

Church of the Divine Love
THE DAY OF PENTECOST/WHITSUNDAY
JUNE 8, 2025 9:00 AM
HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

A Morning Prayer – on insert

THE WORD OF GOD

Processional Hymn #

Opening Acclamation page 355

Gloria page 356

Collect of the Day - lectionary sheet insert

First Lesson: **Genesis 11:1-9**

Psalm 104:25-35,

Second Lesson: **Acts 2:1-21**

Gradual Hymn #

Gospel: **John 14:8-17, 25-27**

Sermon – The Rev. Jean Lenord Quatorze

The Nicene Creed page 358

Prayers of the People, Form VI page 392

The Confession page 393

The Peace

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn #

Doxology (sung)

The Great Thanksgiving:

Eucharistic Prayer B page 367

Sanctus (S-130 in hymnal)

The Lord's Prayer page 364

The Breaking of the Bread, Anthem & Prayer page 337

The Communion of the People

Communion Hymn #335 - **I am the bread of life**

Post Communion Prayer page 365

Prayer for Peace (on insert)

Prayer for the Parish page 817

Prayer of St. Francis page 833

Dismissal Hymn #

Dismissal

Sermon Sunday June 8, 2025

Genesis 11: 1-9; Psalm 104: 25-35, 37; Acts 2: 1-21; John 14:8-17, 25-27.

Sisters and brothers in Christ, when we think of Pentecost today's reading from Genesis is probably not the first thing we think of. We do not usually associate Pentecost with making bricks, building ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens. We do not think of making a name for ourselves.

Mention Pentecost and most of us probably recall the story of the disciples gathered in the upper room. We hear a sound like the rush of violent wind filling the house. We imagine divided tongues, as of fire, appearing and resting on each disciple. We picture drunken chaos in which people are speaking, hearing, and understanding strange new languages. I suspect many, perhaps most, of us wish for such an experience of God. We want something tangible, a sign, a sound, a vision, that reveals God's presence, that guides us in our life, that reassures us. If that does not come in the way we expect or think it should then we resort to making bricks and building our own cities with a tower that will reach to God. We work

to make a name for ourselves. We try to experience God on our terms. We build walls and structures and try to raise ourselves up to God telling God to work within the walls and structures we have built. But that is not how God works. The uncompleted Tower of Babel and a scattered and confused people attest to that. God does not work or act within the walls and structures we have built. Instead, God lives, works, and acts within us. The miracle of Pentecost is not in the upper room where the disciples gathered. It is not in a sound like the rush of violent wind blowing through the house. It is not in the divided tongues of fire, and it is not in the strange new languages. The miracle of Pentecost is the outpouring of God's spirit on all flesh; on you and me, on those we know as well as strangers, on those we love as well as enemies, on those who are like us as well as those who are different. All flesh. No one is left out.

We all need an Advocate. We all need to be reminded, especially when the future is uncertain, life has been turned upside down, and we're afraid or overwhelmed. We need to be reminded when we're angry or frustrated. We need to be reminded when we are sad and grieving. We need to be reminded when we're busy, successful, and self-sufficient. We need to be reminded when we're lost and don't know the way. We need to be reminded when we feel like an orphan – alone and lonely, on our own, having to look out and fend for ourselves. None of us get through life alone. We need God's advocacy and reminding. If you want to know where reminding and advocacy are needed, look for places of pain, diminished life, or disconnection. Look for those places in your own life and in the lives of others. We are the ones being sent. We are the ones who make God's life present and tangible. We are the ones who give flesh to Jesus' words. You and I are the Advocate filled with the spirit of God.

Advocacy always looks like love and affirms life. When your heart breaks for the pain of the world, when you reach out in compassion, when you weep over another's loss you are the Advocate in that moment. When you offer or seek forgiveness, when you refuse to judge, when mercy rather than condemnation is your way, you are God's Advocate. When another encourages and stands beside you, says exactly what you need to hear, or shows up at just the right time you are experiencing God's advocacy. When someone listens to your life, celebrates your joys, or cries over your losses, the Advocate is with you. When you love or are loved the Advocate is there. When another speaks a truth or offers guidance that helps you change your life she or he is advocating on your behalf. When you speak words of hope, hold another's needs and concerns as important as your own, or pray for another you are their Advocate. Advocates sit at the bedside of another. They care for the sick and dying. They console the bereaved.

The outpouring of God's spirit, God's own life and breath, was prophesied by Joel. Later, John the Baptist would remind us that while he baptized with water we would be baptized with the Holy Spirit. Finally, Jesus himself reassures us that we will be clothed with power from on high, that the Spirit of Truth will abide with us and in us as a Comforter, an Encourager, an Advocate who will teach us and remind us of all Jesus' words. The Spirit of God is not simply a thing or an event. It is the abiding and transforming presence of God's life with us and in us. Wherever life is being created, renewed, put back together,

inspired the Spirit is present. In that sense we might think of the Spirit more as a verb than a noun. The spirit of God has always been and continues to be our source and sustainer of life. In the beginning the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and spirited man into a living being when God breathed into man's nostrils. In the valley of dry bones Ezekiel watched as the wind of God spirited new life into old dry brittle bones. God spirited the Blessed Virgin Mary so that the child to be born would be holy and called the Son of Man. Jesus was spirited through the wilderness and anointed to bring good news to the poor, release to the captive, sight to the blind, and to let the oppressed go free.

Today we are spirited by the wind, the breath, the life of God. The descent of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost does not mean the Spirit was previously absent. The Holy Spirit has never been absent. With Pentecost it is now present in a different way. It is no longer limited to particular circumstances, events, or persons. It is poured out on all flesh making us members of the Body of Christ and empowering us to participate in Christ's victory over sin and death. This means we are free. We are free from making bricks. We no longer need to build ourselves a city for we have become the city where God dwells. We no longer need to build a tower with its top in the heavens for we have become the tower that bridges heaven and earth. We no longer need to make a name for ourselves for we have been named Children of God. That is the miracle of Pentecost, God living, breathing, acting, and working within us.

That means that Pentecost, more often than not, happens in what we see as the ordinary everyday circumstances of our lives. Our pentecosting looks like places of forgiveness and reconciliation; courage in the midst of a confusing and fearful life; hope in spite of what feels like unending sorrow and loss; joy and gratitude for everyone and everything you see; silence in which you hear over and over God's presence. Every one of us could name those times when life seemed inspired and we dreamed new dreams, saw visions of hope and new possibilities; and spoke about God's deeds of power; deeds such as mercy and forgiveness, love, compassion, justice, beauty, generosity, healing, courage, hope. In every one of those moments, we were being spirited.

This spiriting is what sustains and renews our lives and our world. God breathes out and we breathe in. We breathe out and God breathes in. Back and forth it flows. God and humanity sharing the divine breath of life. Take a deep breath, it is Pentecost. Let it all out, it is Pentecost. Now do it again, it is Pentecost! **Amen.**

All baptized Christians, regardless of age, are welcome to receive communion in the Episcopal Church.

THE DAY OF PENTECOST/WHITSUNDAY 9:00 AM

HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWS

1:00 PM

BROWNIE TROOP MEETING

MONDAY	8:00 PM	AA MEETING
TUESDAY	7:00 PM	BIBLE STUDY
WEDNESDAY	7:00 PM	AL-ANON MEETING
THURSDAY	10AM-2PM	THRIFT SHOP
FRIDAY	8:00 PM	IMPROV GROUP
SATURDAY	10AM-2PM	THRIFT SHOP

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST/TRINITY SUNDAY

9:00 AM	HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II
	COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWS

	Today	Next Week
Eucharistic Minister	Anthony Giordano	Jess Berbeck
Coffee Hour	Dana Kenn	Janet Croft

SUPPORT THE FOOD PANTRY - DROP-OFF IN THE KITCHEN

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Loving God, comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind or spirit. Give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation. Especially we remember before you:

Barbara Curran	Betty Curley	Jess
Bob Curley	Steve Curley	Joseph

Chris Dickson	John Roccoo	Deb P.
John Mulligan	Marjorie Guerrier	Bobby
Manetta Family	Robert Hosey	Ryan
Sister Eddie	Bernie Walther	Celeste
Beverly Noel	Phil Ryder	Warren
Anthony Paribello	Jonathan	Del
Donna Amundsen	Kate Jones	Aidan
Shannon & Family	Vincent & Barbara	Ciara
Mary & Family	Wendy	Jan
Nathan Treadwell	Gladys Hadija	Sophia
Michael & Family	Kristen	Mo
Michelle & Family	Christopher	Annie
Timothy Treasure	Donna A.	Aika
Moises Parra	Misael Varas	

All people and countries suffering from violence, hatred and natural disaster.

The homeless and food insecure.

Help us to speak word of encouragement and offer deeds of kindness to them. Bring us, with them, into the unending joy of your kingdom. Amen.

To add or make changes to prayer list during the week, email Janet Croft at jmc220@optonline.net.

