> Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

One: For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us,

for the Word of God within us,  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

One in the Spirit

*Diane Walton Hendricks*

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND ARE SENT TO THE WORLD**

Hymn GtG 300

**We Are One in the Spirit vv 1, 3, 4**

**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;  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

**We will work with each other; we will work side by side;  
we will work with each other; we will work side by side,  
and we'll guard human dignity and save human pride:  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

**All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,  
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,  
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

Prayers of the People and 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 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.**

Minute for Ministries

Ringling of the Bell

Charge and Benediction

## **Benediction Response GtG 539**

**We Will Go Out With Joy in the Spirit**

**We will go out with joy in the Spirit;  
we will go out with God.**

**We will go out with joy in the Spirit;  
we will go out with God.**

**Alleluia! We will go out with joy.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**We will go out with joy in the Spirit;  
we will go out with God.**

**We will go out with joy in the Spirit;  
we will go out with God.**

*Thank you for joining us for worship this morning.*

*We can be reached at [office@cliftonpc.org](mailto:office@cliftonpc.org)*

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## **Thanks to those leading us in worship**

**Hosts: Lynne Coyle and Joyce Raramangkay**

**Liturgist: Rich Coyle**

**Deacon Prayer Notetaker: Kathy Rehm**

**Technical Team: Jim Wrightson**

**Nursery Volunteer: Bekah Mann**

**Mission Elder: Kimberly Davis**

**Sanctuary Flowers: Cheryl Coughlan in honor of her birthday**

## **CPC STAFF**

Rev. Dr. Diane Walton Hendricks, Pastor

John Kim, Music Director

Hannah Harris, Lead Vocalist

Debbie Kilpatrick, Office Administrator

Kate Trussell, Preschool Director

Rev. Dr. Lynn Stanton-Hoyle, Pastor Emerita