



Risen Savior Lutheran Church

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Your life is marked by special days. A day, and your life is never the same again. You can think back to the day, of your first kiss. Pretty special. You remember the day, you met your future spouse. The first time you told them, "I love you." Hopefully they said it back that same day.

The day of the proposal. Your wedding day. The day, the moment you first learned of a pregnancy, the day of the birth your child, each child. Life is never the same again. Special days. Your birthdays. Some of you look like you've had many special days there. You've many captured special moments, of days. And our lives marked by a day, when a loved one dies. Not a year passes you don't remember their birthday and that day. As Americans our lives are marked by days like, Dec. 7, Sept. 11, and July 4. This time of year, every kid knows the day school ends, summer unofficially begins. And of course, graduation day. Never the same again.

The Psalmist writes, pleads to God: **So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom. Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.**

We aren't good at that. We take the time He gives us, give us with other for granted. We waste so much of the gift of days, too short-sighted to see what truly matters in His kingdom, too self-absorbed to truly rejoice in numbering each day in treasures of His kingdom and blessing of people in our lives. Shame on us. And for not **rejoicing and be glad all our days**. We're definitely not good at that. For your crucified, risen, ascended Lord has done all things, is still working all things in your day. What else is there for trusting children to believe, repent, give thanks, love, and receive His gifts.

Special days mark your life. Does this day matter? Is this day special? For that answer, we need to ask Jesus?

Of the 364 other days of the year upon which Christ could've poured out His Holy Spirit, why did He do so on exactly the 50th day

after Easter? What was so important about this day? It was, already a holy day, the OT Pentecost. But why choose this feast day?

The OT Pentecost was an agricultural festival. Believers presented to the Lord bread, the first-fruits of the wheat harvest. In addition to the grain offering, they had sacrifices for sin offering and a peace offering. From Feast of Passover to Pentecost marked the beginning and end of the grain harvest.

Pentecost was also the time, 50 days after the Passover from Egypt, from slavery and death to life and a promised land, there at Mt. Sinai, God gave Moses the Law. The OT covenant promises spoken, as wind of thunder and fire of God's presence on the mount.

The Lord employs the symbolism of the day to its maximum effect. 50 days. 50 days since His Passover, the day of the Lamb's sacrifice, the Lamb's blood marking His people, the Lord's first born surrendered to the Angel of death was crucified, dead and buried. 50 days after Jesus' "exodus" from death to life, having conquered the underworld's Pharaoh and his legion of soldiers; the first-fruits of the resurrection's harvest gathered.

50 days after the Old Covenant and Law is fulfilled in Him, 50 days God mightily worked deliverance, exodus from slavery of sin and death to life not only for Israel but for all the peoples to a greater promised land.

Pentecost also marks **the last days**, Peter quoting Joel, when God will pour out His Spirit upon all flesh; a harvest of souls leading to the Last Day.

Everything has been done for your salvation. It is finished. Nothing more needs to be done except preach this blessed news. That takes breath. The Church must have breath if she is to proclaim the victory and reign of Christ. Before you can shout or sing, you need to inhale, take in a good deep breath.

That's Pentecost. The breath of God blew through the church like a mighty wind. Wind, fire were Sinai signs. Jesus promised He would baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire. The Spirit is the Church's breath. The living Breath of God into the Church giving life and vitality and breath to speak, for you to speak.

The people who were gathered in Jerusalem from all over the Mediterranean world heard the good news of Jesus in their very own

language and dialect. Pentecost is a miracle of both speaking and hearing. The Holy Spirit works both at the mouth and at the ear to convey the Word.

Everything the Holy Spirit does is to bestow our Lord's forgiveness. For the forgiveness of sins not only removes guilt, but it also strengthens faith and give the desire for holy things of Christ.

So we live, day by day, moment by moment, in and by the forgiveness of sins. Your life is marked, by the Holy Spirit, in word and water, (like Cora) marked for eternity, by the day we celebrate today. Pentecost, a day poured out upon the church, upon you, the Holy Spirit working in your life, continually, daily, working forgiveness and faith in you.

Number our days, the Holy Spirit working **a heart of wisdom** in us to look to Jesus for all things. That is enough. Enough to rejoice all our days.

What happened at Pentecost, 2000 years ago, this harvest, has reached you. Marvel at this day, His works in you. And your life it is not ever the same again. You are Holy spirited-filled, breathe of God, of life in you.