

SUNDAY, MAY 28, 2023 **Pentecost Sunday**
Caldwell United Methodist Church, 8 Academy Road, Caldwell, N. J. 07006
Rev. Vivian L. Rodeffer, Pastor **Ms. Maxine Alstrom, Music Director**



PRELUDE

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

Rev. Frederick Boyle

Strong God, let Pentecost not so much alarm us as soothe us, and let us wait for the visitation of your Holy Spirit upon us and those we love. Let us not fear the fire of your presence so much as embrace and use it — and if others say we are strange, let them, too, come around to a fierce clarity about your holy power.
Amen.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come, Holy Spirit, come. Be the wind and fire that transform our lives.

Breathe upon us as we study your word of life.

Kindle faith from our believing doubt.

Cleanse us from our waywardness.

Deepen our passion for sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Give us voice to proclaim your mighty works in every tongue.

All: Fill your church with power. Come, Holy Spirit, come!

HYMN #334*“Sweet, Sweet Spirit”**

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
 And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;
 There are sweet expressions on each face,
 And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet heavenly Dove,
 Stay right here with us, filling us with Your love.
 And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;
 Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived,
 When we shall leave this place.

EPISTLE READING**Acts 2:1-4****Tracy Voca, Reader**

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

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING**John 20:19-23****Tracy Voca, Reader**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC**Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove****the Choir**

by John Purifoy, words by Simon Browne, 1680-1732

MESSAGE

More Than Ecstasy

Rev. Frederick Boyle

RECEIVING THE MORNING'S OFFERINGS

***DEDICATION**

Everlasting God, every day you graciously provide what we need from your abundance. We are grateful that you bring healing and hope for our life as individuals and as a faith community. Accept our offerings to strengthen our church's. May more people come to know you and your love through our ministries. We ask this in the precious name of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

***DOXOLOGY #94**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise God all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Praise God the source of all our gifts!
 Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!
 Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE MORNING PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER Pastor Karen

HYMN #393*"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.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us.
 Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us.
 Melt us, mold me, fill me, use us.
 Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us.

BENEDICTION*Numbers 6:24-26****POSTLUDE*****Stand as able**

Altar Flowers today are given by the **CUMC church family** to the **glory of God** and in celebration of **Pastor Karen's** ministry to Caldwell United Methodist Church.

CALENDAR

Monday, May 29

**10:00 AM No Prayer Group
Memorial Day – Church Office Closed**

Sunday, June 4

**11:00 AM Spring Celebration Covered Dish
& Plant Sale**