

peace be with you

weekly devotional

from the desk of Rev. Marta Wheeler
SAINT PAUL BENSON

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Pentecost is Coming!

Heightened awareness
of clutter and dust
that have gone unnoticed
far too long
draw attention to

cobwebs strung from blade
to blade of that ceiling
fan and sawdust grit
accumulated
on the tread of stairs.

With baked rhubarb crisp
fresh asparagus
brought in from the garden,
a flower
bouquet adds beauty.

Holy magnifying
lenses will help us
intensify caring
by being
our most presentable.

Continued

Acts 2:1-6

² When Pentecost Day arrived, they were all together in one place. ² Suddenly a sound from heaven like the howling of a fierce wind filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ They saw what seemed to be individual flames of fire alighting on each one of them. ⁴ They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them to speak.

⁵ There were pious Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶ When they heard this sound, a crowd gathered. They were mystified because everyone heard them speaking in their native languages.

Pentecost is Coming!

Continued

Will these preparations
make me ready for
the life-changing divine
guest whose entrance
is uncontrollable?

Prayers that the Spirit
of Pentecost will
clear the cobwebs and clutter
of my heart
and remind me whose I am.

All of God's children
are worthy of
being witnesses to
the glory
of Christ in our lives.

Pentecost is coming soon!

The Holy Spirit Speaks

The Day of Pentecost has affected me in different ways over my lifetime.

I don't remember the celebration at all when growing up in a congregation that might have been referred to as "frozen and chosen" in those days, although the music was outstanding!

It was later when the scriptures from Acts 2 began to seep into my soul and I realized the unpredictability of the Holy Spirit. There are times that God nudges us to be with those who are crying in grief, and other times to share joy in laughter.

Spanning the globe, the Spirit is poured out upon women, men, and children. Maybe your message was revealed in a dream or even a vision, and was an answer to prayer. In the gospel of John we learn:

8 God's Spirit blows wherever it wishes.

You hear its sound, but you don't know where it comes from or where it is going.

It's the same with everyone who is born of the Spirit.

The Holy Spirit does not wait for us to achieve perfection. She urges us to be in prayer and to action. Working within us, imbuing us with spiritual gifts, our lives flow on through the glory of God.

May the blessings of the Holy Spirit inspire you,

Marta

Rev. Marta Wheeler