

Acts 2:1-21

Unity in diversity

We hear about the events of Pentecost as the Holy Spirit is given to individuals in all their diversity. Those gathered from the surrounding nations hear God's good news being declared in their own languages. Peter addresses the crowds, telling them that what they have seen is a fulfilment of Joel's prophecy that God's Spirit will be poured out on all people.

Read this week's passage:



Write

Think of two or three people you know well. For each one write down two things you have in common and two where you have differences (e.g. hair colour, taste in music/food/films). Say a prayer thanking God for diversity in your friendships.



Listen to 'No Body' by Elevation Worship
<https://bit.ly/3Zp0PHz>



Living Scripture

'I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh...

Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'
Acts 2:17,21

The gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost is for everyone – we are told that all the believers were filled, not just the leaders. All the nations heard, not just the Israelites. When have you felt excluded from what God is doing? Either by the leadership, by language or because you were not in the room? Who is excluded from the Church or from the good news right now? God's Spirit is always breaking out, drawing new and unexpected people in, opening hearts and transforming lives. Why not invite the Holy Spirit to fill you now?

On the first Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came like a rushing wind, and like tongues of fire, hovering over every person. The Holy Spirit's presence was felt and made an impact. How can you feel the movement and heat of the Holy Spirit? Where do you see the impact of the Holy Spirit?

First impressions

- How does this image express something of the spirit of Pentecost?
- What's your favourite image of the Holy Spirit – fire, water, a rushing wind?
- How does your church nurture and celebrate difference and diversity?



Pray

Thank you, Heavenly Father, for making me me.
Thank you for the talents and skills you give me.
Thank you, Jesus, for showing us what God is like.
Thank you, Holy Spirit, for giving us the power to go and tell others.
Amen.



Pray



Spend time praying and waiting on the Holy Spirit to be filled and refreshed and empowered to share your faith and to make a difference in your community.

Learn

Ask someone who speaks another language to teach you a few words of it, e.g. Hello/Thank you/Friend/Welcome/Come, Holy Spirit.

