

**University Presbyterian Church  
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**Sunday, June 8, 2025**

**The Rev. Dr. Tom Yorty, Interim Pastor  
Rebecca Kroetsch, Choral Director  
Gregory White, Organist**

Services are live-streamed on YouTube at: <https://tinyurl.com/upcbuffalo>

Day of Pentecost, June 8, 2025  
Service for the Lord's Day  
10:30 a. m.

## **AS YOU PREPARE FOR WORSHIP**

*In order that people may listen to the music or pray in silence without distraction, please refrain from conversation after the music begins and kindly silence all cell phones. Thank you.*

*Children of all ages are welcome to remain in worship. A playroom is available near the sanctuary for young children who are accompanied by their parents.*

*Prayer Requests: If you have a prayer request which you would like the pastor to include in "Prayers of the People," please fill out the yellow prayer request slip found in the pew racks and place it in the offering plate when passed.*

## **THE GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

Prelude:                      Veni Creator Spiritus                      Nicholas de Grigny  
Verset I: "En talle à 5"    Verset II: "Fugue à 5"  
Verset III: "Duo"

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (*please stand, if able*)

Remember the promise of the Lord:  
**God will pour out the Spirit on all flesh.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

God our creator, earth has many languages,  
but your gospel proclaims your love  
to all nations in one heavenly tongue.  
Make us messengers of the good news  
that, through the power of your Spirit,  
all the world may unite in one song of praise;  
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Litany for Pentecost**

Holy Spirit, Creator, in the beginning you moved over the waters. From your breath all creation drew life. Without you, life turns to dust.

**Come, Holy Spirit!**

Holy Spirit, Counselor, by your inspiration, the prophets spoke and acted in faith. You clothed them in power to be bearers of your Word.

**Come, Holy Spirit!**

Holy Spirit, Power, you came as fire to Jesus' disciples; you gave them voice before the rulers of this world.

**Come, Holy Spirit!**

Holy Spirit, Sanctifier, you created us children of God; you make us the living temple of your presence; you intercede within us with sighs too deep for words.

**Come, Holy Spirit!**

Holy Spirit, Giver of life, you guide and make holy the church you create; you give gifts—the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and fortitude, the spirit of knowledge and piety, the spirit of the fear of the Lord, that the whole creation may be transformed.

**Come, Holy Spirit!**

True and only Light, from whom comes every good gift: Send your Spirit into our lives with the power of a mighty wind. Open the horizons of our minds by the flame of your wisdom. Loosen our tongues to show your praise, for only in your Spirit can we voice your words of peace and acclaim Jesus as Lord.

**Amen.**

**THE CONFESSION AND PARDON**

The Invitation

Jesus says: Let anyone who is thirsty come to me.  
Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.  
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

## The Prayer

**Almighty God,  
you poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples  
creating bold tongues, open ears, and a new community  
of faith. We confess that we hold back the force of your  
Spirit among us. We do not listen for your word of grace,  
speak the good news of your love, or live as a people  
made one in Christ.**

**Have mercy on us, O God. Transform our timid lives by the  
power of your Spirit, and fill us with a flaming desire to  
be your faithful people, doing your will for the sake of  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*There follows a moment of silent personal confession*

Kyrie: Kyrie Eleison, Christe Eleison, Kyrie Eleison  
*Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy* New World Symphony

## The Pardon

Through Christ, God has poured out the Holy Spirit upon us  
for the forgiveness of sins.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God.**

## Sharing the Peace and Greetings

*As God's forgiven people we extend the peace of Christ to one another  
saying, "the peace of Christ be with you".*

Sung response Hymn #822

**Shalom to you now, shalom my friends.  
May God's full mercies, bless you, my friends.**

**In all your living and through your loving,  
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.**

## **PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

Prayer for Illumination

God of power and grace,  
fill us with the wisdom of your word  
and the understanding of your Spirit  
so that we may be your church:  
a people with dreams and visions  
at work in all the world;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Psalter: Psalm 104:24-34

**How manifold are your works, O LORD!  
In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of  
your creatures.**

Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to  
number, living things both small and great.

**There go the ships to and fro, and Leviathan, which you  
made for the sport of it.**

All of them look to you to give them their food in due season.  
**You give it to them; they gather it; you open your hand,  
and they are filled with good things.**

When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take  
away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

**You send forth your Spirit, and they are created;  
and so you renew the face of the earth.**

May the glory of the LORD endure forever; O LORD, rejoice in  
all your works.

**You look at the earth and it trembles; you touch the  
mountains and they smoke.**

I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;

I will praise my God while I have my being.

**May these words of mine please God.  
I will rejoice in the LORD.**

God of majesty, we are constantly surrounded by your gifts and touched by your grace; our words of praise do not approach the wonders of your love. Send forth your Spirit, that our lives may be refreshed and the earth may be renewed, until the new heaven and new earth resound with the song of resurrection in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Lesson: Acts 2:1-11 (p. 119 of the NT in the pew bible)

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 23:1-12 (p. 25 of the NT in the pew bible)

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Duet                                      "Laudamus te"                                      Antonio Vivaldi  
*From: Gloria in D, RV 589      We Praise Thee, O God*  
*Sydney Conrad, Soprano & Rebecca Kroetsch, Soprano*

Children's Story

Sermon                                      "Watch Your Mouth"

Hymn #280                                      Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us  
*Ebenezer*                                      *Thomas John Williams*

## **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

Invitation to the Offering

Voluntary                                      Veni Creator Spiritus                                      Nicholas de Grigny  
*Verset IV: "Récit de Cromorne"*

Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above ye heavenly host;  
Creator, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Hymn #289      On Pentecost They Gathered  
                                 Munich      *adapt. Felix Mendelssohn*

Postlude      Venit Creator Spiritus      Nicholas de Grigny  
                         *Verset V: "Dialogue sue les Grand Jeux"*

*(The congregation is invited to remain seated during the Postlude)*

The chancel flowers are given by Judy Betz in memory of her parents, Geraldine and Joseph Grisanti and in-laws, Ken and Ann Betz, to our fabulous and hardworking grandparents.

*Thank you Rev. Steve for leading us in worship today.*

Music License # A-723910

## **Participating in Worship:**

The Rev. Steve Jelensperger, Supply Pastor  
Rebecca Kroetsch, Choral Director  
Gregory White, Organist  
Howard Henry, Liturgist  
Kathy Hallborg & Sharon Melius, Greeters  
Nick Casseri, Live streamer

## **Next Week:**

Lee Ann Grace, Liturgist  
Grace Agbemenu & Scott Horton, Greeters  
Val Macer, Live Streamer

## **This Week...**

Sunday, June 8	10:30 am	Worship Service
	11:30 am	Hot Dogs
Monday, June 9	7:00 pm	PNC Meeting
Tuesday, June 10	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
	2:30 pm	Ministry to Community Mtg.
Thursday, June 12	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
Sunday, June 15	<i>Fathers' Day</i>	
	10:30 am	Worship Service

**Join Us for a Joyful Celebration!** After the service, enjoy hot dogs and ice cream with friends and family as we share in the joy of fellowship! Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to celebrate faith, family, and community. See you there!

**Music Notes:** Veni Creator Spiritus (Come, Creator Spirit) is a Christian hymn written in the 9th century and historically sung for Pentecost as it centers on the Holy Spirit. It is also sung during the College of Cardinals entering the Sistine Chapel during the papal conclave as well as all British coronations. Today's service music composed by Nicolas de Grigny, a French organist and composer



(1672-1703) and comes from his Livre d'Orgue II – music for the principal feasts of the church. He served at the Church of Saint-Denis and later at Notre-Dame de Reims in Paris. He died prematurely in

**The Session has directed that this year's Sunday June 8 Pentecost Offering be given for scholarships ("camperships")** for children attending Camp Duffield this summer—26 of whom will come from financially limited families on the East Side. The cost for one camper for one week is \$320.

Camp Duffield (11740 Worden Road, Delevan, NY) is a 501C3 non-profit established in 2007 when the camp was purchased from the Presbytery of Western New York. While the camp is used throughout the year by groups like Nardin Academy, Earth Spirit, dog trainers and private rentals, the signature program that inspires the board and volunteers to give their time and expertise is the five-week over-night camps for adults with disabilities living in group homes and for children from across WNY. The adult camp is the first week of July, the second, third and fourth weeks of July and first week of August offer respectively programs for children 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade (first timers), 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade (Science themed), 3<sup>rd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade (Music themed) and 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade (adventure themed). Our own Pat Cookfair-Casseri is Camp Director.

The adults with disabilities program is in its 45th year and averages 50 participants with a one-to-one volunteer/camper ratio. Each of the children's camps average 40 participants with a three-to-one camper to counselor ratio. In fact, the entire enterprise is essentially led and run by volunteers. A modest budget allows for basic maintenance, a part-time bookkeeper, snow-plowing, and a life guard. The camp nurse, cooks, daily upkeep, and director are all volunteers. Not surprisingly, many of the camp counselors were campers themselves as children and/or are parents of past and present campers. The morale of the Duffield community is defined and sustained by a love for the place itself and belief in the life-shaping value of a summer camp experience.

The principles woven in the program and experience are leadership, living in community, and 'walking the walk' of personal values and beliefs. The importance of the relationships that form each summer in the Duffield "family" of volunteers and campers continues through the school year. Evidence of the camp shaping young lives are the number of teenage volunteers in the adults with disabilities program who have chosen to enter the field of special education.

**Plan your summer!**  
**Join us for a great time at Camp Duffield!**  
Here's the 2025 Camp schedule:



**Children's Science Camp (Grades 2-8) | July 13-19**

**Children's Music Camp (Grades 2-8) | July 20-26**



**Teen's Night Owls Camp (Grades 9-12) |**  
July 27 - Aug 2

**First Timer's Camp (Grades K-1) | July 13-16 or July 20-23** (*First-timers attend with a parent!*)



**Impact 716 (Grades 2-8) | Aug 3-9**  
[www.campduffield.net](http://www.campduffield.net) 716-440-9833

## **Welcome Visitors**

University Presbyterian Church (UPC), the members and officers, welcomes you today. Your presence strengthens our faith and our commitment as Christ's disciples.

University Presbyterian Church welcomes all who seek to follow the Way of Jesus—the way of compassion and justice—regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or gender identification. UPC does not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation in celebrating the rites of marriage.

### **University Presbyterian Church Officers and Staff**

The Rev. Dr. Tom Yorty	Interim Pastor
Organist	Gregory White
Choral Director	Rebecca Kroetsch
Treasurer	James W. Smyton
Clerk of Session	Pat Cookfair-Casseri
Stephen Ministry Referral Coordinator	Kathryn F. Hallborg
Administrative Assistant	Peg Kovach
Facilities Manager	Aaron Vivian
Custodian	Roll Tomosso

### **Mission Statement of University Presbyterian Church**

We are a hungry people who receive Christ, the Bread of Life, who sustains us on our journey. We strive to feed as we are fed, sharing the Bread to nourish others in body, mind and spirit.

**“Let Us Be Bread”**

