

Today we celebrate the feast of Pentecost – the coming of the gift of the Holy Spirit - a gift to the Church, a gift to every believer. It is the end of the Easter Season but the beginning of new life for the church.

Speaking of the Spirit is not easy. We see in the Scriptures what the Spirit does – transforming frightened followers of Jesus into self assured preachers and witnesses to the life of Christ. And so it is for us today – to celebrate and to claim.

For we know those moments in our lives when fear turns into surety, chaos into order, confusion into clarity – if only for a moment – a life giving moment.

Or when we know peace *in the midst* of pain, patience *in the midst of* unrest, kindness *in the midst* of hurt, faithfulness *in the face* of betrayal, gentleness *in the face* of aggression....

We know too those times when we have reached out beyond our comfort level and into the lives of those most in need, those in our own backyards or half a world away.

The Spirit is indefinable and mysterious. We know the Spirit by her powerful effects. Today may we as a community of faith be a sign of this dynamic Spirit alive and at work in each one of us, for our world and for our church.