

Grounded and Growing—Pentecost Sunday

Material from *Reformed Worship* is meant to be adapted by worshiping communities to fit their particular context. This is an example of how one church adapted “Grounded and Growing—Pentecost Sunday.” We are grateful to Covenant Christian Reformed Church of Cutlerville, MI and [Rebecca Snippe](#) for sharing this resource ([video recording](#)).

***Call to Worship**

Leader: On the day of Pentecost,
the people gathered in Jerusalem
to bring an offering of thanksgiving to the Lord.

All: Give thanks to God, for all his gifts!

Leader: The Spirit descended upon Jesus’ followers,
and they began to speak in tongues.

All: We will lift up our voices and praise God’s name!

Leader: The Spirit, source of the first fruits,
gives life and is the promise of the life to come.

**All: Give thanks to the triune God,
for the promise of new life!**

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***Opening Song**

[“God Is Here”](#) Green

***God’s Greeting**

***Mutual Greeting**

***Song**

[“Breathe on Me, Breath of God”](#) (st. 1–3) Hatch

Call to Confession

On the day of Pentecost, Peter preached to the gathered crowds, proclaiming that Jesus, who they had killed, was the Messiah. Grieved by their sin, the people asked Peter, “What shall we do?”

Peter answered them, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the

Holy Spirit. This promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

—Acts 2:37–39, adapt. ^{NIV}

Let us repent of our own sins, our own refusal to acknowledge Christ as Lord and Savior, and ask for God’s forgiveness.

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Prayer of Confession

**Almighty God,
who sent the promised Holy Spirit to bring life and hope,
we confess that we do not always trust this promise.
Rather than rest in the assurance of our salvation,
we live in fear,
striving to uphold a law that is powerless to save.
Our striving causes us to boast
in our own power and righteousness,
and to live in vain comparison with others.
We forget that our salvation and our sanctification
are gifts from you.
Forgive us for our pride and lack of trust.
Help us live in gratitude and peace.
We pray this through Christ our Lord,
in the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

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Assurance of Pardon

There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

—Romans 8:1–2, 11 ^{NRSVUE}

All: Thanks be to God!

Offering

Song during offering

[“Spirit of the Living God”](#) (st. 1-2) ^{Iverson}

Time for Prayer

Bible Reading

Acts 2:1-41

Sermon

"The Gift of the Holy Spirit"

Prayer

****Song***

"[Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God](#)" Getty and Townend

****God's Blessing***

****Song***

"[God of Grace and God of Glory](#)" (st. 1, 3, 4) Fosdick

*If you are able please stand in body or spirit.