



PENTECOST
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

Author

The Rev. Dr. Eileen Lindner, senior pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Tenafly, New Jersey, selected excerpts from the [Belhar Confession](#) that are to be read as an affirmation of faith and weaves that theme through the litanies and prayers in this resource.

2017 Worship Resource

Scripture: *“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.’”*
John 7: 37b–38

Call to Worship

Acts 2:1–21

When the day of Pentecost had come,
they 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.**

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.”

**Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.
For the gift of the Holy Spirit, let us praise God!**

Opening Prayer

Psalm 51

Creating and creating God,
renew your spirit within your community.
Bless the children, youth, and young adults
sustaining them with a well spirit.
Draw us now into your presence,
and restore to us the joy of salvation,
through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Hymn

“While We Are Waiting, Come”

Glory To God 92

Call to Confession

Let us call upon the Lord who loves us
and who beckons the poor in spirit
to come that we might find new life.
Not in fear but in hope, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

Forgiving God, we confess
that we have failed to allow the flames of your Holy Spirit
to rekindle warmth and love among us.
We have fostered division and failed to seek reconciliation.

We have claimed privilege and position
at the price of those whom you love,
and counted ourselves as your most treasured.

Through the rushing winds of your Spirit,
revive and refresh us, we pray,
and by your purifying fire
cleanse us for life in community
that we and all your children might live fully
the lives for which you created us. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Breathe deep the air of mercy and forgiveness.
God offers us the grace of pardon.
By the power of the Holy Spirit,
walk in confidence, hope and peace,
and share God’s good news with all.

Hymn**“Blessed Are They”****Glory To God 172****Prayer for Illumination**

Gracious God, on this day of Pentecost,
through the emboldening of your Spirit,
open our hearts and minds to your life-giving word;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Scripture

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|----------------|------------------------|
| First Reading | Acts 2:1–21 |
| Psalm | Psalm 104:24–34, 35b |
| Second Reading | 1 Corinthians 12:3b–13 |
| Gospel Reading | John 7:37–39 |

Sermon**Affirmation of Faith** Confession of Belhar (Excerpts)

**We believe that God has entrusted the church
with the message of reconciliation
in and through Jesus Christ;
that the church is called to be the salt of the earth
and the light of the world,
that the church is called blessed
because it is a peacemaker.
We believe that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity,
is in a special way the God of the destitute,
the poor, and the wronged.
We believe that God calls the church to follow him in this;
for God brings justice to the oppressed
and gives bread to the hungry.
We believe that God frees the prisoner
and restores sight to the blind.
We believe that God supports the downtrodden,
protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows,
and blocks the path of the ungodly.
We believe that for God, pure and undefiled religion
is to visit the orphans and the widows in their suffering.**

Hymn**“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”****Glory To God 291**

Prayers of the People

O Lord, you make the winds your messengers,
fire and flame your ministers.
Draw near to us and hear our prayers:

We give thanks for your church
and for the varieties of gifts you have given through the Spirit
to each for the common good.
Help us to witness by word and deed
to the new heaven and new earth to which you beckon us.

Come Holy Spirit, enliven us.

We pray for the peace of the world.
Where wars and rumors of war threaten,
lead people and nations to seek concord
that all may know the fullness of life.

Come Holy Spirit, renew us.

We pray for children, youth, and young adults.
May we be swift to remove the stumbling blocks
that dash their hopes.
Enable us to receive their gifts with joy and hope
and hold fast in our witness to them through prayer and example.

Come Holy Spirit, embolden us.

We pray that your Spirit might attend
all those in special need this day:
the sick and the dying,
those who are lonely or perplexed,
alienated, or abandoned.
Make us channels of your comfort,
blessing and hope to all in need.

Come Holy Spirit, rekindle us.

All these things we pray,
and so much more that is upon our hearts
we lift up to the winds of grace promised in your Holy Spirit.
Send, once again, the fresh breezes of your grace
to wash over us and all your people.

Come Holy Spirit, and rekindle us for purposes unafraid. Amen.

Minute for Mission

Offering

As on the Day of Pentecost,
by God's grace the church today can do wonders and signs
as it shares its time, talent, and treasures.
Let us now present our gifts
and be blessed by giving.

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, bless these gifts we bring
as tokens of our gratitude for all that you've given to us.
Bless now, by your Spirit, both gift and giver,
that both may be a blessing through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Just as the body is one, with many members,
so it is with Christ.
In the one Spirit, we were baptized into one body.
As the body of Christ in this place,
let us gather at the table Christ prepares.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God:
In every age you have anointed leaders with your Spirit.
Now all of your people—men and women, young and old—
are empowered to speak your truth and show your glory.
Therefore we praise you, joining the song
of the universal church and the heavenly choir:

A Sanctus ("Holy, holy, holy") is sung.

Blessed is Jesus Christ, our Savior:
After he rose from the dead, Jesus came to his disciples

and breathed on them, saying: Receive the Holy Spirit.
Even to us he has given the gospel of forgiveness and peace.

The words of institution are included here, or at the breaking of the bread.

Remembering your goodness and grace,
we offer ourselves to you with gratitude
as we share this joyful feast.

A Memorial Acclamation (e.g., "Christ has died") is sung.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and cup;
make us one in the body and blood
of Jesus Christ our Lord.

By your Spirit, make us one body with many members.
Enable us to use the variety of gifts you have given
in the one mission and ministry of the only Lord.
Through the Lord Jesus Christ,
in the unity of the Spirit,
we bless you, God of glory,
now and forever.

Breaking of the Bread

Communion Response **"Loving Spirit" v. 1**

Glory To God 293

Prayer after Communion

Gracious God, you set a joyful feast for your people—
provisions for our journey of faith.
Through your Holy Spirit, you companion us,
strengthen, us and empower us.
Grant that, nourished here,
we might proclaim and praise your name everywhere. **Amen.**

Hymn **"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"**

Glory To God 526

Blessing and Charge

May the Spirit attend you, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ sustain you, and the love of God provide you strength for the journey. Go now, loving neighbor and showing the love of God which is in Jesus Christ to the whole creation. **Amen.**