

VIGIL MASS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (or a hymn) The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world and that which contains all things understands what is said, alleluia.

Or

The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Spirit of God dwelling within us, alleluia.

RESPONSE: Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

Or **Alleluia.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia, alleluia! Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (or a hymn) On the last day of the festival, Jesus stood and cried out: If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink, alleluia.

MASS DURING THE DAY

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (or a hymn) The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world and that which contains all things understands what is said, alleluia.

Or

The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Spirit of God dwelling within us, alleluia.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 103)

RESPONSE: Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

Or **Alleluia.**

SEQUENCE

Holy Spirit, Lord of light,
From the clear celestial height
Thy pure beaming radiance give.

Come, thou Father of the poor,
Come with treasures which endure;
Come, thou light of all that live!

Thou, of all consolers best,
Thou, the soul's delightful guest,
Dost refreshing peace bestow;

Thou in toil art comfort sweet;
Pleasant coolness in the heat;
Solace in the midst of woe.

Light immortal, light divine,
Visit thou these hearts of thine,
And our inmost being fill:

If thou take thy grace away,
Nothing pure in man will stay;
All his good is turned to ill.

Heal our wounds, our strength renew;
On our dryness pour thy dew;
Wash the stains of guilt away:

Bend the stubborn heart and will;
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
Guide the steps that go astray.

Thou, on us who evermore
Thee confess and thee adore,
With thy sevenfold gifts descend:

Give us comfort when we die;
Give us life with thee on high;
Give us joys that never end.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia, alleluia!
Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (or a hymn) They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.

TODAY'S READINGS Acts 2:1-11; 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13; John 20:19-23

NEXT WEEK (Trinity Sunday, Year A) Ex 34:4-6, 8-9; Psalm 147 Daniel 3:52-56; 2 Cor 13:11-13; John 3:16-18

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My unique gift from God



31 May 2020 Pentecost Year A

The Jewish "feast of weeks" (Deuteronomy 16:9-12) or the "day of the first fruits" (Numbers 28:26) was celebrated seven weeks or fifty days after Passover and originally commemorated the offering of the first fruits of the wheat harvest to God (Exodus 34:22; Tobit 2:1).

In Greek, this festival was known as "Pentecost," a term that means "the fiftieth day". Later Jewish writers viewed Pentecost as the commemoration of the giving of the law by Moses on Mount Sinai fifty days after Passover.

In the opening chapter of Acts of the Apostles, Jesus told his disciples to wait in Jerusalem until they received the promise of the Father, the promise of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:4-5; 2:33). This waiting period ended on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1) when all the disciples were "filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues" (Acts 2:4).

Traditionally, the Christian feast of Pentecost is viewed as the birthday of the Church and commentators have drawn parallels between the giving of the Law on Sinai and the giving of Spirit in Jerusalem as indicative of God's covenantal relationship with his people. Luke also describes subsequent spiritual experiences amongst groups of Samaritan and Gentile believers (Acts 8:14-17; 10:44-49).

In the two-volume work, Luke/Acts, the reception of the Holy Spirit by the community reflects the descent of the Spirit upon Jesus at his baptism (Luke 3:21-22). In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus "filled with the Holy Spirit ... and led by the Spirit" (Luke 4:1) proclaims the "Good News", heals the sick and raises dead to life (cf. Luke 4:18-19).

Similarly, in Acts the spirit-filled disciples boldly proclaim the good news of Jesus' resurrection through word and action. In 1 Corinthians, Paul equates the manifestation of the Spirit with Christian baptism and the call to service.

The point of today's readings is that we are called as latter-day disciples of Jesus to live our lives imbued with the Spirit of Jesus. We may not be granted the power to work signs and wonders, like healing the sick or raising the dead; but we each have a unique gift, which has been manifested in us for the benefit of others (1 Corinthians 12:7).

In ancient Israel, the feast of weeks was a harvest festival when farmers brought their offerings to the altar. In the Christian church, the feast of Pentecost is an opportunity to reflect upon the spiritual gifts that we have to offer. Ask yourself, what unique gift has God given to me and how am I God's gift to others?