

### Prayer

Dear Holy Spirit, may I be humble enough to accept what you want.

...

*(We may want to pray in line with Jesus' words about the Holy Spirit ...)*

Thank You Father that You gave us another helper (like Jesus), to be with us forever.  
(John 14:16)

Thank You, Spirit of truth, that You dwell with us, and are **in** us. (John 14:17)

Dear Holy Spirit, please teach us, and remind us of what Jesus has said. (John 14:26)

Thank You Jesus that You sent the Spirit of truth to us from the Father. (John 15:26)

Dear Holy Spirit, please testify on Jesus' behalf.  
(John 15:26)

Dear Spirit of truth, please guide us into all truth. Please declare to us the things that are to come.  
(John 16:13) Please glorify Jesus, take what belongs to Jesus and declare it to us.  
(John 16:14)

### Bible Reading

*When they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness.*

(Acts 4:31)

### Hymn

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;  
wean it from earth; through all its pulsing move;  
stoop to my weakness, mighty as you are,  
and make me love you as I ought to love.

George Croly 1780-1860

### Blessing

*The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you. (2 Corinthians 13:13)*



# Pentecost

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**Caraway**  
Spiritually Resourcing the Older Person

### Introductory sentence

*I will pour out my spirit on all flesh;  
your sons and your daughters shall prophesy.*  
(Joel 2:28)

### Prayer

(Excerpts from Veni Sancte Spiritus)

Come, Holy Spirit,  
And send forth from Heaven  
A ray of Thy light.

...

Cleanse what is dirty,  
Water what is parched,  
Heal what is wounded.

...

Bend what is rigid,  
Warm up what is frozen,  
Straighten out what is crooked.

### Bible Readings

Jesus to the disciples: *"When the Spirit of truth comes [...] He will glorify me."*  
(John 16:13,14)

Jesus to the disciples: *"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."* (Acts 1:8)

*When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.*  
(Acts 2:1-4)

*'Many of those who heard the word believed.'*  
(Acts 4:4)

*'The Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to the Ethiopian's chariot and join it."' (Acts 8:29)*

### Hymn

Come, Holy Spirit, heav'nly Dove,  
with all Thy quick'ning pow'rs;  
kindle a flame of sacred love  
in these cold hearts of ours.

Awake our souls to joyful songs;  
let pure devotion rise,  
till praise employs our thankful tongues,  
and doubt forever dies.

Come, Holy Spirit, heav'nly Dove,  
with all Thy quick'ning pow'rs;  
come, shed abroad a Saviour's love,  
and that shall kindle ours.  
(Isaac Watts, 1707)

### Reflections

A few of the Jewish Prophets predicted a future in which God would pour out God's spirit abundantly on all people.

On more than one occasion, Jesus tells the disciples that "soon" ... "soon" the Spirit will come.

Then Jesus was executed ... but three days later, stood up from the dead! Fifty days after the Jewish festival of Passover, the Jesus-followers were gathered together and the Spirit actually came.

Over the next decades the early church noticed that the normal (but not exclusive) pattern was that new believers received the Spirit at baptism.

The Spirit did exactly what Jesus had predicted: Pointed approvingly to Jesus, and helped the church (gave it power) to tell the world about Jesus. And many who heard, believed.

Today, we still need the Spirit's help (and encouragement, and guidance, and power, and insight, and joy, and friendship) to know Jesus and to share Jesus with our communities.

Without the help of the Holy Spirit it is all about us: all about our ability to remember, to argue, to come up with a plan. I too often fall into that treacly trap.