

The Congregational Church of South Hero, U.C.C.



Pontifical Institute Notre Dame of Jerusalem Center, a sacred space awaits—where the mystery of Pentecost comes alive through light, sound, and art.

Pentecost Sunday **May 24, 2026**

9:30 AM

Rev. Dr. Michael W. Galica

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

A few things about our church...

- ❖ A **restroom** is in the back area of the church by the closets. Additional restrooms and a **changing table** are available downstairs.
- ❖ A **supervised nursery** is downstairs for children ages 5 and under.
- ❖ **Bold type** in the bulletin indicates a response by all.
- ❖ An * (**asterisk**) notes a time it is appropriate to stand in body or spirit, as you are able.
- ❖ Hymns marked **NCH** are in the **black New Century Hymnal**.
Hymns marked **W&R** are in the **green Worship & Rejoice** hymnal.

Preparing for Worship

Prelude

Ringing the Church Bell

Welcome & Announcements

Gathered as One

Invocation

Pastor Mike

Living Water, quench our thirst. Fill us from the wellspring of your love. Refresh us in the unending flow of your grace. Immerse us in the vastness of your kin-dom like drops in the ocean. We live in awe of your majesty and in humility at your presence among us. Revive us again as on the Day of Pentecost and drench your church in resurrection power.

Amen

Introit

Chancel Choir

Call to Worship

Gretchen Patterson

How manifold are the works of the Holy One! In wisdom, God has made them all; the earth is full of God's creatures.

May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the Creator rejoice in God's works!

How beautiful are the works of the Holy One! In love, God has formed them all; the earth is full of God's beloved.

I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to our God while I have being.

How wonderful are the works of the Holy One! In peace and hope, God has renewed them all; the earth is full of God's redeemed.

May our meditation be pleasing to Spirit, Rejoice in the Holy One!

*Gathering Hymn

“O Holy Spirit, Root of Life”

NCH #57

Prayer of Confession

Gretchen Patterson

Spirit of the Living God, draw us together into the place where your Spirit awaits us.

Guide us in your direction so that as we gather, we experience the unity that comes from shared hope and mutual understanding. Fill us with more questions than answers and open our minds to visions and dreams of a world transformed in your love and peace and infused with your hope and joy. For your name and glory, we pray for new life in you. Amen.

*A time of silence to contemplate these words
and how they apply to us personally and as a community of faith.*

Assurance of Pardon and Grace

Pastor Mike

Body of Christ, the Spirit is with us as Comforter, Counselor, and Conscience. The Holy One will continue to demonstrate the way and amaze us with deeds of power and grace, strength and mercy, might and compassion. Receive the gift of new possibilities, unity in Christ, and transformation for the world through witness, justice, and love.

Amen.

Our Celebration

“Spirit of the Living God”

W&R #492 v.1

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me,

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

Break me, melt me, mold me, fill me.

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

Proclaiming God’s Word

Time with Young People

Pastor Mike

Prayer for Illumination

Gretchen Patterson

Hebrew Scripture

Numbers 11:24–30

Pew Bible p 114

Psalms

Psalms 104:24–34,35b (CEB)

Read by All

LORD, you have done so many things! You made them all so wisely!

The earth is full of your creations!

And then there’s the sea, wide and deep,

with its countless creatures—living things both small and large.

There go the ships on it, and Leviathan, which you made, plays in it!

All your creations wait for you to give them their food on time.

**When you give it to them, they gather it up;
when you open your hand, they are filled completely full!
But when you hide your face, they are terrified;
when you take away their breath, they die and return to dust.
When you let loose your breath, they are created,
and you make the surface of the ground brand-new again.**

**Let the LORD's glory last forever!
Let the LORD rejoice in all he has made!
He has only to look at the earth, and it shakes.
God just touches the mountains, and they erupt in smoke.**

**I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God while I'm still alive.
Let my praise be pleasing to him; I'm rejoicing in the LORD!
Let my whole being bless the LORD! Praise the LORD!**

Epistle Acts 2:1–21 Pew Bible p 885

Response

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem “U Thixa Luthando” by Bongani Magatyana Chancel Choir
“God is Love”

Gospel John 20:19–23 Pew Bible p 883

Response

This is the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Message “How ‘With’ is ‘With’?” Pastor Mike

*Sermon Hymn “On Pentecost They Gathered” NCH #272

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People Pastor Mike

We offer our prayers through Christ, who lives and reigns forever, and prays for us in heaven. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Through Christ, we pray for the church... By your Holy Spirit, rekindle the fire among us. Teach us to prophesy, to tell your mighty work, and to call upon your name for salvation. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Through Christ, we pray for the earth... Send forth your Spirit to renew the earth. May your glory live forever, O Lord, so that all may rejoice in your work. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Through Christ, we pray for all nations... Gather together the wisdom of all peoples. Enable us to speak to one another with truth and to listen to one another with understanding. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Through Christ, we pray for this community... Teach us to honor the gifts you have given as manifestations of one Spirit and one Lord. Let all of our activities serve the common good. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Through Christ, we pray for loved ones... Pour out your healing on those who suffer, your grace on those who need forgiveness, your peace on those who live in fear. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of all power and glory, receive these prayers, and continue your mighty work among us, through Jesus Christ, our living Lord, who taught us to pray...

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.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen**

Responding to God's Work

Invitation to Generosity

Pastor Mike

Psalm 104:27–28 states, “These all look to you to give them their food in due season; when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.”

As your gathered body, we give and open hands and hearts to share the good things you have given to us. We give in abundance and in sacrifice so that all needs are met.

Let us give in thanksgiving and commitment to the church and the world.

Offertory

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly hosts.

CREATOR, CHRIST and Holy Ghost.

(sing the ending you are more comfortable with)

Praise FATHER, SON and Holy Ghost. Amen

***Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

Spirit, receive these gifts for the mutual flourishing of all the creatures of earth and the benefit of your kin-dom. Sustain us as caretakers, prosper our work, and stir the gifts in us. Amen.

Sent Forth in God's Name

***Sending Hymn** “Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us”

NCH #267

***Benediction**

Having been quenched and ignited by Spirit and united in the waters of the baptized life, let us go from this gathering as members of the Body of Christ—

together even when distant, understanding and understood across difference, resolved beyond fear and empowered by the Spirit, joyful in amazement and in mystery, visioning, prophesying, dreaming as on the Day of Pentecost.

In the name of God, Parent, Son, and Holy Spirit
Amen.

***Benediction Song**

Seek justice. Love kindness.

Live humbly. Rejoice.

The world needs your wisdom,

Your passion, your voice,

God's endless compassion will carry you through.

***Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve God.

Thanks be to God!

Liturgy adapted from "Worship Ways", Worship Resources for the United Church of Christ and "Call to Worship", published by the Office of Theology and Worship of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in partnership with the Presbyterian Association of Musicians.

Thank you for joining us today and to Mike, our Pastor. Thank you to our guest pianist Carol Schein, liturgist Gretchen Patterson, choir director Diantha Howard and our Chancel choir.

Congregational Church of South Hero, U.C.C.

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Pastor Mike cell: **801-209-6880** Email: mike@galica.us **In office Monday–Thursday**

Pastor Mike's office hours for the week are posted outside his office.

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Office Hours: Monday–Friday 9AM–3PM

Announcements

Unable to attend Sunday worship in person? Don't miss out! LIVE on YouTube. <https://tinyurl.com/CCSHLive> The bulletin is posted on our webpage.



Please join us for coffee every Sunday following worship.
Thank you to Susan, Russ, Carolyn & Claudia for today's treats.



Strengthen the Church offering Today Pentecost Sunday

This special offering of the United Church of Christ supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations.



Save the Date! Vacation Bible School Sunday, August 9th.

This event is open to everyone, and we invite all ages to participate. We are looking for some helping hands to make this year's VBS a success. **Talk with Carrie Bryan or Michelle Galica for more information .**

- Crafts
- grilling
- potluck dishes
- games
- ???

BECOME A VOLUNTEER - MAKE A DIFFERENCE



The Board of Missions is offering a \$300.00 challenge to match funds toward Church World Service's Blankets and Tools Projects as a way to honor and remember our moms and dads. We have inserts available for your own greeting cards, saying you made a donation in their honor. These can be found in the narthex and in the hall. We will take these offerings through Father's Day, June 21st.