



The Feast of Pentecost

10 a.m. 24 May 2026

St. John's Episcopal Church
Tallahassee, Florida



Pentecost is one of the seven Principal Feasts of the Christian year, commemorating the day when the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles fifty days after Easter. As the Acts of the Apostles recounts, the disciples heard “the rush of a violent wind,” and “tongues, as of fire,” rested upon them as they proclaimed the Gospel in many languages.

This is the only Principal Feast for which the liturgical color is red, symbolizing both the fire of the Holy Spirit and the burning love of God poured into the Church. For this reason, all are encouraged to wear red today, not only the vested ministers, as a sign that the gift of the Spirit is given to the whole people of God.

During today’s procession, flowing “tongues of fire” and the descending dove move among the congregation as visual signs drawn directly from the Pentecost story itself. Likewise, during the reading from Acts, multiple voices proclaim the text in different languages before gradually subsiding into English alone, echoing the sound and wonder of Pentecost: many tongues, one Gospel.

Communion: All baptized Christians may receive Communion at St. John’s. If you are curious about how Communion will work, see instructions on page 20.

Pentecost has long been regarded as an especially fitting day for Holy Baptism, for on this feast we celebrate both the birth of the Church and the gift of the Holy Spirit poured out upon God’s people.

The Liturgy of the Word

Tower Bells

Voluntary A Prelude for Pentecost Harvey Gaul

The Procession *(Please stand)*

Refrain

Hail thee, fes - ti - val day! blest day that art hal - lowed for -

ev - er, day when the Ho - ly Ghost shone in the

world with God's grace. grace.

Odd verses

1 Lo, in the like - ness of fire, on those who a -
3 Hark! for in myr - i - ad tongues Christ's own, his

wait his ap - pear - ing, he whom the
cho - sen a - pos - tles, preach to the

Repeat Refrain

Lord fore - told sud - den - ly, swift - ly, de - scends:
ends of the earth Christ and his won - der - ful works:

Even verses

2 Forth from the Fa - ther he comes with seven - fold
4 Praise to the Spi - rit of Life, all praise to the
my - sti - cal of - fering, pou - ring on all hu - man
fount of our be - ing, light that dost light - en
souls in - fin - ite rich - es of God:
all, life that in all dost a - bide:

Opening Acclamation

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Celebrant There is one Body and one Spirit;

People There is one hope in God's call to us;

Celebrant One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People One God and Father of all.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, on this day you opened the way of eternal life to every race and nation by the promised gift of your Holy Spirit: Shed abroad this gift throughout the world by the preaching of the Gospel, that it may reach to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A Reading from the book of Numbers

Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD’s people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!” And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp. *[Numbers 11:24-30]*

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 104:25-35, 37 *Sung by the choir to an Anglican chant by Edward C. Bairstow*

- 25 O Lord, how manifold are your works! *
in wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.
- 26 Yonder is the great and wide sea
with its living things too many to number, *
creatures both small and great.
- 27 There move the ships,
and there is that Leviathan, *
which you have made for the sport of it.
- 28 All of them look to you *
to give them their food in due season.
- 29 You give it to them; they gather it; *
you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.
- 30 You hide your face, and they are terrified; *
you take away their breath,
and they die and return to their dust.
- 31 You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; *
and so you renew the face of the earth.
- 32 May the glory of the Lord endure for ever; *
may the Lord rejoice in all his works.
- 33 He looks at the earth and it trembles; *
he touches the mountains and they smoke.

- 34 I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; *
I will praise my God while I have my being.
- 35 May these words of mine please him; *
I will rejoice in the Lord.
- 37 Bless the Lord, O my soul. *
Hallelujah!

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

In keeping with an age-old Pentecost tradition, portions of the following reading are read in other languages by members of the congregation.

When the day of Pentecost had come, the disciples were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

But 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. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

“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. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” *[Acts 2:1-21]*

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn (Stand)

1 Come down, O Love di - vine, seek thou this soul of mine,
 2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn
 3 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,

O Com - fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,
 and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
 for none can guess its grace, till Love cre - ate a place

and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
 shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;

and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
 where - in the Ho - ly Spi - rit makes a dwell - ing.

The Gospel

Then, all standing, the Deacon reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, ‘Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water.’” Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified. *[John 7:37-39]*

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Children’s Chapel

Pre-K through 3rd grade children gather at the front steps of the chancel for a blessing before processing to Children’s Chapel.

Sermon **The Rev. Lonnie Lacy**
Rector of St. John’s



Holy Baptism

Baptismal Procession *(Stand)*



1. You're called by name, for - ev - er loved, a -
2. Marked as Christ's own, signed by the cross where
3. Raised to new life, a life of grace, set
4. Sealed by the Spi - rit, Lord of life, sus -



dopt - ed as a child of God. Now one with us, the
Je - sus for our sins once died. with Je - sus bur - ied
free from sin, in Christ to grow; his res - ur - rec - tion
tained and strength - ened by his might. Joined to the church to



fam - i - ly of those who know and love the Lord.
in his death, called to con - fess Christ cru - ci - fied.
to pro - claim, his love in all of life to know.
share, with us, the in - her - i - tance of saints in light.



Lord, in your hands we place your own. Lord,



in their lives make your love known.

The Presentation of Candidates

When all are in place, the Celebrant says

The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

The candidates who are able to answer for themselves are presented individually, as follows

Sponsors I present N. to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Celebrant N., do you desire to be baptized?

Candidate I do.

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the candidates who can speak for themselves, and of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children.

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

The Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People We will.

The Celebrant continues, saying

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People 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.

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin,
repent and return to the Lord?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People I will, with God's help.

Prayers for the Candidates

The Celebrant then says to the congregation

Let us now pray for these persons, who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

A Person appointed leads the following petitions

Leader Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

The Celebrant says

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. *Amen.*

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying

The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Baptisms

Each candidate is presented to the Celebrant, who then immerses, or pours water upon, the candidate, saying

N., I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Then the Celebrant places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross using Chrism and saying

N., you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. *Amen.*

When this action has been completed, the Celebrant prays over the newly baptized, saying

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. *Amen.*

Baptismal Hymn



We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. _____
We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death. _____
The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life. _____
A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows _____



Em - braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold; _____
Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life _____
The Spi - rit's pow - er shakes the Church of God. _____
as Christ's new bo - dy takes on flesh and blood. _____



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy. _____
as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ. Al - le - _____
Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One. _____
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing: _____



lu - ia! — Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

The Welcome

Celebrant

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Celebrant and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Announcements

Offertory

Your gift in support of St. John's makes all the difference. Give via the offering plate; or text STJOHNS to 73256; or scan this code with your phone to give online. You can also mail your gift to St. John's Episcopal Church, Attn: Finance Office, 211 N. Monroe St., Tallahassee, FL 32301. Every gift, large or small, sustains the church you love.



Anthem

If ye love me Philip Wilby

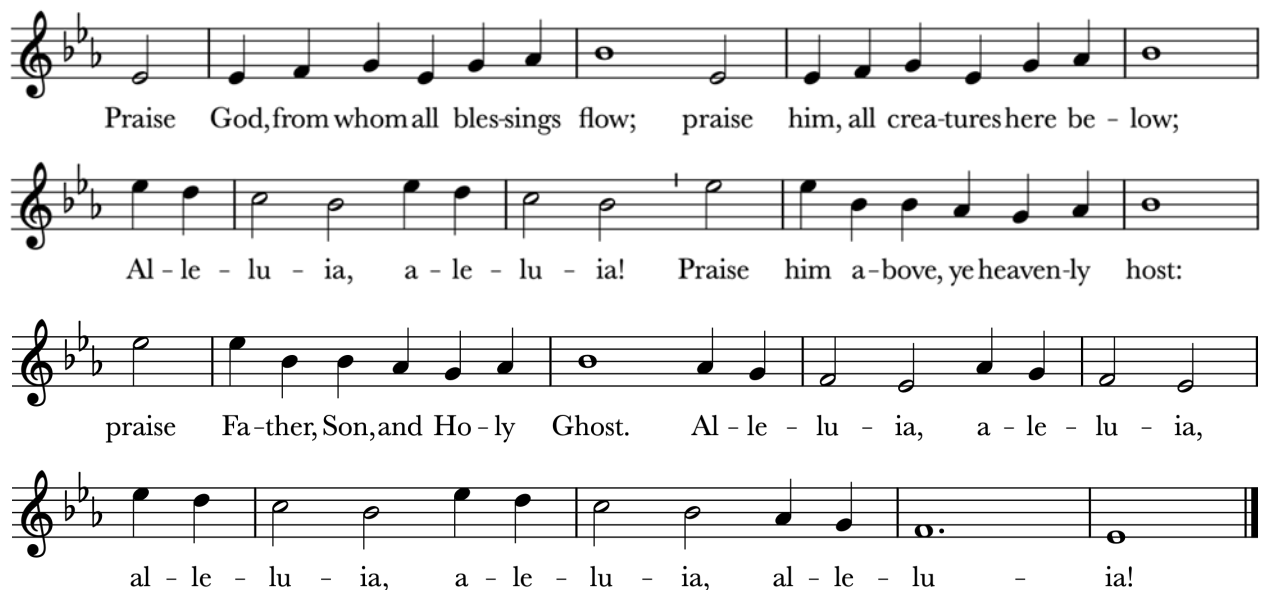
If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father,
And he shall give you another comforter, that he may abide with you for ever:
Even the spirit of truth.

And ye know him, for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.
I will not leave you comfortless. I will come to you.

Text: John 14:15-18

Presentation of the Gifts

All stand as they are able.



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here be - low;
Al - le - lu - ia, a - le - lu - ia! Praise him a - bove, ye heaven - ly host:
praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia, a - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, a - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you

and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ’s death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People

We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.

The Celebrant continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with St. John and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.
AMEN.

The Lord’s Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

The antiphon is first sung by the choir; then repeated by all.



The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing of the bread.

Choir

The bread which we break, alleluia,
is the communion of the body of Christ. *Repeat Antiphon*

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Hymns224, 504, 505, 507

The Communion of the People

Communion is central to our worship at St. John's. All baptized Christians—regardless of age or denominational affiliation—are welcome to receive.

1 Wait for guidance from the ushers.

At the appropriate time, an usher will invite the people in your pew to rise and follow the line to the Communion rail or station. Those with limited mobility may request that Communion be brought directly to their pew.

2 Kneel or stand.

Most people kneel at the rail to receive Communion, but standing is also appropriate, especially if kneeling is difficult.

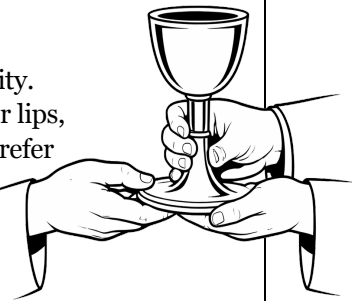
3 Receive the Bread.

As the minister approaches with the Bread, extend your hands with palms open and facing up. You may consume the Bread immediately or wait to have it dipped in the Wine.



4 Receive the Wine.

The Wine is served in a large chalice as a sign of unity. Assist the lay minister by guiding the chalice to your lips, holding it by the base, and take a small sip. If you prefer not drink directly from the chalice, you may offer your Bread to the lay minister and allow him or her to dip it in the Wine and hand it back to you to consume.



5 Return to your pew.

Return to your pew, kneel if you like, sing with the congregation, or offer your silent prayers to God.

If you are unbaptized or would prefer not to receive the Bread or Wine for any reason, cross your arms over your chest at the rail. This signifies to the priest that you wish to receive a blessing instead.

Postcommunion Anthem A repeating alleluia

Calvin Hampton

After Communion, all join in the following



The Postcommunion Prayer *(Kneel)*

After Communion, the people kneel, and the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the people, saying

May Almighty God,
who enlightened the minds of the disciples
by pouring out upon them the Holy Spirit,
make you rich with his blessing,
that you may abound more and more in that Spirit for ever. *Amen.*

May God,
who sent the Holy Spirit as a flame of fire
that rested upon the heads of the disciples,
burn out all evil from your hearts,
and make them shine with the pure light of his presence. *Amen.*

May God,
who by the Holy Spirit caused those of many tongues
to proclaim Jesus as Lord,
strengthen your faith and send you out
to bear witness to him in word and deed. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

The Procession *(Please stand)*

1 Ho - ly Spi - rit, ev - er liv - ing as the Church's
 2 Ho - ly Spi - rit, ev - er work - ing through the Church's

ve - ry life; Ho - ly Spi - rit, ev - er striv - ing
 min - is - try; quick - ening, strength - ening, and ab - solv - ing,

through her in a cease - less strife; Ho - ly Spi - rit, ev - er
 set - ting cap - tive sin - ners free; Ho - ly Spi - rit, ev - er

form - ing in the Church the mind of Christ; thee we praise with
 bind - ing age to age, and soul to soul, in a fel - low -

end - less wor - ship for thy fruits and gifts un - priced.
 ship un - end - ing thee we wor - ship and ex - tol.

The Dismissal

The Deacon dismisses the people with these words

 Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Voluntary Pentecost - Improvisation on Gregorian Themes
Everett Titcomb

Tower Bells

St. John's Episcopal Church

211 North Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32301

(850) 222-2636 | www.saint-john.org

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