

## A Monastic Mass and Vigil for Pentecost Eve at Mama's Pasadena

Act in me O Holy Spirit that my works, too, may be holy  
- St. Augustine of Hippo -

### Musical Offering (Cantor):

On Pentecost They Gathered [text: Huber, tune: *Webb*]

### Narrator:

Our monastic mass and vigil on Pentecost Eve will begin with the ancient divine prayer office of Vespers which is a time when the day begins to transition from light to darkness. We will use the ancient monastic practice of the antiphon for our Vesper prayers in order to emphasize the fundamental reflection of our prayers as we repeat it for emphasis.

### Psalm 104

**Cantor:** The sun knows its time for / setting (v.19b);  
You make darkness and it \ is / night (v.20a).

**All (read):** Bless the Lord, O my soul.  
O Lord my God, you are very great.  
You are clothed with honor and majesty,  
wrapped in light as with a garment.  
You stretch out the heavens like a tent,  
you set the beams of your chambers on the waters,  
you make the clouds your chariot,  
you ride on the wings of the wind,  
you make the winds your messengers,  
fire and flame your ministers.  
You set the earth on its foundations,  
so that it shall never be shaken. (vv. 1-5)

**Cantor:** The sun knows its time for / setting (v.19b);  
You make darkness and it \ is / night (v.20a).

**All (read):** the sun knows its time for setting;  
You make darkness and it is night.  
May the glory of the Lord endure forever;  
may the Lord rejoice in his works—  
who looks on the earth and it trembles,

who touches the mountains and they smoke.  
I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;  
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.  
May my meditation be pleasing to him,  
for I rejoice in the Lord.  
Bless the Lord, O my soul.  
Praise the Lord! (vv. 19b-20; 31-34)

**Cantor:** The sun knows its time for / setting (v.19b);  
You make darkness and it \ is / night (v.20a).

### Psalm 113

**Cantor:** From the rising of the sun to / its \ setting;  
the name of the Lord is / to \ be / praised (v. 3).

**All:** From the rising of the sun to / its \ setting;  
the name of the Lord is / to \ be / praised. (v. 3).

**Cantor:** Praise the Lord! Praise, O servants of the Lord;  
praise the name of the Lord.  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
from this time on and forevermore.  
From the rising of the sun to its setting  
the name of the Lord is to be praised.  
The Lord is high above all nations,  
and his glory above the heavens. (vv. 1-4)

**All:** From the rising of the sun to / its \ setting;  
the name of the Lord is / to \ be / praised. (v. 3).

**Cantor:** Who is like the Lord our God,  
who is seated on high,  
who looks far down on the heavens and the earth.  
He raises the poor from the dust,  
and lifts the needy from the ash heap,  
to make them sit with princes,  
with the princes of his people (vv. 5-8).

**All:** From the rising of the sun to / its \ setting;  
the name of the Lord is / to \ be / praised. (v. 3).

## (Psalm 139)

**Cantor:** The unfolding of your words gives / light;  
it imparts understanding \ to \ the / simple (v. 130).

**All:** The unfolding of your words gives / light;  
it imparts understanding \ to \ the / simple (v. 130).

**Cantor:**

Your decrees are / won- \ derful;  
therefore my \ soul \ keeps / them.  
The unfolding of your words gives / light;  
it imparts understanding \ to \ the / simple.  
With open mouth / I \ pant,  
because I long for \ your \ com- / mandments.  
Turn to me and be gracious / to \ me,  
as is your custom toward those who \ love \ your / name.  
(vv.129-132)

**All:** The unfolding of your words gives / light;  
it imparts understanding \ to \ the / simple (v. 130).

**Cantor:**

Keep my steps steady according to your / pro- \ mise,  
and never let iniquity have dominion \ o- \ ver / me.  
Redeem me from human op- / pres- \ sion,  
that I may \ keep \ your / precepts.  
Make your face shine upon your / ser- \ vant,  
and teach \ me \ your / statutes.  
My eyes shed streams of / tears  
whenever your law \ is \ not / kept.  
(vv. 133-134)

**All:** The unfolding of your words gives / light;  
it imparts understanding \ to \ the / simple (v. 130).

**Leader:** Let Us Pray

## Psalm 119

**All (read):**

My soul keeps your decrees; I love them exceedingly.  
I keep your precepts and decrees,  
for all my ways are before you.  
Let my cry come before you, O LORD;

give me understanding according to your word.  
Let my supplication come before you;  
deliver me according to your promise.  
My lips will pour forth praise,  
because you teach me your statutes.  
My tongue will sing of your promise,  
for all your commandments are right.  
Let your hand be ready to help me,  
for I have chosen your precepts.  
I long for your salvation, O LORD,  
and your law is my delight.  
(vv. 167-174)

### **Meal of Commemoration Begins**

#### **Narrator:**

This evening, on the eve of Pentecost Sunday, let us commemorate the birth of the Christian Church and our own infilling of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, let our meal be a sacred time of commemoration.

#### **Leader:**

Wisdom has built her house;  
she has carved out its seven pillars.  
She has prepared her meat and mixed her wine;  
she has also set her table.  
She has sent out her maids, and she calls  
from the highest point of the city.  
"Let all who are humble come in here!"  
she says to those who lack prejudice.  
"Come, eat my food  
and drink the wine I have mixed.  
(Proverbs 9. 1-5)

**All: Amen**

#### **Leader:**

For the Christian Church, water, like fire, has been a symbol that signifies the Holy Spirit's action in Baptism. We were all baptized by one Spirit into one body . . . and we were all given the one Spirit to drink (1 Cor. 12.13). Let us recall the core of our baptismal vows which helped initiate our Christian journey. Please recite the following with me

We believe in God the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth;  
We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, our Saviour;  
We believe in the Holy Spirit the giver of life;  
We will love the Lord our God with our whole heart and soul;  
We will love our neighbors as our self;  
We will continue in the teaching and fellowship of the scriptures;  
and We will continue to proclaim by word and deed  
the Good News of God in Christ.

**Leader:** let us toast with our glass of water saying

“we were all baptized by one Spirit.”

### **The fruit is placed on the table**

**Leader:** The first course of our meal is fruit.

**Leader:** Let us hear the word of the Lord:

**Cantor:**

“the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience,  
kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.  
Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.”  
(Galatians 5. 22-23a, 25)

**Leader:**

Serve yourself some fruit and may its sweetness remind us of all the pleasing things that we can do for others in the spirit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

### **Rest of Meal is Served**

### **After the Meal the Pentecost Vigil Begins**

**Narrator:** (A Commemoration of Our Infilling of the Holy Spirit)

Tomorrow is Pentecost Sunday. The word “Pentecost” means fiftieth day and within the Christian tradition Pentecost Sunday occurs 50 days following Easter Sunday and marks the birth of the Christian church. Pentecost Sunday also commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus as described in the Book of Acts.

Before his ascension into heaven, Jesus told his disciples to wait for the Holy Spirit. You are invited to read one of the following passages of scripture.

**Reader 1:**

In my former book, *Theophilus*, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

(Acts 1. 1-5)

**Reader 2:**

So when they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

(Acts 1. 6-11)

**Reader 3:**

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day's walk from the city. When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

(Acts 1. 12-14)

#### **Reader 4:**

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit . . . (Acts 2. 1-4)

#### **Narrator:**

One of the primary colors of Pentecost is red which symbolizes the descent of the Holy Spirit and the tongues of fire that came to rest on the early disciples of Christ. Red is also meant to symbolize our zeal and passion to life as a result of our baptism of fire.

The symbol of fire has been one of the most expressive images of the Holy Spirit's actions. The prayer of the prophet Elijah, who "arose like fire" and whose "word burned like a torch," brought down fire from heaven on the sacrifice on Mount Carmel (1 Kings 18.38-39). John the Baptist, who goes "before [the Lord] in the spirit and power of Elijah," proclaimed Christ as the one who "will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire (Lk 1.17; 3.16). Jesus said of the Spirit: "I came to cast fire upon the earth; and would that it were already kindled (Lk 12.49)!" In the form of tongues "as of fire," the Holy Spirit came upon the earth and rested on the disciples on the morning of Pentecost (Acts 2. 3-4).

Let us light our candles one at a time and let our candles symbolize tongues as of fire. Also, let our candles indicate that the Holy Spirit is resting upon us. Let these acts be a testimony to our infilling of the Holy Spirit.

**Cantor:** Wind of the Spirit [text: Stuempfle, tune: *Finlandia* ]

**Narrator:** Also, let each of us symbolize our infilling of the Holy Spirit by taking a red rose petal as an additional symbol of our tongue of fire as we pass the rose from one to another.

**Cantor:** Now Holy Spirit, Ever One [text: Ambrose of Milan, tune: *Nunc Sancte nobis Spiritus* ]

**Leader:** Let Us Pray

**All:**

Breathe in me O Holy Spirit  
that my thoughts may all be holy;  
Act in me O Holy Spirit  
that my works, too, may be holy;  
Draw my heart O Holy Spirit  
that I love but what is holy;  
Strengthen me O Holy Spirit  
to defend that is holy;  
Guard me then O Holy Spirit  
that I always may be holy.  
- St. Augustine of Hippo (AD 354-430) -

### **Our Rededication to the Work of the Holy Spirit**

**Narrator:**

The Season of Pentecost is a time for us to celebrate that God is at work throughout the world through the Holy Spirit. It is also a time for us to renew our purpose, mission, and calling as servants of God and to acknowledge that God has been transforming us as we have helped transform our world around us.

### **An Examination of Consciousness in the Spirit of St. Ignatius of Loyola:**

**Narrator:**

The Examination of Consciousness is an ancient spiritual practice that was promoted by St. Ignatius of Loyola in order to help us reflect on God's daily activity in our life. Let us use this practice as a means to renew our purpose, mission, and calling as servants of God. One of us is invited to read a passage and all of us are invited to reflect upon a related question.

### **Fruit of the Spirit**

**Reader 5:**

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. (Galatians 5. 22-23a, 25)

**Leader:** Dear God, what fruits of the Spirit need to be cultivated in my life?

## Gifts of the Spirit

### Reader 6:

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men.

Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.

(1 Corinthians 12. 4-11)

**Leader:** Dear God, what gifts of the Spirit would you like to cultivate in my life?

## One Body

### Reader 7:

Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But eagerly desire the greater gifts.

(1 Corinthians 12. 12-31)

**Celebrant:** Dear God, is there a gift that you have given me that I have not yet realized?

## Lectio Divina: A Dialogue with God

### Leader:

This is what the LORD says:

You are my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
I have put my spirit upon you;  
and you will bring forth justice to the nations.  
(Isaiah 42. 1)

So remember, you are my servant whom I have chosen!  
and I am the LORD who made you,  
who formed you in the womb as my servant,  
whom I have chosen and  
You shall say, "I am the Lord's," . . .  
and write on your hand, "The Lord's". . .  
(Isaiah 44. 1; 2; 5)

**All:**

Dear God,  
We are your servants, whom you uphold,  
Your chosen, in whom your soul delights;  
You have put your spirit upon us;  
and we will bring forth justice to the nations.  
We know that we are your servants whom you have chosen!  
and that you made us,  
and formed us in the womb as your servants,  
and that you have chosen us  
and we shall say, we are the Lord's  
and write on our hands, "The Lord's."

**Acolyte:**

Blessed are you, O LORD; teach (us) your statutes.  
With (our) lips (we) declare all the ordinances of your mouth.  
(We) delight in the way of your decrees as much as in all riches.  
(We) will meditate on your precepts, and fix (our) eyes on your ways.  
(We) will delight in your statutes; (we) will not forget your word.  
Deal bountifully with your servant(s),  
so that (we) may live and observe your word.  
Open (our) eyes, so that (we) may behold wondrous things out of your law.  
(Our) soul(s) (are) consumed with longing for your ordinances at all times.  
(Psalm 12-20)

**Leader:**

As we journey as a Pentecost people may our eyes be continuously opened so that we will behold wondrous things that will consume our souls with a longing to keep the ordinances of our Savior.

**Narrator:** You are invited to have tea and dessert.

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Our Next Monastic Mass will be announced soon.