

Acts of the Apostles 2:14-21

For today's prayer, we will read Acts of the Apostles, chapter 2, verses 14–21. Acts 2:14–21. We take time to enter a sacred time and space. We prepare ourselves in prayer to encounter the One who awaits us there. As usual, we take time to settle into our bodies, allowing ourselves to become attentive to the present moment. Through our breathing, each of us finds a way to enter the sanctuary of prayer. We seek to inhabit our bodies, temples of the Spirit.

Leaving behind the tensions of the day, work, and family life, we enter another time in which we are fully available. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Come, Holy Spirit. Come, Master of Prayer.

Lord, I ask for the grace that this may truly be a time of prayer. Teach me to pray. Teach me to descend into my heart, into that deepest point of my soul that can touch You through faith. Then Peter stood up with the Eleven.

And he addressed them: “You who are Jews, and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you and listen carefully to my words. These people are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. Rather, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: In the last days, says God, I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh.”

“Your sons and daughters shall prophesy. Your young men shall see visions and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they shall prophesy. I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below: blood, fire, and clouds of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness and the moon into blood.”

“Then everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Peter has just experienced Pentecost with the apostles, yet many people think they are drunk with wine.

“You Jews and all who dwell in Jerusalem, understand this and listen carefully. These people are not drunk as you suppose; it is only nine in the morning. What is happening was foretold by the prophet Joel.”

God acts through the sending of His Holy Spirit. It is such a divine event that it disturbs and transforms everything. These people are filled with such overwhelming joy that they appear intoxicated. Their joy overflows to the point that it resembles drunkenness.

Something happened on the day of Pentecost—the Pentecost that is the source of all Pentecosts we have discussed in this outpouring experience. There is something so overflowing and abundant that it can appear startling.

This is God's intervention, which Peter understands as the fulfillment of Joel's prophecy: "In the last days, says God, I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh."

In these days of God's decisive intervention, when He has accomplished everything and bestowed every gift, He gives His Spirit, poured out upon all humanity.

This Spirit brings such an abundance of joy and life that people begin to dance in surprising ways. They are seized by an extraordinary joy and a remarkable freedom.

Jesus, whom people had put to death, has risen. When this good news touches their hearts and minds, it is so astonishing that they begin to dance.

When I have accomplished all things, I will pour out my Spirit—a Spirit of freedom, joy, and life—upon all people.

I want them to see and perceive, through images, visions, dreams, and every kind of manifestation of the Spirit, the immensity of My love.

Everyone will be touched by this light, by the joyful beauty of God's plan for humanity.

The manifestations of My Spirit will be many, so that they may taste My wisdom, My love, and My tenderness. Even upon My servants, men and women alike, I will pour out My Spirit.

They will prophesy; they will overflow through their words, their art, and their dance. They will allow the inner light that has brought them such joy to overflow.

It will be like a new Sinai, a new and great manifestation of God to His people.

These images show that God will act in countless ways that should not be controlled. Thank You, Lord, for continuing to act in our own time.

Let us now take time, in the silence of our hearts, to let this living Word resonate within us.

Lord, I too want to drink this good wine that intoxicates with the Holy Spirit. Lord, come and shake up my patterns, my expectations, and my prejudices.

May each person allow a personal prayer to rise from the heart, so that the Lord may renew this Pentecost within us as He prepares us for our own personal Pentecost.

Period of silence....

Thank You, Lord, for Your word, which opens new paths.
I surrender my heart to You, Lord. I entrust my journey and this entire week to You, that I may place no resistance to Your work within me.
Come, Holy Spirit.
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is...