

## Pentecost

- Pentecost – The birthday of the Church (and fulfillment of Jesus' promise @ Ascension)
- Today we recall the descent of the HS on Apostles - no more hiding behind locked doors
- The Power of HS is released on them – and us – even here in NSJ LUP
- **Acts** – St. Luke wrote Acts of the Apostles to document what Apostles did in early church
  - AND HOW THE CHURCH GREW
  - The 1st thing he records is Pentecost, and JC's fulfillment of promise to send it
    - READ IT
- Here's the Good News – JC sends the HS
  - It empowers them to preach so that everyone understands
  - No matter where you're from, you're not prohibited from hearing the Gospel
  - From Parthians, to Medes, to Egyptians, to Eamites and Asians EVERYONE
    - and the word goes forth – and continues – even to US
  - The earth is renewed with a new message: Forgiveness is available to ALL everyone – no exceptions
- **So PS104 comes alive** “Lord send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth”
  - “Lord, send out Your Spirit” WHY “to renew the face of the earth” READ IT
    - This Psalm is our prayer “Bless the Lord my soul” - - -
    - We go from death to life **with the HS**
    - Look at 3<sup>rd</sup> stanza - “If you take their breath - - - “  
“When you send your spirit \_ \_ \_”
  - WE are renewed with the HS in our lives
  - Pentecost is a reality for US – right here, right now.
- **1COR** says: “No one can say Jesus is Lord except by the HS” |we may be gifted  
There are different spiritual gifts, by the same Spirit |differently but it all  
We're baptized into one body of Christ with one Spirit |comes from same HS  
READ IT
- **Gospel** (from Easter Day) – JC brings the scared Apostles PEACE, the HS, & Authority to forgive
  - To help explain this I brought a balloon
  - This is not that impressive – flat, flabby, empty – but it has potential to bring joy
  - What makes that potential a reality? Blow it up – with my breath
    - What did JC do to the Apostles (He breathed on them) BLOW IT UP
    - JC breathed on them and said “Receive the HS”
    - With my breath the balloon changed
      - from a flat useless thing to a source of joy
    - With the breath of JC, Apostles change
      - They receive the HS and get authority to bring joy – forgive sin
  - With the HS – WE can be a source of joy and encouragement
  - Without the HS – (release the balloon) NOTHING
    - The Gifts of the HS are real
    - Pentecost is real
      - Jesus breathed on the Apostles, they receive the HS and come to their full potential
      - As Christians we have no idea what God can do with us
      - But the same HS that fell on Apostles on Pentecost is available for us – Are you living up to your potential? If not, invite the HS in