

A Warm Welcome to
Solomon's United Church of Christ

Sunday, May 24, 2026 9:30 am

Rev. Julia L. Brown, Pastor

WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome guest speaker, Michael Spielman!

ORGAN PRELUDE & SILENT MEDITATION

***RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (Pentecost)**

One: The Spirit descends like a dove, bringing peace to unite the world in a just and caring community

Many: The Spirit comes like a breath, bringing life to renew the people of God.

One: The Spirit spreads like fire, bringing energy for witnessing to the love of God.

Many: Spirit of the Living God, come to us and transform our lives by your power. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

“Let Every Christian Pray”

Black # 261

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)**

We thank you, compassionate God, that you sent your Spirit to encourage those whom Jesus left behind that they might not be alone. Through the comfort of your presence, you empowered them to be witness of your love. Today we also seek the encouragement of your presence. Do not leave us alone, O God, but send your Spirit to us that we may worship and serve you with joy; through Jesus our crucified and risen Saviour. Amen.

MOMENT of QUIET PRAYER and PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION (unison)

We admit to you, God of our life, that our celebration of the coming of your Spirit is often an empty ritual. Through the Spirit you offer us life, but we cling to the ways of death. Through the Spirit you offer us freedom, but we cling to our chains. Through the Spirit you offer us unity, but we continue building walls between ourselves and others. Through the Spirit you offer us power, but we shrink away in fear and doubt. Forgive us, O God, that we refuse the gifts you offer. Allow us to touch the Risen Christ that our doubt may be overcome. Let us sing and dance with joy, truly celebrating your presence. Let us move with courage into the world with the word of your love. We pray in the powerful name of Jesus. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE

Baptized by the Holy Spirit into one body, we testify to Christ's faithfulness towards those of every time, nation, people and language. People of God, leap up, dance! The Spirit is here in healing power. Your sins are forgiven. Rise up in the new life of the Spirit.

PRAISE HYMN

Black # 283

*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.*

CHILDREN'S TIME

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Acts 2:1-21

EPISTLE LESSON

1 Corinthians 12:3-13

HYMN

“Holy Spirit, Come, Confirm Us”

Black # 264

GOSPEL LESSON

John 20:19-23

SERMON

Mr. Michael Spielman, Member in Discernment

PASTORAL PRAYER & OUR LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.

OFFERING INVITATION

In a world so filled with brokenness and sorrow, it would be easy to lose ourselves in never ending grief, to be choked by our outrage, to be paralyzed by the enormity of suffering, to feel our hearts squeeze tight with hopelessness. Instead, this morning, let us simply breathe together as we hold our hearts open. Let our hearts fill with compassion, let us pray for healing in our world and in our lives, let us open ourselves to the transforming power of love. As we pray for peace in our world and hope for our community, let us remember to be generous to others as God has been generous to us, and grow a desire to pour our love into the world through our gifts that provide hope and healing, showing God's care to ourselves, to our neighbor's, to our community, and to all those near and far. Amen

*PRESENTATION & OFFERING RESPONSE

Black # 785

*We give you but your own / Whate'er the gift may be
All that we have is yours alone / We give it gratefully*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We offer these gifts, O God of all people, in the hope and trust that you will use them to bring healing and hope where there is need. Where natural disaster has befallen, may these gifts help build new life. Where refugees seek safety from violence and fear, may these gifts enable caring and welcoming hearts and hands. Where hatred sullies your hope for your human family, may our gifts be a sign and instrument of reconciliation. Thank you, God, for the privilege of this offering. May it indeed do more than we can imagine! Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

“On Pentecost They Gathered”

Black # 272

BENEDICTION

One: Eternal Spirit of the universe, we thank you that you do not leave us alone but place your word within us in the midst of our life together. You are no statue made of silver or gold, but a living reality on the face of the earth. Give us courage and commitment to let your winds blow through us and to let your life be revealed among us. Empowered by your Spirit, may we go forth and care for the needs of all people, break bread together with joy, and praise you day by day. Grant us your peace; through Jesus who lives among us. May the love of God, the peace of Christ, and the encouragement of the Holy Spirit be with you and go with you always. Our Worship Service is ended,
Many: May our service never end. Amen.

ORGAN POSTLUDE

**Please stand as you're comfortable
Liturgies adapted from the UCC's Worship Ways and the UCC Book of Worship*