

*We joyfully proclaim God's love through worship, relationships, and service*



# Living Water

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

May 19, 2024

10:00 am

**Pentecost Sunday**

*“Resurrection Story: Transformed”*

*\*Please stand, those who are able*

**Prelude: Andante – Beethoven/Kendall**

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**Welcome: Pastor Dawn**

**Call to Worship:**

*Leader: The Spirit is alive and moves among us as it did in the early church! We come to the end of our series, “Resurrection Stories,” in which we have celebrated that new life is possible, that transformation can happen no matter how dead we have felt inside or how difficult our circumstances might be. Today we will commit ourselves to some important and concrete goals for our mission in the world. We are a church called to mobilize to alleviate suffering and proclaim resurrection hope through the power of the Holy Spirit!*

*They were all gathered in one place...*

***We have learned that stories of resurrection are best witnessed in community.***

*From heaven there came the rush of a wind and it filled that place where they were.*

***The wind of the Spirit has been blowing among us. Holy Spirit, you are welcome here!***

*Flames appeared and rested upon each of them, as their hearts burned with love.*

***We have witnessed God's refining fire, changing lives and renewing hope.***

*They were speaking different languages but each could understand the other.*

*Pain and suffering, as well as love and comfort, are universal languages.*

*Some thought they were filled with new wine.*

*It is possible to feel joy beyond comprehension when just one life is saved, when just one soul transforms.*

*But Peter reminded them of the words of the prophet Joel:*

***“I will pour out my spirit on all people!” We believe the Spirit will revive us and we will dream dreams again and envision a better world for all people.***

*This is a Word of Hope for the people who long for it.*

***Thanks be to the Living Word.***

*– based on Acts 2: 1-21*

**Hymn of Praise: Pentecost Hymn**

*Come to the font, where Word and sign*

*Will weave us into Christ the vine:*

*As Love embraces each to be*

*A branch of this life-giving tree.*

*Come to the table here to live*

*As Jesus calls us Love to give:*

*The bread and cup, and all we are,*

*To brothers, sisters, near and far.*

*Come Holy Spirit, thus to lead*

*Your church abroad in every deed:*

*These dreams of faith, of hope and prayer,*

*This vision bright, this Love, to share.*

*Praise we the Father, praise the Son,  
And Holy Spirit, all are one:  
One in our life in many gifts,  
One in the call that Love uplifts.*

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## The Key to Peace

Know that the Spirit is working in and through all of us. Because of this, we can be honest about our lives, our struggles, and the things that keep us locked up.

This is the key to transformation: as soon as truth is spoken and the desire for change is known, Divine Love begins the process of resurrecting your life.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you can be transformed.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you can be transformed.**

I invite the children forward as we pass the peace of Jesus Christ.

## Children's Time

**The Word in Song:** *Let Your Spirit Rise* – Walker, Pethel

*Come, Holy Spirit,  
scatter gifts of grace  
that we may speak the language of Love.*

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**Scripture:** Romans 12: 1-16

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship.

**Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind,  
so that you may discern what is the will of God: what is good and acceptable and perfect.**

For by the grace given to me, I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

**For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function,  
so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.**

We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith;

**ministry, in ministering;**

the teacher, in teaching;

**the encourager, in encouragement;**

the giver, in sincerity;

**the leader, in diligence;**

the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

**Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good;**

love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor.

**Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord.**

Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer.

**Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.**

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

**Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep.**

Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant,

**but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.**

**Scripture: A Story of Transformation:** *The Keys to the Kin-dom*

Matthew 16: 13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

## Sermon: Testimony to Transformation

### Hymn of Response: *Rise Up in Us*

*Rise up in us and we will rise  
From death into a newfound life:  
From bondage freed, from harm released,  
From illness healed, as one in peace.  
When all is lost our hearts are warmed,  
Our hope restored, our lives transformed.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

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## Prayers of the People

### Lord's Prayer

### Offering Intro

### Doxology: *I Love to Tell the Story*

*The Savior of our stories  
has brought his peace to you;  
now go and tell the story,  
for others need it too.  
From God we all are given  
These blessings vast and free,  
That we must share with others  
So they God's love may see.  
I love to tell the story;  
'twill be my theme in glory  
to tell the old, old story  
of Jesus and his love.*

**Offertory Prayer:** Heavenly Father, as we gather on this Pentecost Sunday, we are reminded of the transformative power of your Spirit, breathing life into dry bones and igniting the hearts of your people. Just as you enlivened the early church with the wind and fire of your presence, empower us to prophesy life into the brokenness of our world. May our offerings today be a testament to our faith in your promise of renewal and restoration. Amen.

## Announcements

### Hymn of Sending: *We All Are One in Mission*

*We all are one in mission;  
We all are one in call,  
Our varied gifts united  
By Christ, the Lord of all.  
A single great commission  
Compels us from above  
To plan and work together  
That all may know God's love.*

*We all are called for service,  
To witness to God's name.  
Our ministries are different;  
Our purpose is the same:  
To touch the lives of others  
By God's surprising grace,  
So every folk and nation  
May feel God's warm embrace.*

*Now let us be united,  
And let our song be heard.  
Now let us be a vessel  
For God's redeeming Word.*

We all are one in mission,  
We all are one in call,  
Our varied gifts united  
By Christ, the Lord of all.

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### Benediction

Whatever binds you, whatever locks you up, whatever needs a turn-around in your life, can be transformed, for we believe our stories can be rewritten each and every day. We know it isn't this easy or quick, but let this be a vision of your life resurrected.

And now, may you go into the world, extending life-energy in all the ways you discover you can, for yourself, for others, for the world. And may the God who created you to be transformed into new life, the Christ who showed you what resurrection looks like, and the Spirit who is transforming your life even now, be with you now and evermore. Amen.

**Postlude:** *O for a Thousand Tongues* – Glaser/Smith

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