

DAY OF PENTECOST



The Fire Within

Lord God,
bestow upon your Church
the Holy Spirit.
Just as your Spirit
arrived with a driving force
on that first Pentecost,

may your faithful
be energized and renewed
so that with intense faith,
they might spread your fiery love.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, May 19, 2024 The Lord, the Giver of Life



Today's readings: Acts 2:1–11; Psalm 104:1, 24, 29–30, 31, 34; Galatians 5:16–25 or 1 Corinthians 12:3b–7, 12–13; John:19–23 or John 15:26–27, 16:12–15. Today we rejoice in the sending of the Holy Spirit to the world. As proclaimed in the Gospel of John, Jesus had promised to send “the Advocate . . . the Spirit of truth.” When the Spirit arrived, Acts records, it was with a driving wind that filled the house where the disciples were and appeared as tongues of fire.

From that house, the disciples went into Jerusalem fearless as they preached the Gospel in numerous languages they had never before spoken. In the years that followed the descent of the Holy Spirit, the disciples were persecuted, arrested, and stoned. Still, they kept their hearts focused on bringing Christ to others.

Christians receive the Holy Spirit during the sacrament of baptism, as the celebrant prays that God bestows “new life” by “water and the Holy Spirit.” The Spirit will assist the baptized throughout life to fulfill their responsibility as “members of Christ, Priest, Prophet and King,” as the presider says in the anointing after baptism.

In your prayer life, be attentive to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and you, too, could be fearless in witnessing to the light of Christ in your life. As we recite in the Nicene Creed, the Holy Spirit is “the Lord, the giver of life.” When you open yourself to the Spirit, your life can be transformed. And just as the transformation of the disciples changed lives, so will your transformation.

WORSHIP IN THE WEEKS TO COME

We grow in the new life of creation



Doing the work of God on the Sabbath

Sunday, June 2 9:30 am
Holy Communion

Blessing of graduates

Gospel: Mark 2:23 – 3:6



Doing the work of God

Sunday, June 9 9:30 am
Holy Communion

Prayer & anointing for healing

Gospel: 3:20-35



The parable of the mustard seed

Sunday, June 16 9:30 am
Holy Communion

Blessing of fathers
Emmanuel 9 – June 17

Gospel: Mark 4:26-34



Christ calming the sea

Sunday, June 23 9:30 am
Holy Communion

Gospel: Mark 4:35-41



Christ heals a woman and Jairus' daughter

Sunday, June 30 9:30 am
Holy Communion

Gospel: Mark 5:21-43



The Twelve sent to preach and heal

Sunday, July 7 9:30 am
Holy Communion

Gospel: Mark 6:1-13



The death of John the Baptist

Sunday, July 14 9:30 am
Holy Communion

Gospel: Mark 6:14-29

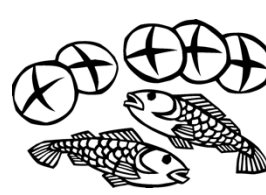


Christ healing the multitudes

Sunday, July 21 9:30 am
Holy Communion

Prayer & anointing for healing

Gospel: Mk 6:30-34, 53-56



Jesus feeds five thousand
"Bread month" begins

Sunday, July 28 9:30 am
Holy Communion

Gospel: John 6:1-21



"I am the bread of life."

Sunday, Aug 4 9:30 am
Holy Communion

Gospel: John 6.24-35

In June we move from Easter's fifty days of urgency – "Go and tell! God has acted! Jesus Christ was raised from the dead..." and into the long season of growth in Christ that follows our Pentecost celebration. Through Summer, Autumn, and November God sends us forth with the ministry of Christ. Our Summer emphasis is one of growth – we grow in the new life of creation.

This Summer's gospel stories will come primarily from Mark's story of Jesus, the oldest and simplest gospel, with its immediacy and its dense disciples. Mid-Summer we'll break out that series of "bread" stories from John's gospel, since Mark's story of Jesus is so short. Our worship pattern will change as we enter into this month of readings on the theme "Christ the bread of life."

We'll use the simpler language of the New Zealand Prayerbook in our Sunday gatherings. Pastor C spent a sabbatical in New Zealand and these resources come from that experience. This summer expect:

- blessing of all recent graduates in our community on June 2
- we'll honor our fathers and all who have fathering roles on June 16
- the readings on June 28 & July 21 suggest the good dates our prayer and anointing for healing