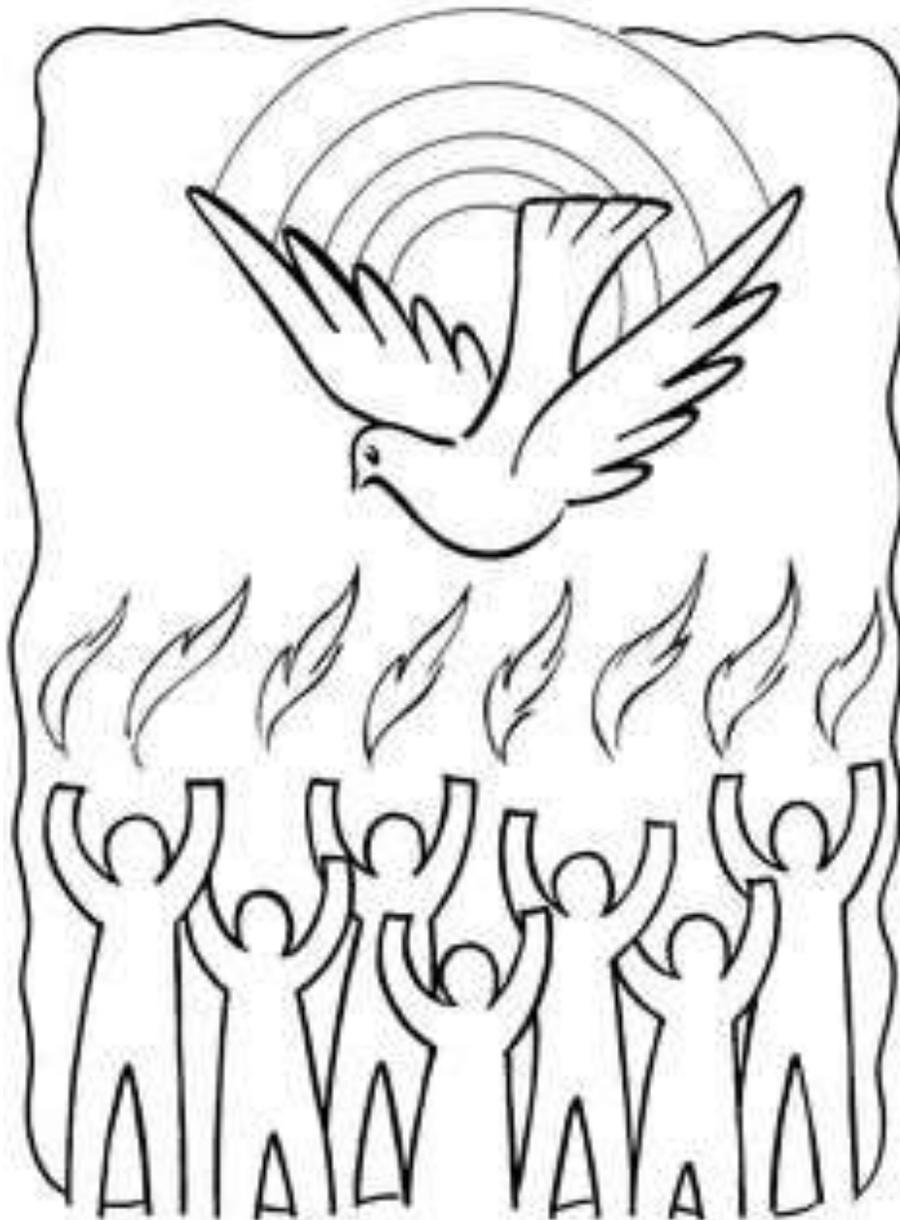


**St. James Episcopal Church
A Moment for Kids—of All Ages!
May 15, 2016—PENTECOST**

GOD IS WITH US ALWAYS!



The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. *Romans 5:5*

Before Jesus ascended into heaven he said that we would never be alone, that a helper, an advocate would come and live with us. That friend and helper is the Holy Spirit—the spirit of God that lives in our hearts and gives us strength and courage. Jesus said “Don’t be troubled, don’t be afraid. God is always with you.”

Color the fire and the dove in this picture. Remember that the Holy Spirit is for you, me and everyone. Draw your self and your family in this picture.



**BRINGING THE GOSPEL HOME:
THOUGHTS FOR PARENTS**

The Day of Pentecost: Receiving the Holy Spirit

On Pentecost Jesus' promise of a helper, companion and guide to the disciples was fulfilled. Jesus said:

The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. John 14:26

You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.'

Acts 1:8

Today we celebrate the Pentecost (50 days after Easter) when Jesus' promise was fulfilled: 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. Acts 2:1-4

Symbols of Pentecost: Fire, Wind, Dove and the Color Red.

Fire: courage, warmth, fuel—the Holy Spirit fills people with the courage to go out into the world and share God's story and God's love. We wear **Red** on Pentecost to symbolize the flame of the Holy Spirit

Wind: The Hebrew word for spirit also means "wind" or "breath". God breathed life into Adam and Eve (and all people).

Dove: peace, love, gentleness—the Holy Spirit descended "like a dove" and hovered over Jesus when he was baptized.

Dinner Table Conversation:

Imagine how the Apostles felt with the wind rushing, flames of fire on people's heads and then suddenly everyone talking in different languages. How would you have felt?

We have two very different symbols of the Holy Spirit – the gentle dove and fire. What is each like? What do you think they tell us about God?

Tell about a time when you needed courage. Where did you get it? What did you do?

When you are alone, do you always feel lonely? What is the difference?

How do you know that God is with you? How do you know that your parents are with you, even if they aren't in the same place as you?