

# The Coming of the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:1-8, 41

*Pentecost*

1 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.

2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.  
3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.  
4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.



5 Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. 6 When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his own language.

7 Utterly amazed, they asked: “Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans? 8 Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language?”

41 So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

He breathed on them and said,  
“Receive the Holy Spirit.” John 20:22

## **John 20:19-23**

### *Jesus Gives the Holy Spirit*

**19** On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors 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 side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

**21** Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.”

**22** And with that He breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. **23** If you forgive anyone His sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

### **Explanation to the Third Article of the Apostles Creed**

**I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.**

*(Taken from Luther's Small Catechism)*

## A Closer Look - The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity, brings us to faith in Christ, shows us all the treasures of salvation, and keeps firmly us in the faith.

**1. The Holy Spirit has been with those that love God since time began.**

**a. How was the Holy Spirit present at creation?** ~ *In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Genesis 1:1-2*

**b. Tell how the Holy Spirit guided the children of Israel as they traveled in the desert.** ~ *And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night. Exodus 13:21*

*Where is He who put in the midst of them His Holy Spirit, 12 who caused His glorious arm to go at the right hand of Moses, who divided the waters before them to make for Himself an everlasting name, 13 who led them through the depths? Like a horse in the desert, they did not stumble. 14 Like livestock that go down into the valley, the Spirit of the Lord gave them rest. So You led your people, to make for Yourself a glorious name. Isaiah 63:11-14*

**2. How did the Holy Spirit appear when Jesus was baptized?**

~ *The heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on Him. Matthew 3:16*

**3. Just after His resurrection, Jesus came to His disciples as they gathered behind locked doors. What power did He give to the disciples through the Holy Spirit? Does He give us this power too?** ~ *“Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, even so I am sending you.” 22 And 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 withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.” John 20:21-23*

- 4. When Jesus ascended into Heaven, He spoke again of the power of the Holy Spirit. What power would be given to all believers at Pentecost?** ~ *“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” Acts 1:8*
- 5. The Holy Spirit is God’s presence in our lives.**
- a. The Holy Spirit calls me by the Gospel. What roll does He play in our salvation?** ~ *In Him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in Him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of His glory. Ephesians 1:13-14*
- b. He enlightened me with His gifts. What are the fruits of the Spirit?** ~ *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23*
- c. To sanctify means to make holy. How does the Holy Spirit sanctify me and keep me in the faith?** ~ *Sanctify them in the truth; Your Word is truth. John 17:17*
- 6. How do we receive the Holy Spirit?** ~ *And Peter said to 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.” Acts 2:38*