DAY 48: INVITATION

Revelation 22:17

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let the one who hears say, "Come!" Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life.

DAY 48 MORNING PRAYER

Psalm 139

You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me. ¹You have searched me, LORD, and you know me. ² You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. ³You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. ⁴Before a word is on my tongue you, LORD, know it completely. You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me. ⁵ You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me. ⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain. ⁷ Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? ⁸ If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me. ⁹ If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, ¹⁰ even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast. ¹¹ If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," ¹² even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you. You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me. ¹³ For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. ¹⁴ I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. ¹⁶ Your eyes saw my unformed body: all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me. ¹⁷ How precious to me are your thoughts, ^[a] God! How vast is the sum of them! ¹⁸ Were I to count them. they would outnumber the grains of sandwhen I awake, I am still with you. ¹⁹ If only you, God, would slay the wicked! Away from me, you who are bloodthirsty ²⁰ They speak of you with evil intent; your adversaries misuse your name. You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me. ²¹ Do I not hate those who hate you, LORD, and abhor those who are in rebellion against you? ²² I have nothing but hatred for them; I count them my enemies. ²³ Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. ²⁴ See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me.

MEDITATION

CRY OUT AND INVITE ALL TO COME, HEART OF MY LONGING. Love longs for the Beloved and is satisfied only by the love of the Lover. Its heart goes out of itself, leaving the self behind to be had and captured by the one for whom it longs. Therefore, I call you by this name, *"Heart of My Longing,"* for what I have just written describes the movement of All I AM towards you and for you in what I have named you. I wait for you to simply turn your gaze My way and I will rush into and flow out through you. Let the orientation of your spirit be positioned to constantly seek and desire Me. It is I who first cry out *"Come!"* When you open your spirit to hear My Song of Longing, you, Heart of My Longing will respond as one who knows that nothing and no satisfies in the way I alone can be for you and give to you that which you cannot silence as it crescendos to return the invitation with the same cry, *"Come!"* In this, I pour out into you and you reciprocate with your trustful surrender.

This is Song of the Bridal Chamber, Me releasing the River of My Passion for you, you being swept into its movement, responding with same. O, the delight that fills My heart when you turn and echo My call. In our embrace is that which every encounter with others, every moment, and even all of creation longs to lead you – Me. I am so grateful that in you I have hidden the desire to hear and respond. I have kept it simple for anyone – the educated and the uneducated; those who have lived a life which has been unsullied and those who cannot describe the darkness of the dark in which they have stood. A turned heart, with its only one word to speak, "Come!" is enough to be invaded by heaven.

Once our cry becomes syncopated, because of the nature of love, we must cry out "Come!" to all we meet. Once you are folded into Me and I into you we cannot but see others and long for their hearts to be united with ours. The rhythm is I longing for you, you responding and longing for Me; our hearts united in harmony, now inviting others to join in the longing. Together we shall lift our voices. You will determine the time and the volume for I am always ready. We will be in perfect synchronicity. One comes and joins, and then another, soon the chorus and its accompanying orchestra are releasing Songs of Healing for the lost, the broken, and the forsaken. Do not underestimate the appeal this will be for all who hear and respond. There is a sublime beauty to its pulse. I chose pulse because it speaks that the heart is alive. Yet, it is not your solitary heart, alone, to be heard. No, it is the pulse of two hearts beating as one, yours and mine. We cry out, "Come!"

JOURNAL EXERCISE

Listen to your heart after you have read this Letter and allow Me to speak to you. Write what you hear from My still, small, familiar voice:

As you read over what I have said, what do you think and feel?

Write a prayer to the Holy Spirit asking Him to help you hear His cry, "Come!" as you go about your day and ask for the grace to respond with the same cry:

<u>Spiritual Exercise</u>

Throughout the day make it your constant aim to pray the Declaration for the Day.

Try to memorize the scripture for today.

With whom can you share today's experience with the Holy Spirit?

DECLARATION FOR DAY 48:

Throughout the day come back to this prayer and pray it from your heart. I am preparing and opening my heart to receive the grace of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit in 2 Days.



DAY 48 EVENING PRAYER:

Revelation 22:17

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let the one who hears say, "Come!" Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life.

Act of Consecration to the Holy Spirit

On my knees before the great multitude of heavenly witnesses -

the Glorious Theotokos, the God Bearer, the Mother of God;

with the Seraphim and Cherubim; with Thrones, Dominions, Virtues and Powers; with Archangels, Principalities, and Guardian Angels; and all the Saints. I offer myself, spirit, soul, and body to You, Eternal Spirit, Lover of My Soul.

I adore the brightness of Your purity, the unerring keenness of Your justice, and the might of Your love.

You are the Strength and Light of my all I am. In You I live, and move, and have my being. I desire never to grieve You by unfaithfulness to Your grace and I pray with all my heart to be kept from the smallest sin against You. Merciful Spirit of Truth, guard my every Thought and grant that I may always watch for Your light, listening to Your voice,

following Your gracious inspirations.

I cling to Your covenant and give to You, myself, completely, without reserve, Love of my love, Life within my life. I ask You in Your infinite compassion to watch over me for I am weak and small. I need Your help, Holy Spirit.

Gazing with love and gratitude upon the Cross,

holding the pierced feet of Jesus, looking at his five wounds, trusting in his precious blood, and adoring his open side and pierced heart, I implore You, Spirit of Oblation, You who are worthy of my adoration, Helper of in my infirmity, to keep me in Your Divine Life of sanctifying grace that I may never sin against You ever again.

Holy Spirit, Triune God, Spirit of the Father and the Son, help me to pray to You in all situations, "Speak Lord for your servant is listening," that I might always know and do the Father's will in all things and at all times. In Jesus name. Amen.

REVIEW OF DAY:

What sticks out to you from today's encounter with the Holy Spirit?

How do you think today's encounter with the Holy Spirit will affect your life?

With whom did you share today's encounter? How did they respond?

Come, Holy Spirit

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of Your Love. Send forth Your Spirit and they shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth. Oh God, Who by the light of the Holy Spirit instructed the hearts of the faithful, grant, that by the same Spirit we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolation. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Further Thoughts: