

# The Gifts of the Spirit

## Scripture and Prayers for the Season after Pentecost



is June 7, 2020

Trinity Sunday is the Sunday after The Day of Pentecost. The day celebrates a doctrine rather than an event. As Debbie Thomas has written:

“Let’s face it: Trinity Sunday is a hard sell. While most Christian festivals honor dramatic events (Jesus’s birth, the Resurrection, the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost), Trinity Sunday asks us to celebrate an idea. A theological abstraction. Worse, it asks us to celebrate an idea we can hardly wrap our heads around, no matter how hard we try.”

Of course, we are talking about the many ways in which God is manifest within our life. God as Creator, God as Redeemer, God as the ever-presence Comforter and Advocate.

The Confession of 1967, one of the confessional statements in our Presbyterian Book of Confessions, puts it this way:

“In Jesus Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself. Jesus Christ is God with humankind. He is the eternal Son of the Father, who became human and lived among us to fulfill the work of reconciliation. He is present in the church by the power of the Holy Spirit to continue and complete his mission.

“This work of God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is the foundation of all confessional statements about God, humanity, and the world. Therefore, the church calls all people to be reconciled to God and to one another.”



for the week of June 7, 2020

HAMILTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
5532 HARFORD ROAD  
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

# A Week of Scripture Reading

## **Sunday - Trinity Sunday**

**June 7<sup>th</sup>**

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 8  
Old Testament: Genesis 1:1-2:4a  
An Epistle Reading: II Corinthians 13:11-13  
The Gospel Reading: Matthew 28:16-20

## **Monday - June 8**

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 57  
The Gospel Reading: Luke 17:1-10

## **Tuesday - June 9**

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 54  
The Gospel Reading: Luke 17:11-19

## **Wednesday - June 10**

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 65  
The Gospel Reading: Luke 17:20-37

## **Thursday - June 11**

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 143  
The Gospel Reading: Luke 18:1-8

## **Friday - June 12**

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 88  
A Gospel Reading: Luke 18:9-14

## **Saturday - June 13**

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 122  
The Gospel Reading: Luke 18:15-30

## **Sunday - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost June 14<sup>th</sup>**

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19  
An Epistle Reading: Romans 5:1-8  
The Gospel Reading: Matthew 9:35 - 10:8



*If the mail is slow, a start  
on the new week is provided.*

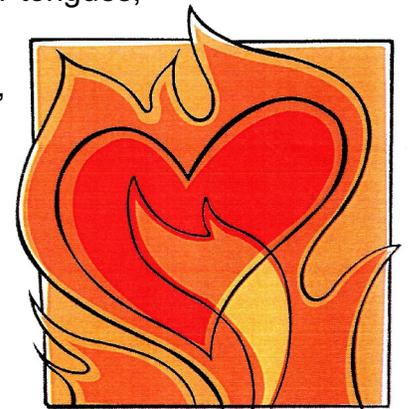
# A Poem for Pentecost

We comrades of a lost cause  
sat talking,  
As if words could move God  
to give us back our dead leader.

Hopeless it was, we knew...  
When shuddering sudden above  
plunged down the thunder shaft,  
grasped hard at our heart's roots  
in storms torn pure from God's  
world-hurling depths of being,  
bearing cataclysmic peace and fire  
scourging, scorching our inmost fear  
to a sweet cinder  
of doubt-devouring love,  
and welding our tentative fellowship  
to the will of Him who seized us then,  
and bounded us in His own holy blood.

In that hour's holocaust of heaven's breath,  
God cauterized our cautions  
branded, banded us aflame  
to quick courage.

We never stood so straight in God's praise  
as when the gale got hold of our tongues;  
for glories welled up,  
wailed on the wind,  
jabbering joy in that howling,  
now hushing inhalation  
that mastered and bent us,  
taut for the sin-stained  
world's target,  
and armored us  
with heaven's  
weaponry of love,  
sending us forth  
to suffer and redeem.



**Pentecost**

William Robert Miller, 1965