

⁷ On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink." ³⁸ Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them." ³⁹ By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

HYMN #585: "Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord" - see slides

SERMON: Let's Celebrate the Birthday of the Church

Acts 2:1-21

1. By recalling the day of its birth
2. By exploring its impact on the world

THE APOSTLES' CREED (page 181) - see slides

OFFERING PRESENTATION - see slides

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (spoken responsively) - see slides

HYMN: #477: "O Day Full of Grace" - see slides

PRAYER, LORD'S PRAYER & BLESSING - see slides

CLOSING HYMN #593: "Holy Spirit, Light Divine" - see slides

Thank you to our Worship Team:

Worship Music Leader: Amibeth Olderman

Signer: Jenny Remiker

Live Stream: Mike Remiker

Power Point: Brynn Remiker, Patty Levendusky

Ushers: Jack Meisner, Tod Hauf

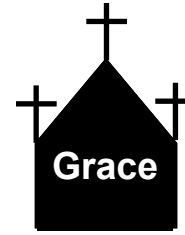
Greeter: Heidi Malley

Thank you also to our Presiding Minister, Pastor David Laabs



**With Honor & Gratitude
We Remember**

Happy Memorial Day Weekend!



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Worship Services Sundays 8:00 & 10:45am, Mondays 6:30pm



HE LIVES TO POUR OUT HIS SPIRIT

May 28, 2023
Pentecost

May 28, 2023

In the name of our Lord Jesus, welcome to one and all! We pray that here at Grace you will find the warmth of Christian hospitality, the abiding truth of God's Word, and the quiet assurance of peace in Christ. If we can assist you in any way, please ask.

Listening Assist Aids are available. Please see an usher.

He Lives to Pour Out His Spirit

Fifty days after the Passover, God's Old Testament people celebrated Pentecost (Greek for "fifty"). Pentecost commemorated the gathering of the harvest and was also used to remember the giving of the Law on Mt. Sinai, the start of the Church of Israel. Christ chose Pentecost to be the birthday of his New Testament Church too. By pouring out his Holy Spirit, Christ empowered the Church to gather in the great harvest of souls won by the Son.

Pentecost is the third great festival of the Church, along with the Nativity and the Resurrection. The early church fathers mention the Festival of Pentecost often enough to lead many to believe it was celebrated annually already at the time of the apostles. Pentecost closes the fifty-day period after Easter and ends the festival half of the church year. The Church dresses in red this day to remind us of the tongues of fire that marked the Spirit's gift, as well as the blood of martyrs which was the seed of the Church.

The Service - Setting Two p. 172

HYMN #590: "O Holy Spirit, Enter In" - see slides

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION - Responsive prayer - see slides

LORD, HAVE MERCY - Kyrie (Sung responsively, see slides)

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST - Gloria in Excelsis - see slides

PRAYER OF THE DAY (Spoken by Pastor - ALL speak the Amen)

Holy Spirit, God and Lord, come to us this joyful day with your sevenfold gift of grace. Rekindle in our hearts the holy fire of your love that in a true and living faith we may tell abroad the glory of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Father, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 2:1-21

In the Old Testament, God poured out his Spirit onto the prophets so they could reveal his will. On Pentecost, Jesus poured his Spirit onto the Church so they could proclaim his gospel to the world.

¹When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ²Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

⁵Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. ⁶When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. ⁷Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome ¹¹(both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" ¹²Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

¹³Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."

¹⁴Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. ¹⁵These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: ¹⁷"In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. ¹⁸Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. ¹⁹I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. ²⁰The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. ²¹And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

P: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 51 - see slides

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:3-11

When God pours out his Spirit it is not only for the benefit of the individual believer. God gives his Spirit to us so that we might be of benefit to the entire Church.

³Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. ⁵There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.

⁷Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. ⁸To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, ¹⁰to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.

P: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - see slides

GOSPEL: John 7:37-39

Jesus promised that those who were spiritually thirsty would be filled with living water. Jesus kept this promise when he poured out his Spirit on the Day of Pentecost.