

Pentecost

Opening Prayer:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Dear God, in Holy Baptism Your Holy Spirit began to live in us. He is always reminding us of Jesus and all that He did for us. Keep us in that saving faith forever.

In Jesus' name.

Amen.

Memory Work:

Bible

² Suddenly, a sound like a violently blowing wind came from the sky and filled the whole house where they were staying.

³ Tongues that looked like fire appeared to them. The tongues arranged themselves so that one came to rest on each believer. (*Acts 2:2-3*)

Catechism

The Third Article: Sanctification

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

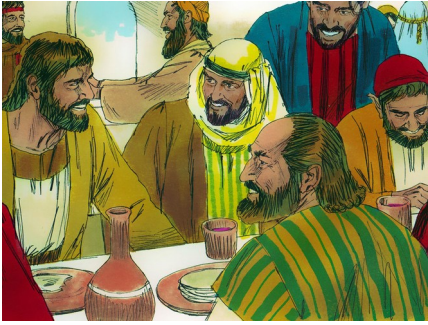
Focus:

The focus of this lesson is to teach about the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity, who calls us to faith in Jesus. This is the birthday of the Christian Church and the beginning of the New Testament times.

Lesson:

Acts 2:1-47

The Believers Are Filled with the Holy Spirit



When Pentecost, the fiftieth day after Passover, came, all the believers were together in one place.

Suddenly, a sound like a violently blowing wind came from the sky and filled the whole house where they were staying.



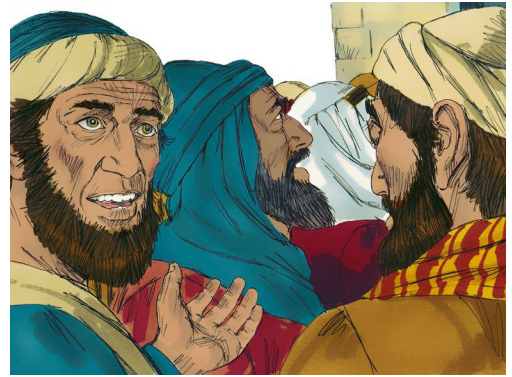
Tongues that looked like fire appeared to them. The tongues arranged themselves so that one came to rest on each believer.

All the believers were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit gave them the ability to speak.



Faithful Jewish men from all over the world were living in Jerusalem. They gathered when they heard the wind. Each person was startled to recognize his own dialect when the disciples spoke.

Stunned and amazed, the people in the crowd said, “All of these men who are speaking are Galileans. Why do we hear them speaking in our native languages?”



All of these devout men were stunned and puzzled. They asked each other, “What can this mean?” Others said jokingly, “They’re drunk on sweet wine.”

Peter Talks to the Crowd



Then Peter stood up with the eleven apostles. In a loud voice he said to them, “Men of Judea and everyone living in Jerusalem! You must understand this, so pay attention to what I say. These men are not drunk as you suppose. It’s only nine in the morning. Rather, this is what the prophet Joel spoke about when he said long ago:

‘In the last days, God says, I will pour my Spirit on everyone. Your sons and daughters will speak what God has revealed. ’

“Men of Israel, listen to what I say: Jesus from Nazareth was a man whom God brought to your attention. You know that through this man God worked miracles, did amazing things, and gave signs.

By using men who don’t acknowledge Moses’ Teachings [the Romans], you crucified Jesus, who was given over to death by a plan that God had determined in advance.





But God brought Him from death back to life and destroyed the pains of death, because death had no power to hold Him.

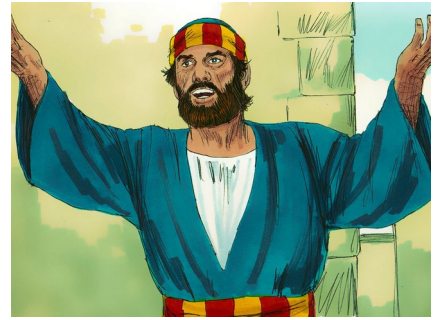
“God brought this man Jesus back to life. We are all witnesses to that. God the Father used His power to give Jesus the honored position—the one next to Him on the heavenly throne. Jesus has also received and has poured out the Holy Spirit as the Father had promised, and this is what you’re seeing and hearing.

“All the people of Israel should know beyond a doubt that God made Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.”



When the people heard this, they were deeply upset. They asked Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?”

Peter answered them, “All of you must turn to God and change the way you think and act, and each of you must be Baptized in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins will be forgiven. Then you will receive the Holy Spirit as a gift.

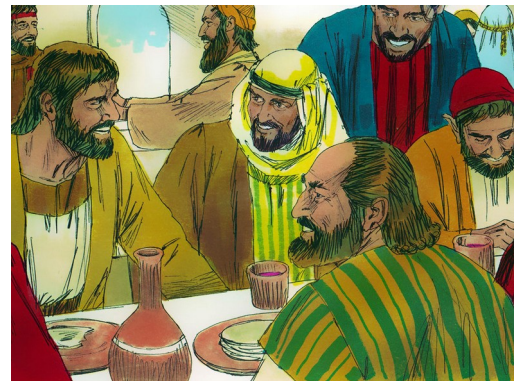


This promise belongs to you and to your children and to everyone who is far away. It belongs to everyone who worships the Lord our God.”

Peter said much more to warn them. He urged, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” Those who accepted what Peter said were baptized. That day about 3,000 people were added to the group.

Life as a Christian

The disciples were devoted to the teachings of the apostles, to fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer. A feeling of fear came over everyone as many amazing things and miraculous signs happened through the apostles. All the believers kept meeting together, and they shared everything with each other.



From time to time, they sold their property and other possessions and distributed the money to anyone who needed it. The believers had a single purpose and went to the temple every day. They were joyful and humble as they ate at each other’s homes and shared their food. At the same time, they praised God and had the good will of all the people. Every day the Lord saved people, and they were added to the group.

Review:

- 1) How many days after Passover/Easter (when Jesus rose from the dead) was this? 50
- 2) What three signs did the people see? here was a loud sound of rushing wind. There were what looked like tongues of fire on their heads. The disciples began to speak in other languages.
- 3) What ability did the Holy Spirit help the beavers have? Speak in other languages.
- 4) What did the people think about that? Some were surprised. Others thought they were drunk.
- 5) What is the first thing Peter told them? They killed Jesus.
- 6) How did everyone feel about that? They were deeply upset.
- 7) What did they ask? They asked, "What should we do?"
- 8) What did Peter tell them? Repent and be Baptized.
- 9) How many people believed in Jesus that day? 3000
- 10)

Closing Prayer:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Dear God, You have saved us by Jesus' death and resurrection. Send your Holy Spirit to keep us in that one true Christian faith that will lead us to eternal life with You.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.