

Peru Community Church



PENTECOST SUNDAY

Wind in the Sails

Pentecost Is a Way of Life

PENTECOST | BAPTISM | MEMORIAL DAY
REMEMBRANCE

We gather
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May 24, 2026



Centering Music/Prelude

Pastor's Greeting/Announcements

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Come, people of the Spirit—not to stand still,
but to enter the movement of life.

All: We come as we are—unfinished, unfolding, becoming.

One: The wind of God is not contained—it moves across waters,
through lives, within moments.

All: We cannot control it, but we can open ourselves to it.

One: In waiting and in wonder, in uncertainty and in possibility—

All: We trust that something new is always emerging.

Come, let us worship the One who meets us in the movement.

***HYMN**

"I Am the Church" vs. 1, 2, 4 & 5

#558

OPENING PRAYER

One: Let us join our hearts in prayer...

**All: Living Spirit,
Wind over the waters,
Breath within our becoming,
We come to you not as finished people,
but as lives still unfolding.
We bring our questions,
our restlessness,
our desire to control what cannot be controlled.
And we ask—
Open us.**

Open us to the movement already around us.

Open us to the connections we might otherwise miss.

Open us to the quiet invitations within each moment.

**Teach us not to resist the flow of life,
but to move with it—**

with trust, with courage, with grace.

**As your Spirit moved over the waters,
move within us now.**

**Shape this time of worship—
not into something we manage,
but something we experience.**

Something alive.

Something real.

Something still becoming.

Amen.

BAPTISM LITURGY

“Marked in the Movement”

INVITATION

One: Sisters and brothers in Christ,

Today we gather at the waters—

not as a place of endings,

but as a place of beginnings.

Water that moves.

Water that shapes.

Water that reminds us that life itself is always unfolding.

In baptism, we do not celebrate perfection,

but participation—

in a life held in love and always becoming.

Today, we celebrate that no life is lived alone.

We belong—to God, to one another, and to a story still being written.

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

I present Samantha Marian, Richard William, Everleigh Rose and Theia Iris for baptism. Jon Ruff is the family's sponsor.

QUESTIONS TO PARENTS AND SPONSOR

One: Do you recognize that you all are gifts—
not to control, but as ones called to love, guide, and nurture?

Parents: We do.

One: Will you create space to grow—in curiosity, in compassion, and in courage—
trusting that your lives will unfold in ways you cannot fully predict?

Parents: We will.

One: Will you model a life of faith—not as perfection,
but as openness to love, grace, and transformation?

Parents: We will.

One: Will you surround your family with love and community,
teaching each other, by word and example,
what it means to live with kindness, justice, and connection?

Parents: We will.

RENUNCIATION AND TURNING (for all)

One: I invite the whole congregation to join in these promises.
Do you turn away from all that diminishes life—
from fear, from harm, from patterns that break connection?

All: We do.

One: Do you turn toward a life of openness—toward love,
toward healing, toward deeper relationship with God and others?

All: We do.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

One: Do you trust in God—the source of life,
who is present in all things and always inviting us toward what is good?

All: We do.

One: Do you trust in Jesus—who lived with compassion, courage, and love,
showing us how to be fully human?

All: We do.

One: Do you trust in the Holy Spirit—the living presence among us,
moving, guiding, and opening new possibilities?

All: We do.

CONGREGATIONAL COMMITMENT

One: Will you, as a community of faith, walk alongside these children and their family—not to shape them into your image, but to support, encourage, and grow with them? Will you be a people who model love, practice grace, and make room for questions, growth, and becoming?

All: We will.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

One: Let us give thanks for the gift of water.
God of life, your Spirit moved over the waters in the beginning,
bringing forth life and possibility.
Through water, the earth is renewed.
Through water, we are sustained.
Through water, we are reminded
that life is never still—
it is always moving, always becoming.
Today, we remember that in these waters
we are not made finished,
but invited into a life of transformation.
Pour out your Spirit upon this water
and upon these children who receive it.
May this water be a sign—
of love that surrounds,
of grace that holds,
and of lives that will continue to unfold.
Amen.

THE BAPTISM

One: (Name), I baptize you in the name of the Creator,
the Christ, and the Holy Spirit.
(Repeat for each person)

One: You are held in love.
You are marked by grace.
You belong.
And your life is part of something still becoming.

LAYING ON OF HANDS / BLESSING

One: May the Spirit be upon you—not as something fixed,
but as a living presence within you.
May you grow in wonder, in compassion, in courage.
May you be open to the beauty of the world,
the dignity of others, and the unfolding of your own lives.
And may you always know—you are never alone in the journey.
Amen.

WELCOME

One: Through baptism,
we are joined in a shared life—
not as people who have arrived,
but as people becoming together.
With joy, we welcome you into this community of love.

JOINING THE CHURCH

One: Will you be loyal to this congregation and support this community with your
time, talents, gift, service and witness?

Parents: **We will!**

CONGREGATIONAL AFFIRMATION

**All: With God’s help, we will live out our baptism—
by opening ourselves to the Spirit, by seeking connection,
and by participating in the unfolding of life together.**

***HYMN**

“Child of Blessing, Child of Promise”

#611

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

To the music of #95

**Praise God, whose love is ever near; Praise God, whose Spirit moves us here;
Praise God, whose breath gives life to all; Praise God, who hears creation’s call. Amen.**

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION** (to be said by all)

God of movement and possibility,
We offer these gifts not as finished offerings,
but as part of our ongoing becoming.
Take what we bring—
our resources, our intentions, our lives—
and weave them into the unfolding of your work in the world.
Use them in ways we cannot predict,
to create connection,
to nurture life,
to open new possibilities.
And as we give,
continue shaping us—
into people who live with open hands,
open hearts,
and a willingness to move with your Spirit.
We trust that even small offerings
can become part of something larger
than we can see.
Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Acts 2: 1-21

MORNING MESSAGE

“The Courage to Move”

Rev. Phil Richards

***HYMN**

“Every Time I Feel the Spirit”

#404

***BLESSING**

DEPARTURE MUSIC/POSTLUDE



*Indicates to stand if you are able

CCLI #309370

Pastors:

Rev. Phil Richards: (518) 791-1123

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Rev. Leigh McCaffrey: (518) 247-8886

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Musicians:

Steve Woodruff: Virtual Organist

Prayer List

Debbie & Howard Bell; Abbie; Rob Butts; Carol; Denise; Andrea D.; Nancy Fegan; Irene Harris; Heather; Jerry; Susanne & Eucky Jones; Sandy Lashua; Bonnie Mahnk; Alan Naylor; Howard Newton; Pam; Roy Perry; Evelyn Rinella; Sam S.; Sherrie & Julia; Anne Stevensen; Jane Way; Thomas Wetterling

Announcements for the Week of 5/24 – 5/30

5/24: Worship Service 9 am in the Sanctuary & on Zoom
Pentecost Sunday – Wear Red to Church
Today we celebrate the Snider/Armstrong Family as they receive Holy Baptism and join our church membership.

5/24: Coffee Hour after Worship

5/25: Memorial Day – Office Closed

5/25: AA 7:30 pm

5/26: RSVP Osteo Exercise Group 9:30 am to 10:30 am

5/26: Music Ministry Team Meeting 10:30 am

5/27: Knit Wits 1:30 pm

5:28: RSVP Osteo Exercise Group 9:30 am to 10:30 am

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