

and Savior (God with us.) As prosecutor Jesus was speaking of the Spirit's relationship with the unbelievers; with the people of the world. Through the disciples, the world would be convicted concerning sin, righteousness and judgment. Using the tool of God's Spirit working with the Word of Law, such convicting confronted the terrible fact of unbelief and the subsequent eternal death for those who refuse to believe. The Church, (the disciples of Jesus,) also carry the Law with the full realization that believers are people burdened by sin. We use the Law to convict the world of sin, so that the Gospel message of Jesus Christ unto salvation can find a place in the hearts of all people everywhere.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Ⓔ Almighty, Eternal, heavenly Father, You have poured out Your Holy Spirit on the Church, so that He will abide with her forever. Preserve those in Your Church with the true faith of Your Word, and enlighten us with the knowledge of Jesus Christ. As we gather as Your Church to call on Your name, grant us everything necessary for our salvation.

We thank You, O God, that by Your Spirit we have been called to faith in Jesus Christ, given power to believe in Your Word, and have been gathered into the fellowship of Your Church. Assist us by the power and witness of Your Holy Spirit, to know more deeply and truly the Scriptures that we may become increasingly wise unto salvation. 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. Sanctify us that we, purged of our sins and unrighteousness, may be acceptable in Your sight and useful for the various vocations You have prepared for us.

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 remember 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 us a full measure of Your Spirit that we may grow in faith and godly living. Make us willing to carry out our responsibilities to Jesus and His commands, so that we may all finally come to the blessed joys of Heaven.

Look with special favor on all the sick and injured, the tempted and distressed among us. O Father, equip and keep them in Your Eternal knowledge.

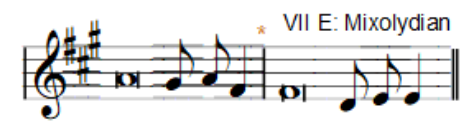
Hear us as we bring to You our private petitions. (Time of silent prayer.)

Watch over all for whom we pray this day, O Lord. Let them know Your Love and healing concern through the indwelling of Your Holy Spirit,. In the name of Jesus 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:*</p> <p>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: Heavenly Father, Creator of all things great and small, we, Your creatures, come before You with hearts filled with gratitude and praise. As we consider the complexity of the smallest living thing and give thought to the marvelous way in which You made us, we stand in awe of Your wisdom. Not only have You marvelously created all things, but You have also provided for their needs; You open Your hands and they are filled with good things. For this, Your care and providence, we give You humble and hearty thanks. Help us bring those who thirst after righteousness to Jesus, where they too can quench their thirst. Amen (So be it, Lord.)

THIS DAY IS SET ASIDE TO COMMEMORATE THE FIRST CHRISTIAN PENTECOST. God required the Old Testament believers to keep the festival, but did not clearly explain it. After Jesus Ascended into Heaven, it became clear (to those who were a part of the New Covenant, the New Testament Church under Jesus) that three thousand years of celebrations culminated in this one day. Our Sunday morning worship is a celebration of Easter. Our Baptism is a celebration of Pentecost which accords with the time the Holy Spirit came to the Apostles and explained to them the meaning in every Word Jesus had spoken. In our Baptism we receive the Holy Spirit Who explains every word Jesus has spoken for our salvation.

THEME OF THE DAY:

The Holy Spirit

INTROIT—(Antiphon, Liturgical Text;) Psalm 104:24, 27-28, 30

The Antiphon is an ancient prayer to the Holy Spirit. It was turned into a chant in the 9th Century. Psalm 104 was probably written by David. He praised God as the God of nature. We have only used the verses that show God as making provisions for the maintenance of His creatures according to their need. We need the Holy Spirit to maintain our relationship with God the Father.

COLLECT

This historic prayer acknowledges the work and the person of the Holy Spirit Who leads us to understand all things necessary for our Salvation.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON—Ezekiel 37:1-14

Ezekiel's vision of "dry bones," deals with the revival of Israel from the hopeless death caused by the Babylonian exile. He presented the power of the God who can bring life even to a pile of dry bones. The Spirit breathed life into the bones. This is; judgment and death, resurrection and the power of the Spirit to give life. Wind and Spirit interact in the event of Pentecost that occurred when the scattered people of Israel had come together for the Feast of Weeks. Even when the Babylonian Exile was over, control of the Israel was only a desire. The people were living in a despair and needed to be filled. Only God can do the filling.

GRADUAL—Acts 2:17b, Romans 10:10

Acts 2:17 is from Peter's speech at Pentecost. Romans 10:10 shows the work of the Holy Spirit, brings us to the knowledge of all things, which is the ability to confess Jesus as Lord.

EPISTLE LESSON—Acts 2:1-21

Pentecost was a critical landmark in the history of the New Testament Church. It marked the beginning of the gift of the Spirit, Whom our Lord promised to His church. Acts chapter two narrates the extraordinary physical phenomenon of the sound of a rushing wind combined with the tongues of fire (a possible metaphor.) The Spirit manifested Himself powerfully as He shook the place the believers were assembled. He gave them power to speak God's word fearlessly with confidence. The first Christian Pentecost was the beginning of our ability to make a powerful proclamation of the Word as the witness of God to the nations.

GOSPEL LESSON—John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Jesus spoke of the Holy Spirit as counselor, and Jesus presented the Holy Spirit as prosecutor. As counselor He was speaking of the Spirit's relationship with the Apostles, and with those who believe in Jesus as Lord