

Below you will find a reflection of the upcoming texts for this Sunday. The **red text** indicates some conversation that occurred in class regarding a few of the readings.

The **black text** simply pulls out key words or phrases for your reflection before worship. Please, take the time to read and reflect in anticipation of when we gather for worship this weekend. --- Pastor DJ

Pentecost A

June 4, 2017

Other Readings

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

Readings for study

Acts 2:1-21

Pentecost

- The intention of Pentecost is the clear proclamation of the Word of God, the way this happens shouldn't outshine the message
- This happens through the speaking of common languages and not babble
 - o Sometimes in Latin in the case of the Roman Catholics
- "Pentecost happens in the street"
- Speaking in new languages can also mean speaking in the same language but using new words which leads to new meaning

Violent Wind

- Same word as the roaring of the Sea
- In Lutheran circles, the Holy Spirit more typically comes in quiet and contemplative conversations
 - o For us it happens in worship, when we stop to listen
- Are we always waiting for dramatic events to recognize God?

Filled

- We feel filled in those conversations and moments where we find the Holy Spirit
- Are we going to be Marys or Marthas (see Luke 10:38-42)

Divided Tongues

- Same greek word as language a verse later
- It's more powerful to look past the languages and just see the communication of the Gospel

Rested

- Literally: to take a seat

Holy Spirit

Bewildered

Perplexed

- Literally: to be amazed

Drunk

“They are filled with new wine”

“Pour out my spirit on all flesh”

“Sons and daughters shall prophesy”

“Young men see visions, old men dream dreams.”

Slaves

- Servants of the lord

“Sun shall be darkness and moon blood”

“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

- This a different thought than some of the parables of Jesus seem to teach

John 20:19-31

“First day of the week”

- Still the day of resurrection

“Peace be with you”

- For the community to whom the Gospel of John is given, this is perhaps the most significant thing for the Spirit to give. Persecution and torture abound, how powerful then to have the Spirit's arrival be expressed in peace in the midst of fear.

Breathed

- Is there a contrast between this private reception of the Spirit, and the very public one that happens in Acts?

Forgive/Retained

- One aspect of the Holy Spirit we don't talk about much is the restraining power

Holy Spirit

“I will not believe”

“Do not doubt but believe”

My Lord and My God

- Thomas names Jesus divinity with this proclamation

“Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe”

- Thomas receives the Spirit even without being present. Is this hopeful to those of us who did not live alongside Jesus?

“These are written so that you may come to believe”

“Through believing you have life”