

Pentecost - May 31, 2020



Reading:

John 20:19-23

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Poem:

This Pentecost Christ comes to us quietly;
Christ stands amongst us without fanfare and astonished crowds,
Pyrotechnics and the chaos of a rowdy, multi-lingual choir.
This Pentecost four words are spoken in a single voice.
This Pentecost Christ enters our house despite closed doors
And engages in our household chores and daily bread.
This Pentecost Christ comes
to ease our fear and uncertainty,
to bring peace and comfort
and the assurance that God is always with us.
This Pentecost Christ comes with a feather-light touch
And empowers us to mighty good.

Prayer:

There is a serendipity in our Pentecost this year. As your disciples were fearfully gathered behind locked doors, so we have been living behind closed doors, not only because of fear, but as an act of care and kindness to the community in which we live – it has been the good that we could do. This Pentecost, Christ come to us regardless as to whether our doors are open or closed, stand amongst us quietly, whisper peace and comfort to us, enable us to enter the what's next with serenity, without fanfare and an echoing chaos of self-interested voices, but with the assurance that God is always with us and your will accompany us as we travel uncharted waters. Amen.

