



Monday, June 6, 2011

READ- The Psalter: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

This Sunday we will celebrate Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit to the great crowd in Jerusalem. This psalm celebrates God's marvelous creation and the "sending forth" of God's Spirit (vs. 30) as a creating and sustaining life force.

REFLECT-

- If you've never taken time to really notice the beauty, the intricacy, the amazing balance of God's creation, take some time today to do that. Look at the night sky in all its' splendor, the veins in a leaf, the rich color and texture of an iris bloom, the silky softness of a cat's paw, the chorus of frog tunes played in the dark. Look, touch, smell, listen... and praise God!

PRAY-

Creator God, thank you for the rich beauty and wonder of your creation! Amen.

Tuesday, June 7, 2011

READ- Acts of the Apostles: Acts 2:1-21

This story has all the special effects of a Hollywood blockbuster movie! Tongues of fire, rushing wind, people suddenly speaking languages different from their native tongue – all hearing the great good news of what Christ has done for the world. Christ's church is given the power of the Spirit in a fashion no one can deny or ignore!

REFLECT-

- Have you accepted and embraced the power of the Holy Spirit in your own life? Do you live in a way that leaves you open and listening for the Spirit's guidance? Are you obedient to the Spirit's leading? What is the Spirit calling you to do right now?

PRAY-

Lord, help me to be intentional about keeping myself open to the movement of your Spirit in my life so that I may be obedient. Amen. empower others to live into their spiritual gifts. Amen.

Wednesday, June 8, 2011

READ- The Epistle: I Corinthians 12:3b-13

Paul here describes the gifts the Holy Spirit provides to equip those who are in the body of Christ, the Church, to do Christ's ministry in the world. Each of us has gifts intended for that use and must work together like the parts of a human body do to accomplish God's will in the world.

REFLECT-

- What spiritual gifts do you have? Are you fully utilizing those gifts for God's glory? If not, what is your reluctance or impediment? If you step out in faith to use those gifts, God will accomplish things through you that you cannot imagine!

PRAY-

Father, help me to use the spiritual gifts you have given me in the work of your Church. Amen.

Thursday, June 9, 2011

READ- The Gospel: John 7:37-39

Jesus made these statements about thirst and living water on the last day of a Jewish festival of Tabernacles in which the priests drew water from pool of Siloam and processed it to the altar in the temple with the people singing, waving palms and singing praises to God.

REFLECT-

- Water is important to sustain life. Jesus offered the woman at the well "living water" as he offered it to those who believed in him in this passage. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we are offered that "living water" as believers today. How does the Spirit sustain you in your daily life?

PRAY-

O God, you are the source of my life and the giver of all good things. Help me to drink deeply of the love and power you offer me. Amen.

Friday, June 10, 2011

READ- Sermon Text: Numbers 11:24-30

God's Spirit rested upon Moses as he guided the Israelites through the wilderness. In this passage, the Spirit also came upon some of the elders and on two men in particular – Eldad and Medad – and they received the spiritual gift of prophecy. Yet only through Jesus are the power and gifts of the Holy Spirit now available to us at all times.

REFLECT-

- Moses makes clear here that to whom gifts are given, they should be exercised. Joshua thought Moses had exclusive rights to those gifts. We must not sit back and wait on "religious professionals" to do God's work. All Christians are called and gifted to serve. How might you use your gifts to lead in the work of the Church in this congregation?

PRAY-

O God, show me the ways and places of service in which I may lead and empower others to live into their spiritual gifts. Amen.