Pentecost derives its name from the Jewish festival celebrating the harvest and the giving of the law on Mount Sinai fifty days after Passover. Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the Holy Spirit as God’s presence within and among us. In Acts the Spirit arrives in rushing wind and flame, bringing God’s presence to all people. Paul reminds us that though we each have different capacities, we are united in the Spirit that equips us with these gifts. Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit on his disciples, empowering them to forgive sin. We celebrate that we too are given the breath of the Holy Spirit and sent out to proclaim God’s redeeming love to all the world.

We Gather

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS
Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. Amen.

Seeking reconciliation with God and neighbor, let us remember the gift of baptism and confess our sin. God of mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, against one another, and against the earth entrusted to our care. We are worried and distracted by many things, and we fail to love you above all else. We store up treasures for ourselves and turn away from our neighbors in need. Forgive us, that we may live in the freedom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

When we were laid low by sin and guilt, God made us alive together with Christ, forgiving us all our trespasses by taking our sins to the cross. For freedom Christ has set us free: Rejoice in this good news! Amen.

GATHERING HYMN
“Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading”

OPENING LITANY
We are the people of Zion! A city on a hill, a light that cannot be hid! Following Jesus Everyone is welcome here! Following Jesus We equip each other for ministry! Following Jesus We are sent to serve our neighbor! This is the day the Lord has made Let us rejoice and be glad in it!
PRAYER OF THE DAY
The Lord be with you!
And also with you!
Let us pray... O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

We Hear & Respond to God's Word

YOUTH MESSAGE

FIRST READING: ACTS 2:1-21
A reading from Acts:

1When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. 2And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. 4All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. 5Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. 6And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. 7Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? 9Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” 12All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” 13But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.” 14But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. 15Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. 16No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: 17“ In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. 18Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. 19And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. 20The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day. 21Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!
RESPONSIVE PSALM: PSALM 104:24-34, 35b
24 How manifold are your works, O Lord! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.
25 Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number, living things both small and great.
26 There go the ships to and fro, and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.
27 All of them look to you to give them their food in due season.
28 You give it to them; they gather it; you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.
29 When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.
30 You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth.
31 May the glory of the Lord endure forever; O Lord, rejoice in all your works.
32 You look at the earth and it trembles; you touch the mountains and they smoke.
33 I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being.
34 May these words of mine please God. I will rejoice in the Lord.
35 Bless the Lord, O my soul. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 12:3b-13
A reading from First Corinthians:
3b No one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit. 4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; 5 and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; 6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. 7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 8 To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.
12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al-le-lu-ia! Lord and Savior: o-pen now your sav-ing word.

Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un-til our hearts are stirred.

Al-le-lu-ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.
GOSPEL: JOHN 20:19-23
The Holy Gospel according to John, the twentieth chapter...
Glory to you, O Lord!

19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY
“Spirit of Gentleness” (Verses 1 and 2)

1 You moved on the wa- ters, you called to the deep,
2 You swept through the des- ert, you stung with the sand,
3 You sung in a sta- ble, you cried from a hill,
4 You call from to-mor- row, you break an- cient schemes.

then you coax ed up the moun- tains from the val- leys of sleep;
and you goodness your peo- ple with a law and a land;
then you whip-ped in si- lence when the whole world was still;
From the bond-age of sor- row all the cap-tives dream dreams;

and o-ver the e- ons you called to each thing:
and when they were blind- ed with i-dols and lies,
and down in the cit-y you called once a- gain,
our wom-en see vi-sions, our men clear their eyes.

“A - wake from your slum-bers and rise on your wings.”
then you spoke through your proph-es-ts to o-pen their eyes.
when you blew through your peo- ple on the rush of the wind.
With . . . bold new de-ci-sions your peo-ple a-rise.

NICENE CREED
Together with all Christians of every time, place, and space, let us confess our faith, using the words of the Nicene Creed:

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge  
the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS

Following Each Petition: ...Lord, in your mercy.  
Hear our prayer.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,  
let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
And also with you.

OFFERING

This is the time in our worship to give thanks to God for your blessings. How is God blessing you and calling you to bless others? We invite your support of ongoing and growing ministries at Zion.

We Are Sent into the World

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord’s face shine upon you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor  
and give you peace.  
Amen.
SENDING HYMN
“Spirit of Gentleness” (Verses 3 and 4; see page 4)

DISMISSAL
The worship has ended. Now the service begins.
Go in peace. Christ is sending you!
Thanks be to God!

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