

**UNIVERSITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

May 23, 2021 | 10:30 a.m.

Pastor - Reverend Michelle Mejia



*Pentecost mosaic image by Holger Schue from Pixabay.*

**Order of Worship – Online Service**

**WE GATHER FOR PRAYER AND PRAISE**

**Gathering Music**

*Spirit of God*

TFWS #2117

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

Gracious God, you come among your people  
as One who fashioned all things,  
who, face-to-face, revealed your knowledge of our lives,  
and whose presence brings assurance and hope.  
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love  
so that in hearing and seeing the gifts of this life,  
we may know the way to live in thanksgiving;  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**Hymn of Praise**

*At the Name of Jesus*  
verses one and four

UMH # 168

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

### Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.



*P. Solomon Raj (Indian, 1921–), Pentecost. Batik.*

### Prayer for Illumination

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.

### Scripture Readings

Ezekiel 37:1-14

NIV

**37** The hand of the Lord was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup> He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. <sup>3</sup> He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?"

I said, "Sovereign Lord, you alone know."

<sup>4</sup> Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! <sup>5</sup> This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. <sup>6</sup> I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord.'"

<sup>7</sup> So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. <sup>8</sup> I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

<sup>9</sup> Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.’” <sup>10</sup> So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.

<sup>11</sup> Then he said to me: “Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.’ <sup>12</sup> Therefore prophesy and say to them: ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says: My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup> Then you, my people, will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. <sup>14</sup> I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the Lord have spoken, and I have done it, declares the Lord.’”

Acts 2: 1- 21

TLB

Seven weeks had gone by since Jesus’ death and resurrection, and the Day of Pentecost had now arrived. As the believers met together that day, <sup>2</sup> suddenly there was a sound like the roaring of a mighty windstorm in the skies above them and it filled the house where they were meeting. <sup>3</sup> Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on their heads. <sup>4</sup> And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in languages they didn’t know, for the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.



*Pentecost by Davis. Uganda 2015*

<sup>5</sup> Many godly Jews were in Jerusalem that day for the religious celebrations, having arrived from many nations. <sup>6</sup> And when they heard the roaring in the sky above the house, crowds came running to see what it was all about, and were stunned to hear their own languages being spoken by the disciples.

<sup>7</sup> “How can this be?” they exclaimed. “For these men are all from Galilee, <sup>8</sup> and yet we hear them speaking all the native languages of the lands where we were born! <sup>9</sup> Here we are—Parthians, Medes, Elamites, men from Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, Asia Minor, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, the Cyrene language areas of Libya, visitors from Rome—both Jews and Jewish converts— <sup>11</sup> Cretans, and Arabians. And we all hear these men telling in our own languages about the mighty miracles of God!”

<sup>12</sup> They stood there amazed and perplexed. “What can this mean?” they asked each other.

<sup>13</sup> But others in the crowd were mocking. “They’re drunk, that’s all!” they said.

<sup>14</sup> Then Peter stepped forward with the eleven apostles and shouted to the crowd, “Listen, all of you, visitors and residents of Jerusalem alike! <sup>15</sup> Some of you are saying these men are drunk! It isn’t true! It’s much too early for that! People don’t get drunk by 9:00 a.m.! <sup>16</sup> No! What you see this morning was predicted centuries ago by the prophet Joel— <sup>17</sup> ‘In the last days,’ God said, ‘I will pour out my Holy Spirit upon all mankind, and your sons and daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men dream dreams. <sup>18</sup> Yes, the Holy Spirit shall come upon all my servants, men and women alike, and they shall prophesy. <sup>19</sup> And I will cause strange demonstrations in the heavens and on the earth—blood and fire and clouds of smoke; <sup>20</sup> the sun shall turn black and the moon blood-red before that awesome Day of the Lord arrives. <sup>21</sup> But anyone who asks for mercy from the Lord shall have it and shall be saved.’

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God. **All: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

Pastor Michelle Mejia

**Invitation to Giving**

**Offertory**

*Sweet, Sweet Spirit*  
Millicent Scarlett - Vocalist

Akers

**Doxology**

UMH #95

**Hymn**

*Come Down, O Love Divine*  
Verses one and two

UMH #475



*Huibing He (Chinese, 1954–), Days of Pentecost: Coming of the Holy Spirit, 1989. Papercut, 8 × 8”*

**Opportunities for Connection and Service**

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

*O Holy Spirit, Root of Life*

TFWS #2121

*\*To share your offering, you may use this link: <https://www.uumcp.org/electronic-giving>*

*Another option is to mail your offering to the church office:*

*3621 Campus Drive | College Park, MD 20740*

Flowers provided by Frances and David Notley. Flowers arranged by Marie Venero

# SIGNS OF HOPE

*Don't let Pentecost go by without creating some fanfare!*

Today is Pentecost, which is a celebration on the Church calendar. The word *pentecost* comes from Greek and means “fiftieth.” Each year, Pentecost which comes exactly 50 days after Easter, commemorates the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the church.

## **1** MAKE A FRUIT SALAD

The Holy Spirit is said to bring nine spiritual fruits – Love, Joy, Peace, Long-suffering, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-control –celebrate by making a fruit salad?

## **2** CELEBRATE WITH BIRTHDAY CAKE!

Pentecost is the birthday of the Church, the moment that thousands of people from diverse backgrounds converted and the Church became a global phenomenon. Making or buying a birthday cake is a delicious reminder that the Church is one year older.

## **3** HANG A WIND CHIME

When you hear the gentle music from your chime, remember how God’s spirit is living and active in our world.

## **4** DECORATE WITH THE COLOR RED

Because of its connection with the tongues of fire, churches all decorate with red on Pentecost. You can do the same at home.



## **5** LIGHT CANDLES

Tongues of flame rested on believers’ heads in the story of Pentecost. Light candles today to remember how the Holy Spirit came to each person.



## Announcements for May 23, 2021

### FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

Today, May 23

Pentecost

Church Meeting on Zoom 4:00 p.m.

May 29

Memorial Service for Leah Stitz; on Zoom - 2:30

June 6

Outdoor Communion Service 10:30 a.m.

**CHURCH MEETING** Today, May 23 at 4:00, you are invited to attend a brief discussion on Zoom about the upcoming proposed change to the structure of the UUMC Church Council. The Church Council proposes that we move to the Simplified Accountable One-Board model of governance. The meeting will touch on a few reasons to make this change and present a short overview of how the new structure would look and function. There will also be an opportunity for questions and discussions.

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL** Each week after our online services, several people gather on Zoom to discuss the day's sermon and scriptures. You are welcome to drop in! The Zoom link is sent out in the prior Friday's email announcements.

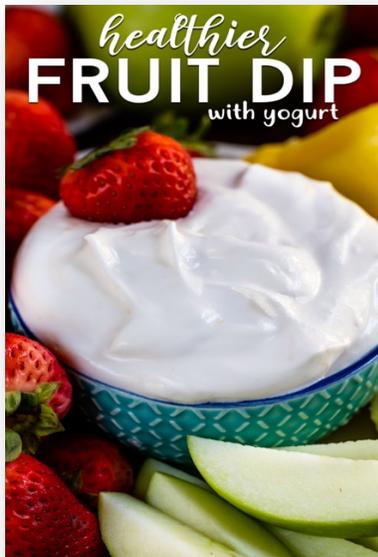
**WEDNESDAY PRAYERS** Join Pastor Michelle and members of your church family in a time of sharing prayers on Wednesdays at noon, via a Zoom call. You will receive log in information that morning.

# Did You Know...

Sharon Hutson, one of our church family, shares that her husband's company, Canada Dry Potomac, Corp., is hiring drivers, sales reps, merchandisers, and warehouse associates. Go to [cdpotomac.com](http://cdpotomac.com) or contact the church office for more information.

The Baltimore Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church, of which our church is a member, sends frequent emails with news, prayers, events, social justice information and more. To receive this informative newsletter, contact our church office for the link.

To go with your "Fruit of the Spirit Salad"...



## Ingredients

- 8 ounces cool whip
- 1 cup vanilla Greek yogurt (can use nonfat if desired)
- 1 tablespoon orange zest
- 1 tablespoon fresh orange juice

## Instructions

1. Stir together cool whip and yogurt. Stir in zest and juice.
2. Serve with fruit for dipping.
3. Store in an airtight container in the refrigerator for up to 4 days.

## University United Methodist Church

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