

Triune God,

In the beginning your Spirit hovered over creation, and today we celebrate your creating Spirit's presence in our daily lives – in our hearts and in our communities. Thank you for the small works of creation you do in our world even now, even in the midst of a universe scarred by sin. Pour your Spirit on us in fresh ways to transform our whole lives, our systems, our patterns of living. Renew and refresh us in unexpected ways by your untameable and unquenchable Spirit. Flood us with your presence, O God – here, now, and always.

God, we pray the Holy Spirit's presence for those in the Calvin Church community who are healing and recovering – for Sharon Hecker, Irene Wiersma, Jan Wilkins, Kim Stapert, John and Ann Shooks, Marian Heerema, and many more. Send your Spirit to those of us wrestling with dark days or confusing times – whether we are in the throes of depression or anxiety or battling the loss of memory or a constant feeling that things are slipping out of our control. May your Spirit comfort us, but also transform our lives so even in the middle of the wilderness we find water, and we're renewed and energized.

On this Pentecost Sunday, when the disciples spoke in languages from around the world, we pray for our world. We receive a seemingly endless barrage of devastating reports, and it can be discouraging, Lord. Today, we lament the death of George Floyd; at times, we don't know what to say in the face of such injustice. By your Spirit, encourage our hearts, and move us to be bringers of hope and carriers of justice. Don't let evil or cynicism or heavy-heartedness hold us back. Don't let us ignore the hurting and helpless.

We pray for the church around the world today, too, Lord. May your church be united in love of Christ and reminded of our identity in him. Protect those who face persecution Lord, and may we all be voices of justice and peace in a world captivated by violence, greed, and secrecy.

Lord God, there's not enough time in the world to thank you for all that we're thankful for, or to intercede on behalf of those who need prayer. So we trust this morning in your Spirit, that Spirit that intercedes with sighs too deep for words. Hear our prayer Lord, know our hearts. And because we don't always know when to pray or what to say, thank you for Jesus Christ, who prays for us and with us. We pray together the prayer he taught us to pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come. Your 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 yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**