

God's Word as Gospel created us anew. God's Word of Law always accuses, because it lays down our fundamental principles of our life. The center of God's speaking is His gift of life and identity as His children. Christ promises that God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit, will remain with us. God will take up dwelling with us; in us. The Holy Spirit makes us God's home and temple as He brings us into the family of God. Jesus described the Holy Spirit as One Who is called, "next to another." This word is translated into English with words like comforter, counselor and advocate. The Holy Spirit is sent to ensure that we continue to live in the presence of our Loving God each and every moment of each and every day.

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 in us the true faith of Your Word. Enlighten us with the knowledge of Jesus Christ. Grant all who together call on Your name, all such things as are necessary for salvation.

We thank You, O God, that by Your Spirit we are called to faith in Jesus. Give us the power to believe. Gather us into the fellowship of Your Church. Sanctify us, purge us of our sin and unrighteousness, and make us acceptable in Your sight and useful for Your work.

Instill in us the witness of Your Spirit. Enable us to know more deeply and truly the Holy Scriptures. Allow us to become increasingly wise unto salvation. Help us continue in Your teachings. Make us to flee from sin, Satan and our own sinful flesh. Keep us as the fellowship of those who serve You in purity of heart. Spark in us those things that lead to faith and love.

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. Grant us the full measure of Your Spirit that we may grow in faith and godly living. Make us willing to carry out our responsibilities to Jesus, our work of stewardship and support of the ministry of the church, especially as Your Word goes out into the world.

O Lord, we ask for all our friends and family. Be with those who are in any manner suffering pain or any affliction be with them as their comforter. Watch over all for whom we pray this day. Let them know, Your Love, healing and concern through the indwelling of Your Holy Spirit.

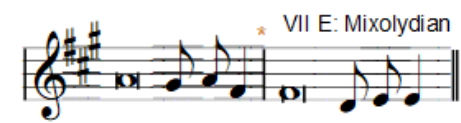
Hear us as we bring to You our private petitions. **(Time of silent prayer.)**

Led by the Holy Spirit we ask all this in the name of Jesus Christ.

© 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)

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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.)

ON THE DAY OF PENTECOST THE HOLY SPIRIT CAME TO THE APOSTLES. For the Apostles Jesus promised the Holy Spirit would be the counselor and the Spirit of Truth. The Holy Spirit was the one to testify to the Apostles concerning Jesus. The Holy Spirit teaches us and keeps us always in Christ for our faith and life. The Church has set aside the fiftieth Day after Easter each year to remember the sending of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles and to acknowledge the work the Holy Spirit does for each of us; the work of bringing and keeping us in the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. We welcome all of the redeemed, who have been called out through the work of the Holy Spirit to worship our Lord and Savior.

THEME OF THE DAY:

The Work of 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 likely written by David. He praised God as the God of nature. We use 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 liturgical prayer is an expression of the work and person of the Holy Spirit Who leads us to understand all things necessary for our Salvation.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON—Genesis 11:1-9

In the Garden of Eden humanity was one with God. We walked and talked with God in a physical presence. By the time of the building of the Tower of Babel, we wanted to exert ourselves as being god. Since we tried to unite against God, He confused our language, He made us separate people and scattered us. In that way the faithful were not forced to endure the corruption of the unfaithful. We would be a sorry mess if God had left us in that broken condition.

GRADUAL—Acts 2:17b, Romans 10:10

Acts 2:17 is from Peter's speech at Pentecost (see the Epistle Lesson below.) Romans 10:10 presents the result of the work of the Holy Spirit, bringing us to the knowledge of all things and giving us the ability to confess Jesus as Lord.

EPISTLE LESSON—Acts 2:1-21

Pentecost was a critical landmark in the history of the Church. It marked the beginning of the gift of the Holy Spirit, Whom our Lord promised His church. Acts chapter two narrates the extraordinary physical phenomenon of the sound of a rushing wind combined with the tongues of fire. (Although we, under the influence of the Pentecostals have used pictures of fire sitting on the heads of the Apostles, the "tongues of fire" is probably a metaphor in the same way that we say a person is "on fire," when they make a powerful speech.) The Holy 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 the church's powerful proclamation of the Word as the witness of God to the nations.

GOSPEL LESSON—John 14:23-31

We are using the historic lesson for Pentecost with John 14:23-31. God created and preserves all things through His speaking; through His Word.