

The Spirit dwelling and working in believers is said by Jesus to be a fountain of living running water, out of which streams flow, for the benefit of ourselves and others. We see the result of the coming of the Spirit when the Apostles were able to proclaim the Gospel in languages they had never spoken. We turn to the book of Hebrews to understand the necessity of the Holy Spirit, in that God during the Old Covenant often came with direct utterance, but in these end times He comes through His Word. What Jesus promises He always fulfills. The coming of the Holy Spirit was made real to us in the water and the Word of our Baptism.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Ⓟ Almighty, Eternal, heavenly Father, You poured out Your Holy Spirit on the church, so that He would abide with us to eternity. Preserve in us the true faith of Your Holy Word. Enlighten us with the knowledge of Jesus Christ. Grant us, as we now call on Your name, all such things as are necessary for our salvation.

We thank You, O God, that by Your Spirit; we have been called to faith in our Savior Jesus Christ, given power to believe Your Word and are gathered into the fellowship of Your Church. Sanctify us, that purged of our sin and unrighteousness, we are made acceptable in Your sight and useful for Your work.

To that end, aid us by the witness of Your Spirit, to know more deeply and truly the Scriptures that we may become increasingly wise unto salvation; and help us continue in Your teaching. Enable us to flee from sin, Satan and our own sinful flesh, and to follow with all those who serve You in purity of heart. Spark in us those things that lead to continued faith.

We thank You for the blessings we obtained in our Baptism by which You offered and granted the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Help us regard our Baptism as the robe of righteousness we are to wear all the days of our life. Look with special favor on all who have been Baptized in Your Church, granting them the full measure of Your Spirit that we may grow in faith and godly living.

We ask for all who are in trial or tribulation, the sick, the weary, the oppressed, the fearful, the needy, and the lonely. Give them the peace of Christ. Let their cry come to You and grant them all things needful as their way out of this present predicament.

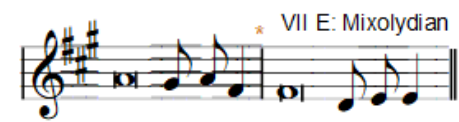
Hear us as we bring to You our private petitions. (Time of silent prayer.)

Watch over all for whom we pray this day, O Lord. Through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, make them to know Your Love and healing. All this in Jesus' name we pray.

© Amen.

PENTECOST

Chant Tone



<p>Introit Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the — faithful,* and kindle in them the fire of Your love. Alle — luia.</p> <p>O Lord, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom have You made them all;* the Earth is full of Your — creatures.</p> <p>These all look to You,* to give them their food in due — season. When You give it to them, they gath er it up;* When You open Your hand, they are filled with — good things.</p>	<p>When You send forth Your Spirit, they are cre — ated,* and You renew the face of the ground.</p> <p>Glory be to the Father and to the Son* and to the Holy — Spirit; as it was in the be — ginning,* is now, and will be forever. — Amen.</p> <p>Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the — faithful,* and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alle — luia.</p> <p><i>(Antiphon, liturgical text; Psalm 104:24, 27-28, 30)</i></p>
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Collect of the Day

O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy consolation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

Gradual

I will pour out My Spirit | on all flesh,*
and your sons and your daughters shall | prophesy,
For with the heart one believes and is | justified,*
and with the mouth one confesses | and is saved.

(Acts 2:17b; Romans 10:10)

ENTRANCE PRAYER: O Lord, You have done marvelous things. Through the Resurrection of Your Son Jesus Christ You brought victory over the grave. For our benefit, You revealed that victory to reliable witnesses, who were sent forth to spread the Good News. You have given the gift of Your Holy Spirit to both Jews and Gentiles. For using Your power on behalf of the human race, we give You our deepest thanks. Send us Your Holy Spirit that we may more adequately bear the fruits of Your Love. Help us show forth Your love impartially; even to those with whom we do not agree. Allow us to reflect Your Love in our home, church and world. Amen (So be it, Lord.)

ON THE DAY OF PENTECOST THE HOLY SPIRIT CAME TO THE APOSTLES. Jesus promised them that the Holy Spirit would be the counselor and the Spirit of Truth. The Spirit would be the One to testify to the Apostles concerning Jesus and the Holy Spirit is the One Who would gather them together with all who believe. The Holy Spirit teaches us and keeps us always in Christ for our faith and life. The Church has set aside this Sunday, this Pentecost Sunday, when each year we remember the sending of the Holy Spirit into the lives of the Apostles. We also acknowledge the work the Holy Spirit has done for us in bringing us to saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. When we speak the message of the Gospel, we do so by the power of the Holy Spirit Who first teaches us the wonder of Christ and then gives us the words to say. We thank God that you are here for worship this day, and we thank you who have been given the knowledge of God that you are able to tell others, so that they too will be saved.

THEME OF THE DAY:

The Holy Spirit

INTROIT—(Antiphon: Liturgical Text;) Psalm 104:24, 27-28, 30
In the 9th Century, a merger of Jewish Psalm chants and Western Christian hymnity brought forth the Gregorian Chant. At that time we created the antiphon. Psalm 104 was written by David. We have the verses that present God as making provision for the maintenance of His creatures according to their need. We need the Holy Spirit to establish and enforce our relationship with God our Father.

COLLECT

The word, "evermore," was first used in 1671, and is rarely used today. This prayer has been used by the church for about that many years. It is a liturgical prayer designed to help us recall the work and the person of the Holy Spirit. He leads us to understand all things necessary for salvation.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON—Numbers 11:24-30

Moses needed help. Depending on how we read Numbers 1:46, there were between 2 and 6 million people. Moses asked God for help and God told Moses to gather 70 men to: "be elders... and officers over..." the people. The Holy Spirit came on the 70. As only God is able, (to show that these men were clearly in the blessing of God,) He had two of them show forth their reception of the Holy Spirit at the same time, but disconnected from the group. The connection is of course the coming of the Holy Spirit.

GRADUAL—Acts 2:17b; Romans 10:10

Acts 2:17b is from our Second Lesson. Romans 10 was written by Paul. While not exactly written about the Holy Spirit, it speaks to where the Holy Spirit dwells (in our heart) and when we speak a confession of God we know that it comes as the work of the Holy Spirit.

SECOND LESSON—Acts 2:1-21

Pentecost is a critical landmark in the history of the Christian church. It marks the beginning of the gift of the Holy Spirit, Whom Jesus promised to send. Acts chapter 2 narrates the extraordinary physical phenomenon of the sound of a mighty rushing, violent wind combined with the distribution of the tongues of fire (we have often taught this as a flame that sat on their heads. Recent scholarship has suggested that it might be the same sort of euphemism we use to suggest that they exhibited power, "He was on fire!") Throughout the history of the world, the Holy Spirit has always had the task of explaining the Word of God to His people.

GOSPEL LESSON—John 7:37-39

Jesus promised His followers that they would receive the Holy Spirit. The gift of the Holy Spirit is a great blessings promised in the New Covenant.