



# Faith At Home

## Sunday, May 31, Pentecost Sunday

### Pentecost Day Activities

As a family—fly a kite, make a personal fan by folding a piece of paper, watch the wind blow through the trees

Talk about wind, how we see what it does but not the actual wind. How does this compare to God?

As a family, light (in a safe place) a small backyard campfire. Talk about the flames, how they dance as they burn the wood. How does this compare to God?

As a family, open BibleGateway.com, look up the Bible in a different translation. Try reading today's lessons in another language, maybe one you are familiar with, maybe one you are not. What are some languages we commonly hear in our area? How does seeing God's Word in those languages help us appreciate the gift of many languages?

### The Apostles' Creed

Unified in our baptism, we confess our faith:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,

Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

### Gathering for Prayer

There are a tremendous number of things to pray for in our world. This week, let us focus on the racial issues that are once again a big part of our world.

As you pray, lift to God your worries and concerns about the news stories. Lift to God the names of those hurt by racial injustice.

Pray for peace between all peoples.

Ask God to open your heart to expose your own biases and prejudices and to help you see all people, regardless of race, as equally beautiful children of God.

Ask God to show you what ways you can work for racial equality in our own community.

### The Lord's Prayer

Lord remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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

# This Week In God's Word — Pentecost Sunday

## Hearing God's Word

*Take time as a family to open the Bible and read these stories together. Take turns reading. Do not be afraid of words, like names, that you are unfamiliar with. Say it like you mean it.*

### The First Reading      Numbers 11:24-30

*The Spirit falls onto the camp of Hebrews, and allows 70 men to prophesy, including 2 men who were not together with the rest.*

### The Psalm      Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

### The Second Reading      Acts 2:1-21

*As the Spirit enables the disciples to speak in many languages, Peter explains this is what it looks like when the Spirit enters the world.*

### The Gospel      Matthew 10:5-15

*Jesus sends the 12 disciples out to do ministry, with very little supplies and a great need to rely on the Spirit to provide along the way.*

## A time of blessing

*When you have spent your time together, praying and listening to God's Word, take a moment to bless one another:*

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead raise you to new life, fill you with hope, and turn your mourning into dancing.

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

## Family Check-In Time

Talk about the time a wind event scared you the most.

Talk about a time the wind was very soothing and provided great comfort.

## Insights from Scripture

The connection between the wind and God's Spirit is most clearly visible on Pentecost Sunday. It has been seen in other stories throughout the Old Testament as well—such as creation, and even when the wind parted the sea for Moses and the Israelites to escape Egypt. But here on this Sunday the wind rushes through the room where the disciples are gathered and gifts them with an ability to proclaim the message of Jesus in ways everyone can clearly understand.

The Spirit of God is once again rushing into the world today. We may not be gathered together in the holy sanctuary to feel it's presence, but if anything is learned from the lesson in Numbers, we do not have to be in a specific place to receive the Spirit—we simply have to be where we are. The Spirit finds us. The Spirit gifts us. The Spirit calls us and empowers us to tell God's story so that everyone can hear it. How are you experiencing the Spirit of God blowing through your home today?

## Remembering Jesus when we eat

On Sunday, when you gather as a family for a meal, it can be appropriate to remember Jesus as you eat. This is not a replacement of Holy Communion, but telling the story reminds us that Jesus is with the whole Church, even as we are not gathered at the altar in our sanctuary.

Read these verses, say your dinner prayer, then eat in the joy of the Lord's presence.

*St. Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, "For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."*