



Day of Pentecost

4 June 2017

Sentence 'Let anyone who is thirsty come to me,' says the Lord; 'and let the one who believes in me drink. For out of your heart shall flow fivers of living water.'
John 7.38

Collect

Flowing Spirit, living water, mother of creation:
refresh our hearts, inspire our gifts,
indwell our gathering and make us a sign
of all the world's vocation to communion with You;
through Jesus Christ, who quenches our thirst. **Amen.**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Jewish tradition held that the Law was given on this day of Pentecost, seven weeks after Passover. The story is full of allusions: John had promised a baptism of the Holy Spirit and fire; the comprehension of all languages undoes the effect of the mythic tower of Babel story in Genesis 11.1-9.

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia,

Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.’ All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, ‘What does this mean?’ But others sneered and said, ‘They are filled with new wine.’ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: ‘Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

“In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.
Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.
And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.
The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.
Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Acts 2.1-21

Reader Hear the word of the Lord

ALL Thanks be to God

Psalm 104.26-36 APBA, page 331

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Paul wants the Corinthian Church, who had asked him a question about the Spirit's gifts, to understand that the real test of gifts is whether they come from the one God and build up the common good of the community.

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says 'Let Jesus be cursed!' and no one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. *1 Corinthians 12.1-13*

Reader May your word live in us
ALL **and bear much fruit to your glory.**

Gospel Acclamation

ALL **Alleluia! Alleluia!**
 Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle
 in them the fire of your love.

ALL **Alleluia!**

Reader The Lord be with you.

ALL **And also with you.**

Reader A reading from the holy gospel according to John

ALL **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

During the festival of tabernacles, water was carried into the Temple as a reminder of the water which flowed from the rock in the wilderness. (Numbers 20.2-13) and as a symbol of hope for the coming of the messiah. Jesus is the true water of which that water is a symbol.

On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, 'Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, "Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water." ' Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified. When they heard these words, some in the crowd said, 'This is really the prophet.' Others said, 'This is the Messiah.' But some asked, 'Surely the Messiah does not come from Galilee, does he? ⁴²Has not the scripture said that the Messiah is descended from David and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David lived?' So there was a division in the crowd because of him. Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him. Then the temple police went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who asked them, 'Why did you not arrest him?' The police answered, 'Never has anyone spoken like this!' Then the Pharisees replied, 'Surely you have not been deceived too, have you? Has any one of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him? But this crowd, which does not know the law—they are accursed.' Nicodemus, who had gone to Jesus before, and who was one of them, asked, 'Our law does not judge people without first giving them a hearing to find out what they are doing, does it?' They replied, 'Surely you are not also from Galilee, are you? Search and you will see that no prophet is to arise from Galilee.' *John 7.37-52*

Reader For the Gospel of the Lord

ALL Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Prayer for the Week Lord, we beseech you to keep your family, the Church, in continual godliness, that through your protection it may be free from all adversities, and devoutly given to serve you in good works, to the glory of your name;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Bible Readings next week Trinity Sunday

Exodus 34.1-8 Song of 3YM, APBA p.399

2 Corinthians 13.11-13 Matthew 28.16-20

Pray for the Faithful Departed

We remember before God: Robina Bisset, Harold Hood, William Ian Lowry, Edgar Hindell, John Creighton Dean, Wilhelmena Belcher, Judith Granger, Olive Newnham, Henry Mark, Nancy Browne, Hilda Lester, Katharine (Kitty) Roff, Ruby Wailes, Winifred Mary Barber, *whose anniversaries occur this week.*

Commemorations of the Week:

June 5 Boniface of Mainz, bishop and martyr (c.675-754). Born in Devon, England, a monk and schoolteacher, he became a missionary to Frisia in 716. Conditions were impossible and he returned to England and then went to Rome. There Pope, Gregory assigned him as a missionary to Bavaria and Hesse and he worked in these regions of Germany till he was murdered by a group of pagans.

June 9 Columba of Iona, abbot and missionary (c.521-597). Born in Ireland, where he founded a number of monasteries, in 565. With a group of monks, he went to Scotland to found a monastery at Iona, and spend the rest of his life. Iona has become one of the great centres of Christianity when the monastery buildings and community were revived in the 20th century by Scotsman, George McLeod.

