

# Parma Greece United Church of Christ

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*"No matter who you are, no matter where you are in life's journey,  
you are welcome at Parma Greece UCC!"*

## THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S DAY

May 24, 2014

The Festival of Pentecost

**The Prelude**

**Ringling Of The Bell**

**Word of Greeting and Announcements**

**Sharing Our Joys and Concerns**

**Musical Meditation**

**Call to Worship**

Liturgist: The day has come, and we are together;  
let us face bravely into the winds of God.

**People: We are listening for the sounds from heaven;  
we hear the rush of violent wind.**

Liturgist: Surely God is in this place!  
How manifold are the works of God!

**People: The Spirit of God fills us with amazement.  
God sets us afire with wonder and awe.**

Liturgist: Let us celebrate the gifts of God,  
let us share our bread, our wine, our prayers.

**People: Together we are one body, baptized in the Spirit.  
Let us come to this time of worship with joy  
and gather around the table of our Lord.**

**The Hymn**

"Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

#286

## **\*The Prayer of Invocation-Unison**

**Creator of the heavens and earth, You have breathed in us Your Spirit, and Your Spirit is Life. You have breathed in us Your Spirit, and Your Spirit calls us to justice. You have breathed in us Your Spirit, and Your Spirit gathers us in love. You have breathed in us Your Spirit, and Your Spirit has shown us compassion. May we live as Spirit-filled people, seeking justice, gathering with others in love, and being filled with Your compassion so that we can help bring life to the world. In the name of Christ, our companion in this life, a life that extends into eternity, we pray. Amen.**

**Liturgist: O Lord, open our lips.**

**People: And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.**

## **\*An Act of Praise "The Gloria Patri"**

**Gloria be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen**

## **The Collect - Unison**

**Holy Spirit, come again.**

**As long ago You inspired, astonished, and confused the people,  
come to us now to:**

**fill our ears with the sound of Your breath,**

**fill our eyes with the brilliance of Your presence in each other,**

**fill our hearts with Your good Word. Amen.**

## **The Reading of God's Word**

**Liturgist: Listen now for the Word of God.**

**Ezekiel 37:1-14**

**Page 806**

**Acts 2:1-21**

**Page 119**

Liturgist: For the Word of God in Scripture,  
For the Word of God among us,  
For the Word of God within us.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Liturgist: The Holy Gospel of our Lord according to St. John.

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

John 15;26-27, 16:4b-15      Page 110

Liturgist: The Gospel of our Lord.

**People: Praise be to You, O Christ.**

**The Homily**      "Stopped In My Tracks"

**\*The Hymn**      "There's a Spirit in the Air"      #294

**Renewal of our Baptism**

**The Call to Prayer**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

**Silent Prayers of the People**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Prayer Response**      "Spirit Divine"

## **The Giving of Our Gifts and Offerings**

### **The Offertory**

#### **\*The Offertory Response**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God above ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost;**

#### **\*The Prayer of Dedication - Unison**

**Holy God, we have opened our hands to You, and our hands were filled with good things. Receive the gifts we bring in gratitude for Your care for us, and help us to bless You with the dedication of our lives; through Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## **The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

### **The Approach**

**Liturgist: Our Lord said to us: I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger; you who believe in me shall never thirst.**

**People: In the company of all who hunger for spiritual food, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the sharing of this life-giving bread.**

### **The Eucharistic Prayer**

**Liturgist: May the Spirit-sharing God be with you!**

**People: And also with you!**

**Liturgist: Come to the One who breathes new life into us.**

**People: Here are our hearts, O God. Renew them!**

**Liturgist: Sing to God as long as you live.**

**People: Our songs will be offered as long as we have life.**

Liturgist: On the last day of chaos, Holy God, You sent  
Your Spirit to move over and through creation:  
in violent storms which crashed waves upon beaches;  
in the volcano which pushed up mountains;  
and in the dove which sailed softly in dawn's pink skies.  
Scooping up earth in your hands, your Breath gave life  
to those shaped in Your image, so that we might rejoice  
in You forever. But drunk on the wine of free will, we  
followed those false prophets named sin and death.  
You would not leave us in their empty rooms, sending  
Wisdom on those men and women who spoke to us of  
Your dreams. Yet, we drenched the fire of Your love with  
our tears of rebellion. So, giving flesh to Your heart,  
You sent Jesus to us, so we might be given new life.

With those who share the Spirit, with those who try to  
keep the Spirit at arm's length, we sing our songs of  
thanksgiving to You:

**All: Holy, holy, holy are You, God of power and peace.  
All creation joins You in praising your works.  
Hosanna in the highest!  
Blessed is the One who fills the thirsty.  
Hosanna in the highest!**

Liturgist: We bless You, Lord of all creation, for Your Spirit which  
filled Jesus Christ, our Hope, our Brother, our Savior.  
When the world knocks every cup out of our hands,  
he pours Your living waters into our parched souls.  
When the world puts its finger to our lips, silencing our  
lives, He comes, to gift us with the words which transform.  
When death would snatch life's breath from us, He comes,  
to fill us with the Spirit of resurrection which raised Him

from the grave. As He would baptize us in the Spirit, as He would have us share the good news, we sing of that faith grounded in mystery:

**All: Christ gave His last breath for us;  
God raised Christ, filling Him with the breath of new life;  
the Spirit will breathe life into us, until Christ comes again.**

Liturgist: On this day, in this place, with those gathered around us, we pray that Your Spirit of holy chaos would be poured out upon the Table and on Your people. The bread is broken, its gritty hope offering life to all. Grace spills out of the cup, until even the farthest outsider is drenched. Here we discover that in weakness, we can share Your strength with those beaten down by the world; in vulnerability, we can become that power which breaks the bonds of injustice; in death, we can share that life which is given for all. And when You gather us in that upper room of love, sisters from every time, brothers from every place, we will sing our praises to You forever, God in Community, Holy in One.

### **The Words of Institution**

#### **The Prayer Of Our Savior - Singing**

**Our Father, Which 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.**

**The Communion** (Grape Juice in center of tray/Bread is gluten free)

**The Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Holy God, we rejoice that You have fed us at this table with the spiritual food of the body and blood of Christ, and have united us in communion with Your church on earth and in heaven. Grant us the abiding presence of Your Holy Spirit. Enrich our faith.**

**Nourish us through the means of grace.**

**Strengthen our life together.**

**Confirm us in our ministry and mission.**

**And, with glad and generous hearts, may we praise You and find favor with all people, to the honor and glory of Jesus Christ.**

**\*The Hymn**

**"Come, O Spirit, Dwell among Us"**

**#267**

**\*The Commission and Benediction**

Liturgist: Go in peace.

Love and care for one another in the name of Christ.

And may the deep peace of Christ be with you, the strong arms of God sustain you and the power of the Holy Spirit strengthen you in every way.

**People: Amen!**

**\*The Benediction Response**

**"Let There Be Peace On Earth**

**"Laminated Card In Pew Rack"**

**\*The Postlude**