

## May 31 – Pentecost

Church Service Bible Passages: Num. 11:24-30; Psalm 25:1-15; Acts 2:1-21, John 7:37-39

### Resources in this PDF

Lesson 9 Opening – A Telling Truth: Pentecost

Holy Spirit worksheets and coloring page

The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost devotion

CPH Pentecost Activity Ideas – Descending Dove Mobile, Pentecost Cupcakes, Invisible Wind Activity

“Holy Spirit, the Dove Sent from Heaven” Hymn history; link to song is below

### Scripture Snapshot

With the sound of a rushing wind and tongues of fire, the promised Holy Spirit descends on the disciples. As they speak in “other tongues,” their hearers, from a multitude of nations, hear about “the mighty works of God” in their own languages (vv. 2, 11). Beginning with Old Testament prophecies, Peter’s sermon proclaims Jesus, the promised Messiah.

### Discussion Ideas

How did the Holy Spirit show His presence at Pentecost?

The Holy Spirit was at work on the night of Pentecost. How is the Holy Spirit at work in your life? How do you know He is at work in your church?

Red is the color the Church wears on Pentecost. Enjoy some delicious red strawberries or a red fruit smoothie. How does the Holy Spirit enrich your life?

A big noise filled the house where the disciples were staying in Jerusalem on Pentecost. What big noises have you heard recently? What caused the noise?

This event really shows how interconnected the Trinity is. God the Father sent His Son to die and rise for us. The Son ascends to heaven and sends us the Holy Spirit.

This event is the reversal of the tower of Babel (Genesis 11:1–9), when God confused the languages of the sinful and rebellious people. Here, God brings people together and unites them around the Holy Spirit, making everyone able to understand the many languages. The tower of Babel and Pentecost are like bookends.

The events of Pentecost were a miracle. This miracle of the languages shows us that God wants to include all nations and all people in the new covenant.

### Other Resources

[What is Pentecost?](#) Video from CPH (3 min 17 sec), also leads into Holy Trinity Sunday which is next week and the subsequent Sundays after Pentecost

Ministry-To-Children: [Children’s Message](#) [Bible Study Lesson & Printables](#)

Ministry-To-Children [Craft Ideas](#) \*Your SS teachers miss you! If you make any of these crafts, please send a picture or video to me, [MissAbbott04@hotmail.com](mailto:MissAbbott04@hotmail.com) or (260) 433-1213, and I’ll pass it along to the SS teachers.

Short studies by Pastor Burma, Peace Lutheran Church in Columbus, Nebraska: [Acts 2:1-13](#) [Acts 2:14-21](#)

[KFUO Discussion on the hymn LSB 497, “Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord.”](#)

Douglas Talks – [Letting Your Light Shine, How Kids Can Share Their Faith](#)

### Songs

[Holy Spirit, the Dove Sent from Heaven](#)

[Holy Spirit, Light Divine](#)

[This Little Light of Mine](#) – with actions

[Power in Your Word](#) – with actions

[Let’s Go, Go, Go!](#) – this *might* be a song from this year’s Spirit Camp, hopefully I’m not giving away anything! 😊

# LESSON 9 OPENING

## A TELLING TRUTH: PENTECOST

Have you ever been in a place where someone was speaking in a language other than your own? If you have, you know that it is very difficult to understand what is happening. *Hold up sign, non-English side out.* Most of you probably do not know what this sign says. If you do, please do not say. If this sign were to tell you what to do, would you be able to follow the directions? *Allow children to answer.* You probably would not know what to do. You would likely be confused.

In Genesis 11, we read about a time when God caused the language of the people to become confused. At the tower of Babel, the people were attempting to build a great tower so that they could reach up to God. The people were seeking to be like God in a way to bring glory to themselves. The people were sinning and ultimately separating themselves from God. Sin would abound all the more, it seemed, if their efforts at building this great tower continued.

At Babel, God caused the languages to become confused. No longer were the people able to hear one another and understand what was being said. Everyone was speaking different languages. No longer could the people build the tower and attempt to bring glory to their own name. In fact, they were dispersed throughout the world. For generations, the people grew into many nations with many different languages. Confusion continued when they tried to communicate. Even when they spoke of the things of God, it was in different languages. Sin had infested everything.

In today's Bible lesson, we are going to learn about an event during which God's Word was heard in a new way. Jesus died, rose, and ascended into heaven. He had accomplished the work He came to do in order that the forgiveness of sins would be possible for the world. The event in today's lesson took place shortly afterward. Be certain to listen to what happened on that day. See who came and changed a confusing situation into an opportunity for God's Word to be proclaimed. As you listen, pay careful attention to the Word that was proclaimed that day; see if you can learn why it was important for everyone to be able to understand it.

Thankfully, the Word of God comes to us in a way that is clear. When we worship, most of the time, we are blessed to be able to do so in our own language. *Hold up the sign, English side out.* Now we can read the sign and know what it says, because it is in the language most of us speak. Thanks be to God that His Word has been translated into our language so that we may know what it says, learn, and believe it.

**Pray:** Lord God, breathe Your Holy Spirit upon us so that by the hearing of Your Holy Word our faith may be strengthened. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

### LESSON TEXT

Acts 2:1–24

### BIBLE TRUTH

God gives us the Holy Spirit.

### FAITH FOCUS

The Third Article, Part 1

### LAW & GOSPEL

We think we can come to understand and trust in God by our own power.

**The Holy Spirit works faith in our hearts as we hear His Word proclaimed.**

### BIBLE VERSE

You will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:38

### VISUAL HELPS

Sign with a phrase in a foreign language on one side and the English translation on the other (e.g., Komm, Heliger Geist, Herre Gott/Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord)

# A TELLING TRUTH—PENTECOST

## Unit 3, Lesson 9

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### The Holy Spirit Comes

**Directions:** As Jesus promised, God sent the Holy Spirit to the disciples when they were gathered in Jerusalem to celebrate Pentecost. Review the facts of this miraculous event as you finish each statement in Column 1 with its correct ending from Column 2.

#### Column 1

1. When gathered in a house on the day of Pentecost, Jesus' followers heard \_\_\_\_\_.
2. In the house, Jesus' followers saw \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus' followers could speak in \_\_\_\_\_.
4. When other people heard Jesus' disciples speaking, some were \_\_\_\_\_.
5. To explain the truth about all that had happened, Peter \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Peter said that God sent \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Peter told the people that according to God's plan \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Column 2

- A. many different languages.
- B. preached a sermon.
- C. the Holy Spirit to His disciples as He had promised.
- D. tongues of fire resting on each one of them.
- E. a mighty rushing wind.
- F. they had crucified Jesus and God raised Him from the dead.
- G. amazed and others thought the disciples had drunk too much wine.



Jesus said, “**But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you**” (John 14:26).

According to this verse, how does the Holy Spirit help you?

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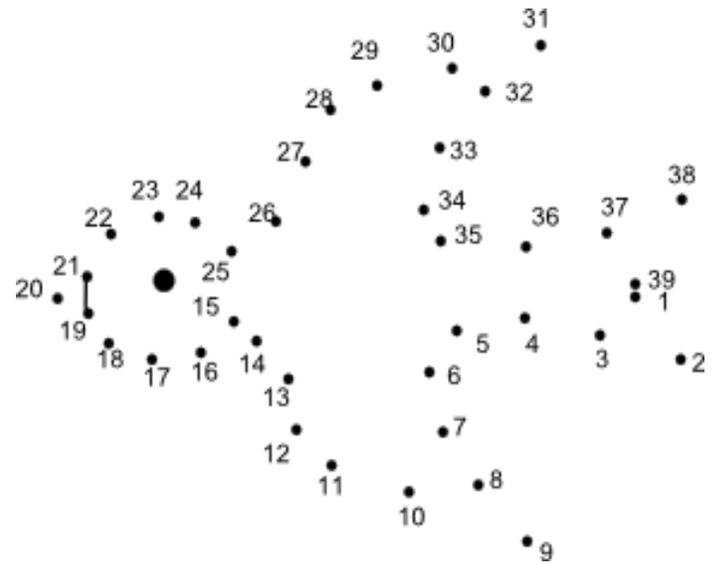
# Learn About The Holy Spirit

## The Trinity

God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit are three persons who are all the same person – God. This is called the Trinity (Trinity means three).

When we think of God living inside us, in our hearts, and speaking to us each day, this is the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit lives inside every person who has become a Christian.

Work the puzzle to see a dove, a symbol of the Holy Spirit.



## The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament

Before Jesus came, the Holy Spirit did not live inside every person.

God sent the Holy Spirit into a person when he had a special job for the person to do.

Read each verse, and write the name of the person who received the Holy Spirit.

**Genesis 41:38**

\_\_\_\_\_

who interpreted dreams and advised the Pharaoh of Egypt

**Exodus 31:2-4**

\_\_\_\_\_

who made beautiful things from gold, silver, and bronze

**Judges 6:34**

\_\_\_\_\_

a judge who led the people of Israel

**2 Samuel 23:1-2**

\_\_\_\_\_

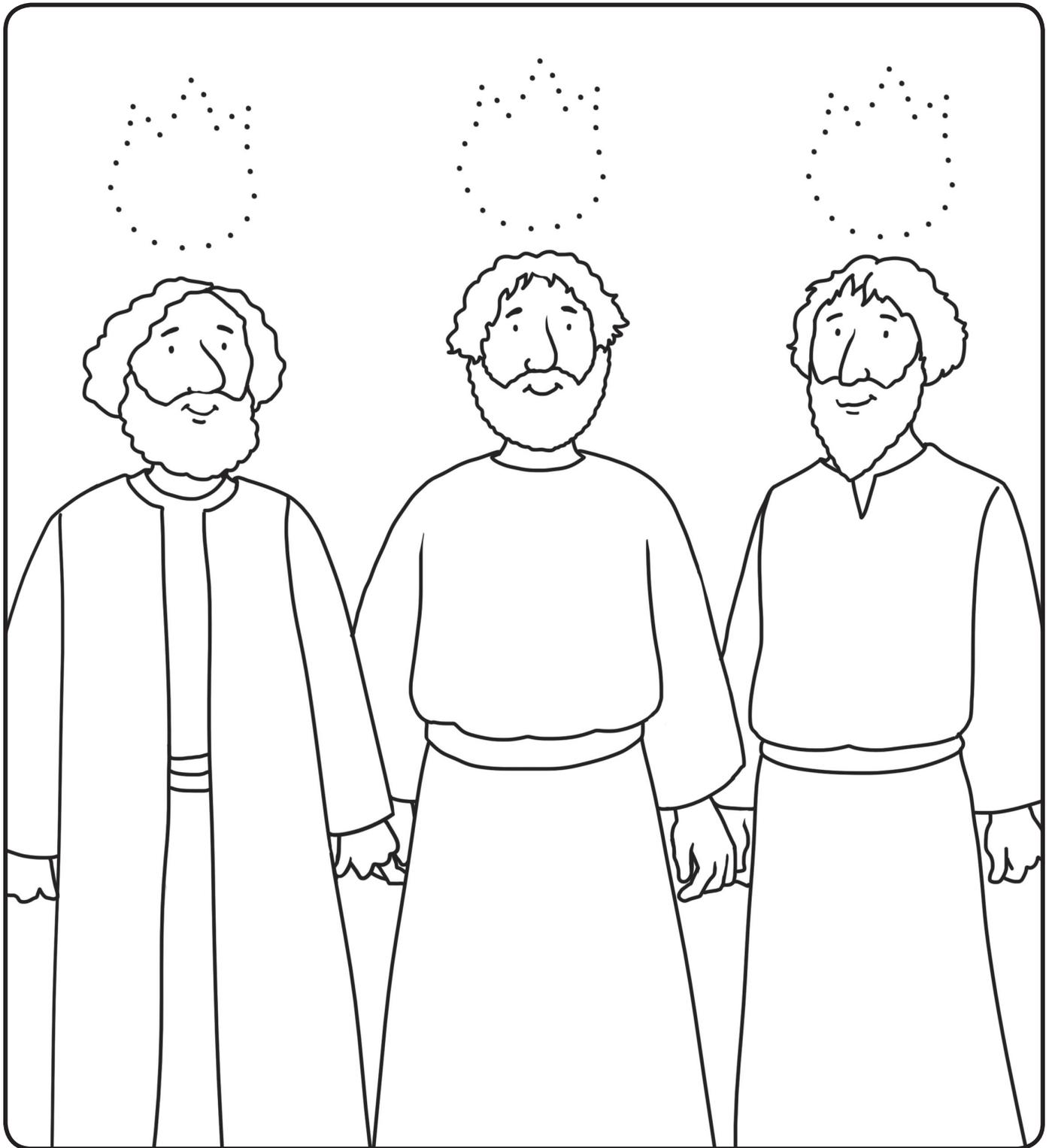
who was the king of Israel and wrote beautiful songs

**Daniel 4:8**

\_\_\_\_\_

who advised the king of Babylon and interpreted dreams





**Connect & Color**

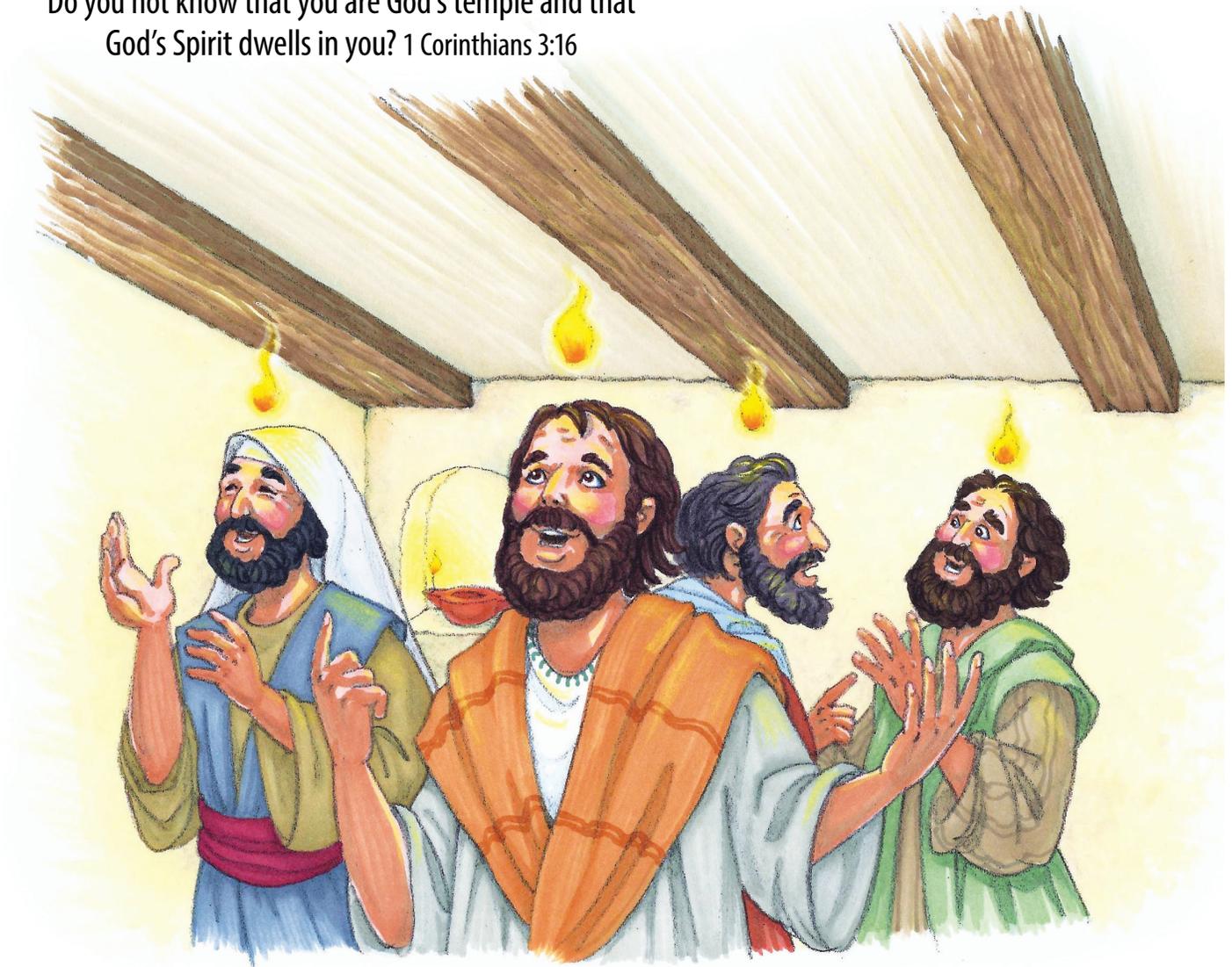
Connect the dots. On Pentecost, God the Holy Spirit came to give Jesus' disciples power to tell others about Jesus. I wonder . . . what did they hear? What did they see? What does God the Holy Spirit do for you?



Go therefore and make disciples of all nations.

**Matthew 28:19**

Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? 1 Corinthians 3:16



## The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost | Acts 2

**G**od the Father is God; Jesus is God; and the Holy Spirit is God. God is triune—three in one—the Trinity—one true God. The Holy Spirit came in a powerful way to God's people at Pentecost, just ten days after Jesus, in His body, rose up into the air to go to heaven. Jesus had told His followers to go to Jerusalem and wait for the Spirit.

When the Holy Spirit came, Jesus' followers heard a strong wind and saw what looked like flames hovering over their heads. What happened next was even more surprising. They began speaking in different languages. They had not

learned to speak those languages, but now they could speak them because of a miracle of God. People from other countries could understand what they were saying. Now Jesus' followers could tell everyone about Jesus!

A crowd of people gathered outside the house. Peter spoke to them about Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Many people believed Peter. About three thousand people were baptized that day. That special day was called Pentecost. The people continued each day to worship God and learn more about forgiveness and salvation.

*Who is the Holy Spirit and how do we know He is God?*

The work of the Holy Spirit is giving people faith. The Holy Spirit works faith through God's Word as it is read or heard or received in Baptism or the Lord's Supper. The Holy Spirit also brings people together, uniting them in one large and powerful group, known as the Church.

### **The Work of the Holy Spirit / Acts 2:1–4**

**M**any people enjoy watching the Olympic Games. The games alternate from a winter to a summer version. Several months before the opening ceremony of the Olympics, a torch is lit. It is always lit in Athens, Greece, where the Olympics began, using the sun's rays and a mirror.

From one to another, athletes pass the torch, carrying it throughout the continents. Finally, on the day of the opening ceremony, the torch enters the Olympic stadium. With this signal, the games begin.

The torch represents the unity and the peace of the Olympic Games. It is a visual way of showing that, at least for a few

weeks, the competing countries unite for a common purpose.

Pentecost is a special day in the life of the Christian Church. In fact, it is the beginning of the Christian Church. On Pentecost, we thank God that He sent the Holy Spirit to His Church.

On that first Pentecost, the followers of Jesus gathered in Jerusalem. Suddenly, they heard a sound like a strong wind. The sound filled the whole house. Tongues of fire came to rest on each of them. The Holy Spirit filled them, and they began to speak about Jesus in other languages.

Although the Olympic torch represents unity and peace among the nations involved,

that peace and unity do not last. Disputes break out, and arguments arise. Family and friends, neighborhoods and cities don't have peace, either.

On Pentecost, when God's Spirit arrived, the message of what Jesus had done on Calvary's cross brought true unity and peace. The Holy Spirit makes people holy and brings them to faith in Christ. The Holy Spirit brings God's peace because by nature we are enemies of God. We can trust, rejoice, and find comfort in Him—the one who brings unity and peace.

**Talk about it: When did the Holy Spirit bring you to faith in Jesus?**

*Prayer: Holy Spirit, thank You for making me holy by bringing me to faith in Christ so that I might be saved. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.*

# CRAFT

## Descending Dove Mobile

### God Sends the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:1-21

#### You Need

- Red or orange Mylar sheets or see-through binder dividers (available at dollar or office supply stores)
- White craft foam, 1 sheet is enough for 6 kids
- Fishing line or clear monofilament
- Scissors
- Single-hole punch
- Pencil
- Fine-tip permanent marker
- Spiral pattern (next page) & copy paper

#### Get Ready

- Make a sample and hang it from the ceiling.
- Print the spiral pattern.
- Gather supplies and set them out.

#### Introduce the Craft

**Read** Acts 2:1-21

**Say** Fifty days after Jesus' resurrection, God sent the Holy Spirit. We call this special day Pentecost. *Point to the sample.* Red is the color of Pentecost. It reminds us of the tongues of fire that rested on the disciples' heads when they were filled with the Holy Spirit. The bright red (or orange) spiral falls downward in our

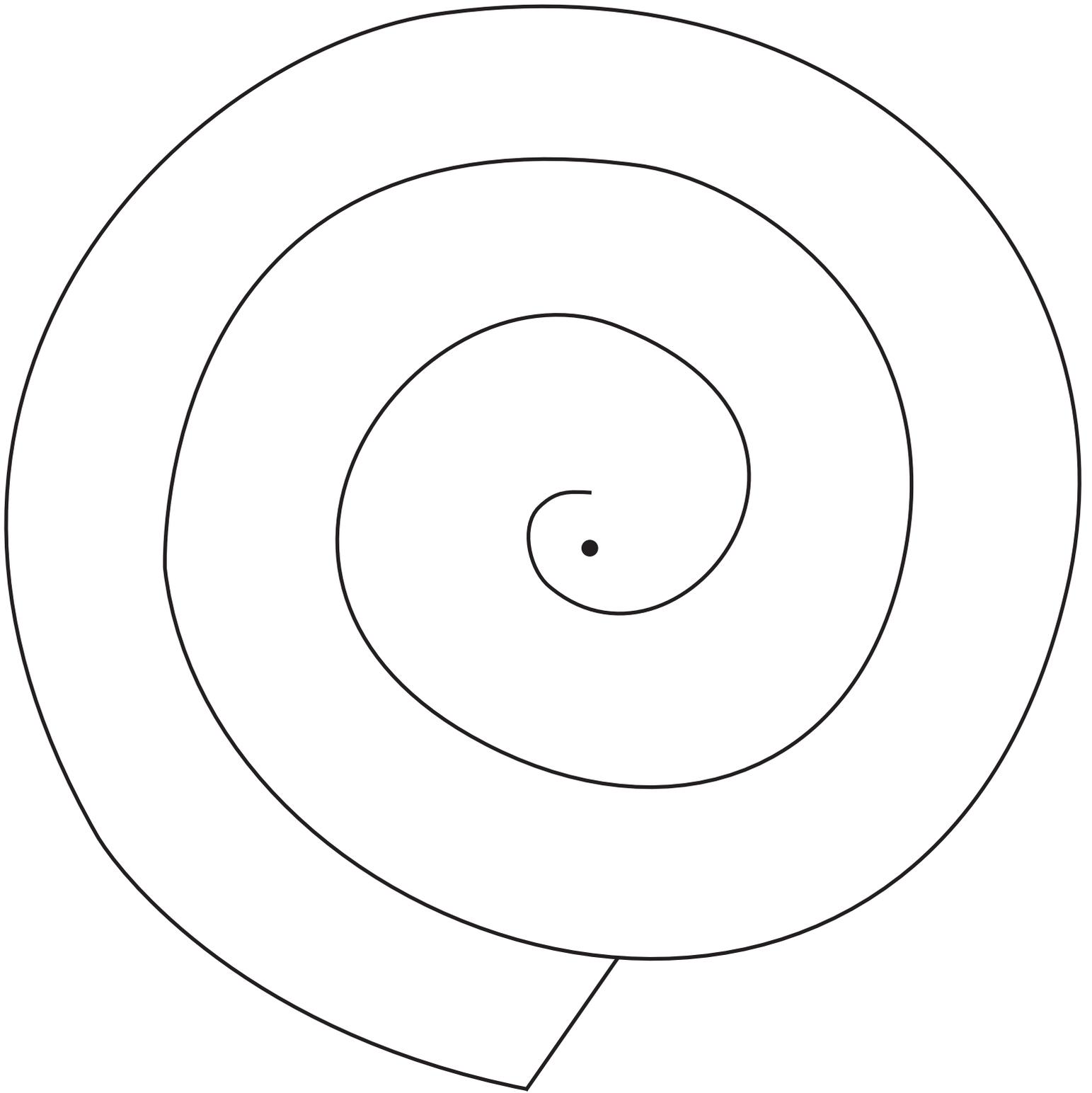
mobile and reminds us of fire. *Point to the dove.* The dove is a symbol of the Holy Spirit.

**Ask** When did the Holy Spirit descend like a dove? **At Jesus' Baptism.**

**Say** The Holy Spirit works through His Word, Baptism, and Holy Communion to give you faith and keep you in faith. This mobile will remind you of Pentecost and your Baptism, when the Holy Spirit worked to forgive your sins and bring you to saving faith in Jesus.

#### Do This

- Use a pencil to trace a dove pattern onto the white craft foam. Cut out the dove.
- Place the circular spiral pattern under a sheet of Mylar and use a permanent marker to trace around the spiral onto the Mylar. Cut the Mylar along the lines.
- Use a hole punch to make a hole in the tight end of the spiral, where marked on the pattern. Use the tip of a sharp pencil to bore a hole into the tail of the white dove.
- Cut a 2-foot length of fishing line (monofilament) and run it through the hole in the spiral. Make sure to leave several inches of fishing line from the top for hanging the mobile. Tie a knot in the fishing line to attach it to the Mylar. Let the longer end of the fishing line drop down along with the Mylar, which is now hanging as a descending spiral.
- Thread the dove onto the bottom of the fishing line so it hangs near the bottom of the spiral. Knot the fishing line to secure the dove, and trim the excess fishing line.



# SNACK

## Pentecost Cupcakes

### God Sends the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:1-21

#### You Need

- Pre-made cupcakes with icing (any flavor)  
OR ingredients to make cupcakes and icing at home (many recipes can be found online)
- Red and orange sprinkles
- Platter
- Plates and napkins

#### Get Ready

- If making cupcakes: prepare and bake cupcakes according to directions. Top with icing.
- Set out cupcakes on a platter.
- Have plates and napkins ready for children.

#### Do This

- Have children help put red and orange sprinkles on the icing of the cupcakes.

#### Introduce the Snack

**Read** Acts 2:1-21

*While eating the cupcakes* **Say** Pentecost is often called the birthday of the Church because it is the day the Holy Spirit came to be our helper. He makes us brave to tell others about Jesus so more and more people

will believe in Jesus and become part of His Church. *As children snack, talk about the color red that they see in church on Pentecost.*

**Ask** What are things that are red? What does red remind them of? *Accept answers.*

**Ask** How did the Holy Spirit come on Pentecost? *Accept answers.*

**Say** God the Holy Spirit is our helper.

*Check for understanding of the Bible story by asking children to tell how the Holy Spirit helped Peter and how He helps us.*

# ACTIVITY

## Invisible Wind

### God Sends the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:1-21

#### You Need

- Deflated balloon
- Handheld fan or a piece of paper accordion-folded to make into a fan
- Straws
- Lightweight objects such as cotton balls, paper, or feathers
- Pinwheels

#### Do This

*Fan air toward children.*

**Say** I am using a fan to make the air blow on you. Can you see the air? **No, we can't see air.** How do you know it is there? **Can feel the air.** *Fan again.* Yes, you can feel the air on your skin or face or hair.

**Say** If I blow up a balloon, I am filling the balloon with air from inside my body. *Demonstrate.* You can't see the air inside of me, but you can see what it does to a balloon! It fills the balloon and makes it bigger.

*Show children how to blow through the straws or use the paper fans to move lightweight objects, or have them blow on the pinwheel.*

**Ask** What makes these things move? **Wind.** Can you see wind? Can you hear wind? **No.** The air is all around us, even though we can't see it. But, we can hear the wind blowing in the trees and we can see it making the leaves move.

Today we'll hear about a special sound of wind in our story.

#### Make the Connection

Our story today is about something else we can't see. It is about God the Holy Spirit. After Jesus went back to heaven, He told His friends He would send the Holy Spirit to be our Helper. Even though we can't see Him, the Holy Spirit works faith in our hearts through Baptism and God's Word. He helps us learn about Jesus. He helps us grow in faith and share Jesus' love. Let's listen to how the Holy Spirit came to the disciples at Pentecost, just as Jesus said He would.

**Read** Acts 2:1-21

## “Holy Spirit, the Dove Sent from Heaven”

As we continue our look at some of the NEW hymns in our hymnal, we consider a unique hymn with a unique tune for Pentecost: LSB 502.

First, please note that this is originally a Spanish hymn, written by Philip W. Blycker (1977) and translated into flowing English by Stephen Starke (2004). Both English and Spanish lyrics are in our hymnal. Blycker also composed the tune (which reminds me of a “Fiddler on the Roof” tune). Unique indeed!! Please read or sing it now ...

Pentecost happens 50 days after Easter, and 10 days after Jesus’ ascension into heaven. On Pentecost we remember the coming of the Holy Spirit to the disciples while they were camped out in an upper room. While we worship and celebrate all three persons of the Trinity throughout the church year, the very nature of Pentecost helps us remember the gift of the Holy Spirit. The first stanza connects this gifted Spirit within the Holy Trinity but begins to highlight the great benefit and blessing the Spirit gives to us! In this one verse we hear that the Spirit conveys God’s Word to us and is the source of our spiritual strength, peace and love—even as the Spirit foils the devil’s snares for us so that our life with the Spirit is “resting, serene.” That’s a great start to our understanding of the Holy Spirit’s benefit in our life!

In the second stanza we jump quickly to the image of fire—recall how the Spirit appeared like tongues of fire on the heads of the disciples on that first Pentecost! That’s a stark image! Recall also the gifts of being able to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to people from all nations on that Pentecost day; well, we are assured that we are gifted with the same power of the Spirit! Oh, we may not speak instantly in world languages we haven’t studied, but the Spirit works through us to convey the Gospel to all people!

The third stanza, under the umbrella of “unction” (the act of anointing with oil) connects worship and holy acts from Old and New Testaments together with the promise that the Holy Spirit anoints us in the blessed waters of Holy Baptism! And the final stanza assures us, the Baptized, of the victorious life of peace because our sins are forgiven—forgiveness of sins is our greatest need, which the Spirit conveys to God’s throne for us. And by the great power of the Spirit, bringing the light of Scripture and the grace of the Sacraments to us, makes us whole!

Sins forgiven—made whole—victorious life of faith ... oh, yeah, there’s a LOT of God’s grace in this hymn! The unique tune makes it fun to sing; the great text makes it significant to sing; celebrating Pentecost with brothers and sisters in Christ with this hymn unites us as people gifted with *the Dove sent from Heaven!* Come and sing of God’s gifts with us often!



### LSB 502 Holy Spirit, the Dove Sent from Heaven

1 Ho - ly Spir - it, the dove sent from heav - en,  
 2 Ho - ly Spir - it, the fire - ce - les - tial,  
 3 Ho - ly Spir - it, the unc - tion of bless - ing,  
 4 Ho - ly Spir - it, the wind of great pow - er,

Ev - er one with the One who is Three,  
 Who on Pen - te - cost came as fore - told,  
 Sa - cred oil of the green ol - ive tree,  
 Source of strength and of peace and of love,

From the Fa - ther You came, Words of peace to pro - claim,  
 To de - scend from on high And the Church oc - cu - py  
 Giv - ing heat, giv - ing light, As the tent lamps ig - nite  
 Tru - est Com - fort - er, plead, As You bring all our need

Come and com - fort us, speak ten - der - ly.  
 As the cloud filled the tem - ple of old;  
 And as Aar - on praised God joy - ful - ly.  
 To the throne of God’s glo - ry a - bove.

You, the fra - grance of life we are seek - ing;  
 All the bap - tized You seal with Your prom - ise,  
 Bless - ed liv - ing and life - giv - ing wa - ter,  
 Be the light that en - light - ens the Scrip - tures;

Fill Your tem - ple, Your al - tar make clean.  
 All be - liev - ers Your gift there re - ceive,  
 Now pre - serve us from e - vil with - in;  
 Keep our feet from each dev - il - ish snare;

Joy - ous shel - ter of love, Gra - cious friend from a - bove,  
 So that all the e - lect— All in Christ— may ex - pect  
 For in Je - sus, God’s Son, All be - liev - ers are one  
 On - ly You can make whole All that trou - bles our soul;

In Your care we are rest - ing, se - rene.  
 To en - joy what by grace they be - lieve.  
 In this wash - ing that cleans - es from sin.  
 By Your chris - m, Christ’s tri - umph we share.