

JUNE 8, 2025
PENTECOST SUNDAY



We are children of God through the Holy Spirit.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 14:8-17, 25-27	Jesus promises the Holy Spirit
Monday	Acts 2:1-21	Filled with the Holy Spirit
Tuesday	Romans 8:14-17	Life in the Spirit
Wednesday	Isaiah 44:1-5	God's blessing on Israel
Thursday	Galatians 5:16-25	The fruit of the Spirit
Friday	2 Kings 2:1-15a	Elijah ascends to heaven
Saturday	Psalms 104:24-34, 35b	God the creator and provider
Sunday	John 16:12-15	The Spirit will guide you into truth

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" It is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God.

Romans 8:15-16 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Come Holy Spirit, give us faith to know that we are children of God and inheritors of your eternal love that gives us confidence to live as a follower of Christ. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Loving God, all creation looks to you to give us food in due season; we thank you that you open your hand and fill us with good things. Amen. (Psalm 104:27-28)

A Blessing to Give:

Child of God, may you be filled with the Holy Spirit.



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HYMN OF THE WEEK
Spirit of Gentleness



WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What do you think it was like to be a slave in the ancient world?
- How do you think a first century slave felt to be told that they had been adopted as a child of God?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Romans 8:14-17.

In the first century Roman Empire, slavery was much more common than Roman citizenship. Being adopted by a family of means was a dream come true. Roman citizenship carried with it protection and opportunity. Paul uses that contemporary context to emphasize what it meant to be a follower of Jesus. Paul states that *"all who are led by the Spirit of God"* are adopted as *"children of God"* (v. 14). Pentecost focuses on the giving of the Holy Spirit for the ministry of the church. It conveys the intimacy of a familial relationship that promises a grand inheritance, but the promise of glory comes with the promise of the suffering of Christ. It is in suffering that God's love is displayed from the cross. On Pentecost Sunday, that suffering love leads the church into the world with God's saving power and glory.

Discuss: How does knowing that you are an adopted child of God impact your life?

Pray: **Loving God, we thank you for the Holy Spirit that makes us your children and gives us an eternal inheritance with Christ; give us grace to accept the glory and the suffering of a life in Christ. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you help someone feel that they are valued as a child of God?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Pentecost takes place 50 days after Easter Sunday. It is when the apostles began to spread Jesus' message. It has been recognized as the birthday, the beginning, of the church. Red is the traditional color for Pentecost Sunday. Buy or make a cake. Decorate it with red icing. Place candles on the cake to represent flames and to symbolize the Holy Spirit. Buy birthday party plates and hats and have a Pentecost party. Sing Happy Birthday to the church before cutting the cake. Close the party with this reading from Psalm 104:35b.: **"Bless the Lord, O my soul. Praise the Lord!"**



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