

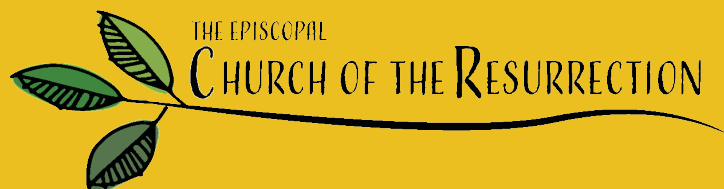


DAY OF PENTECOST

HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

JUNE 8, 2025

10:00 AM



917 Pond Road, Loudon, TN 37774
865-986-2390

www.episcopalloudon.com
#episcopalloudon



GOOD MORNING!

GLORIFYING GOD BY

REFRESHING SOULS | BRIDGING COMMUNITIES | ENGAGING PEOPLE IN SERVICE

We're so glad you chose to be here at Resurrection today.

Whether you're here for the first time, or are a life-long member, Resurrection is a hopeful, healing, transformation-minded kind of place, a place where everyone is welcome and can grow their relationship with God and with one another.

If you are here for the *first time* (or if you just haven't gotten around to it yet), please fill out a pew card and put it in the offering plate to let us know you were here. To receive our weekly email bulletin, be sure to include your email address. And let us know if you would like to connect with our parish life and ministries; we're happy to help you find your spot!

Our services follow *The Book of Common Prayer*, the red book in your pew rack. If you'd like to use the book to follow the service, we begin on page 355. Unless otherwise marked, our hymns are from the *Hymnal 1982*, the blue books in the pew rack. A Hymn noted "S-xxx" is part of the service music, found at the front of the hymnal, appearing before the regular congregational hymns begin. For example, S-278 is found before hymn 1.

To learn more about Resurrection, check out www.episcopalloudon.com, email us at office@episcopalloudon.com, or find us on Facebook or Instagram.

Fill out a pew card or email office@episcopalloudon.com to be placed on on the weekly email, *Parish Tidings*, for the latest information from Resurrection.

If you can't make it here in person, join us at 10:30, live on Facebook:
facebook.com/episcopalloudon.



Holy Eucharist, Rite II

The Word of God

Prelude

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (by O. Holden & J. Perronet)

Entrance Hymn

All my hope on God is founded

Hymnal 665

All standing

BCP 355

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Celebrant Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your people
All **and kindle in us the fire of your love.**

Celebrant Renew the face of your creation, Lord,
pouring on us the gifts of your Spirit,
All **Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your people
and kindle in us the fire of your love.**

All **Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and
from you no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by
the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The Gloria *(spoken)*

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

For you alone are the Holy One,

**you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

BCP 227

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who on this day taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: Grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Lesson: Genesis 11:1-9

Lector A reading from the Book of Genesis.

Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. And as they migrated from the east, they came upon a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar. Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves; otherwise we shall be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth." The Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which mortals had built. And the Lord said, "Look, they are one people, and they have all one language; and this is only the beginning of what they will do; nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. Come, let us go down, and confuse their language there, so that they will not understand one another's speech." So the Lord scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. Therefore it was called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth; and from there the Lord scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 104:25-35, 37

BCP 736

Lector We will read the Psalm responsively by half verse.

- 25 O LORD, how manifold are your works! *
in wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.
- 26 Yonder is the great and wide sea with its living things too many to number, *
creatures both small and great.
- 27 There move the ships, and there is that Leviathan, *
which you have made for the sport of it.
- 28 All of them look to you *
to give them their food in due season.
- 29 You give it to them; they gather it; *
you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.
- 30 You hide your face, and they are terrified; *
you take away their breath, and they die and return to their dust.
- 31 You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; *
and so you renew the face of the earth.
- 32 May the glory of the LORD endure for ever; *
may the Lord rejoice in all his works.
- 33 He looks at the earth and it trembles; *
he touches the mountains and they smoke.
- 34 I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; *
I will praise my God while I have my being.
- 35 May these words of mine please him; *
I will rejoice in the LORD.
- 37 Bless the LORD, O my soul. *
Hallelujah!

The Second Lesson: Acts 2:1-21

Lector A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When the day of Pentecost had come, the disciples 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.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each

of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

‘In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.

Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.

And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.

Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’ “

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

I heard the voice of Jesus say (verses 1-2)

Hymnal 692

All stand

The Gospel Lesson: John 14:8-17, 25-27

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Philip said to Jesus, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me?

Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you."

"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sequence Hymn

I heard the voice of Jesus say (verse 3)

Hymnal 692

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Rebecca Bridges

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation**

he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People, Form II

BCP 385

*Please assume a posture of prayer, whether standing, sitting, or kneeling as able.
Please add those intercessions and thanksgivings on your heart, silently or
aloud, at the appropriate points in the prayers.*

Lector:

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Presiding Bishop,
Sean and our Diocesan Bishop Brian; for this gathering; and for all ministers and
people.

Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations;
and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in
prison, especially **Rosemary O., the LaPointe family; Shelly; Brian; Anita; Tenia;
David and Pam; Kathleen; Jim; Kelly; Daphne; Jenon; Aaron; Sarah; Killian; and
all your children who suffer the effects of war, oppression, or natural disasters.**

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.
Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed, especially Barbara Albrecht, sister of Ben.
Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Members of the congregation may ask the prayers or the thanksgivings of those present.

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.
Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

Celebrant

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

BCP 359

Please note: Continuing in a posture of prayer we will hold a moment of silence for individual, silent confessions before the priest leads us into the words of confession.

Celebrant

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Celebrant and People

Most merciful God,
**we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Celebrant

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

BCP 360

Standing as you are able.

Celebrant God has made us one in Christ, set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come, has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia. May the peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us show one another a sign of God's peace.

The Holy Communion

Celebrant Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2a*

Offertory Anthem *(sung by the choir)*

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases

WLP 755

The Celebrant invites the people's offerings.

Doxology *(sung)*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

1 Chronicles 29:14

Celebrant For all things come from you, O Lord;
People **and of your own have we given you.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Sursum Corda *(sung)*

Hymnal S-120

Celebrant The Lord be with you,

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Eucharistic Prayer for the Feast of Pentecost

From Eucharistic Prayers by Samuel Wells and Abigail Kocher, Eerdmans 2016.

Used with permission of the authors; use approved by the Bishop of the Diocese of East Tennessee.

Celebrant

God of surprises, your Spirit brooded over the waters at creation and lived among your chosen people in wilderness, exile, and promised land. Your Spirit filled Mary's womb at the moment of Jesus' conception and came upon him like a dove at his baptism. When Christ died on the cross your power raised him from the tomb on the third day, and that same evening he breathed your forgiving grace on those who had deserted him.

On the day of Pentecost you sent your Spirit upon the fearful disciples, filling them with fire, with power, with wonder and joy, and making them your church. And so we gladly thank you, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending praise.

Sanctus *(spoken)*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

Celebrant

God of comfort and strength, we look to your Holy Spirit to be with us in sorrow and in contentment, in crisis and in abiding stillness. Come among us now through the power of your Spirit, that we may be transformed into your image, and that these gifts of bread and wine may become for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ, who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died.

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant

God of dreams and prophecy, send down upon us your gifts of wisdom, knowledge, and faith; of healing, discernment, and interpretation, that your church may be built up in the likeness of your Son. Let anyone who is hungry find in you the bread of life, and anyone who is thirsty find in your rivers of living water. Speak your word to

all who are alone and in fear or despair, and let each one of your children hear your voice in their own language, whether that language be art or science, work or play. Sanctify your groaning creation, that your universe may breathe your breath and be filled with your life anew, that we may love what you love, and do what you would do, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, ever one God. **AMEN.** (*spoken*)

And now, as our Savior
Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread..
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread and a period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia, Christ, our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Hymn (*spoken*)

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
Grant us peace.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

We encourage you to come forward to receive Holy Communion as you feel comfortable. Remain seated, until the usher directs you forward to the communion

rail. After receiving communion, return to your seat by the side aisle. so that traffic flows one way.

If you would prefer communion be brought to you at your seat, please let an usher know and, as always, we will be happy to do so. If you prefer not to receive communion, please cross your arms over your chest as a sign that you prefer a blessing.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

*The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen.***

*The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **Amen.***

Communion Hymn

Breathe on me, Breath of God

Hymnal 508

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Announcements | Blessings of Birthdays and Anniversaries

The Blessing

Post communion Hymn

Come down, O love divine

Hymnal 516

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of the risen Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude

All Glory be to God on High (by Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau)

Parish Announcements, Prayers, & Thanksgivings

**Flowers today are given to the Glory of God
and in memory of Charlie Stahr
on his birthday
by *Beth Stahr***

Our Pentecost Parish Celebration is today,
beginning with worship, continuing afterward to
a luncheon in the Parish Hall. The suggested \$15
donation per person benefits our Friendship Kitchen
ministry, all are welcome to join us (with any level of
donation - or none.)

Special thanks to Diane and Cal Van Koughnett, and
to their many helpers who made today's luncheon
possible. Thanks to all of you for supporting the
ministry of the Friendship Kitchen.

ECW outing on Thursday, June 12!

ECW will meet for **lunch at 11:00 a.m.** at the
Carmichael Inn, then go to STAR (Shangri-La
Therapeutic Academy of Riding) for a tour. Sign up in
the Parish Hall if you plan to join us for lunch, or go
directly to **STAR at 12:30 p.m.** (11800 Highway 11E,
Lenoir City).

Resurrection Men and all members of Resurrection
are welcome to join us for the presentation and tour
at STAR at 12:30. Please contact Kathy Pittman (865-
585-2942) if you have any questions.

Resurrection Men will meet on Saturday, June 21.

Our last Men's Group meeting before a summer break
will be on Saturday, June 21 at 9 a.m. in the Parish
Hall. As always, a light breakfast will be served, and
a lively discussion will be had. We will be discussing
Lesson 12 (Rewards of Faithfulness) of the book Life
Lessons from Daniel and Esther.

Please note:

**Regular church office hours are weekdays
10am-2 pm, EXCEPT for Thursdays.**

Our Parish Prayer List

Rosemary O., the LaPointe family; Shelly;
Brian; Anita; David & Pam; Kathleen; Jim;
Kelly; Daphne; Jenon; Aaron; Sarah; Killian

Continuing Prayers for:

the Hentchel family; Pat; Claire; Sandy;
Rob & Sherry; Cheri; Jane; Shannon; Jim; Mel;
Wayne; Diana N.; Jack; Ashley; Raynella; Ed & Jean;
Kim E.; Joe; Beverly; Grace; Virginia; Betty Anne;
Janey; Johnny; and Karen H.

and for our Vestry leaders:

Class of 2025: Lisa A., Donna B., Diane V.K.
Class of 2026: Drew H., Dawson H., Jenny L.
Class of 2027: Bev B., Karen B., Mark H.
Officers: Jenny L., Diane V.K., Dawson H., Sally L.

Also the Diocesan Prayer List:

St. Timothy's, Signal Mountain, TN
St. Timothy's Preschool, Signal Mountain, TN
Holy Apostles, Sioux Falls, SD

June Birthdays & Anniversaries

| | |
|---------|-----------------------|
| June 2 | Holly Pate |
| June 7 | Holly & David Pate |
| June 8 | Kim Strong |
| June 10 | Judy Egan |
| June 10 | Peggy Rogers |
| June 12 | Drew Hawley |
| June 12 | Bonnie & Mark Smith |
| June 13 | Beth Stahr |
| June 15 | Beverly & Bob Cantine |
| June 15 | Kathy Pittman |
| June 16 | Kim & Marc Strong |
| June 19 | Judy Moyer |
| June 21 | Keith Binkley |
| June 24 | Tony Adams |
| June 25 | Kathleen Bailey |
| June 25 | Donna & Carl Bye |
| June 27 | Danielle Ledyard |

For Your Calendars

THIS WEEK

June 8 - 10:00 am - One combined service followed by Parish Luncheon

| | | | |
|-------------|---------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| Acolyte | Monty Ross | Altar Guild: | Judy Egan & Janey Coombes |
| EM | Holly Pate | Flower Guild: | Dianna Stimpson |
| Lectors | Andrew Wilkinson & Jerry Ploger | Organist: | Judy Moyer |
| Ushers | Garry Lucas & Betsy Schwindt | Celebrant & | |
| Chancellor | Art Stewart | Preacher: | Rebecca Bridges |
| Coffee Hour | N/A Parish Luncheon | | Monday Volunteer (6/9) |
| Video | Mark Blakley | | Donna Bye |
| Counters | Nelda Griffith & Jean Cardwell | | |

NEXT WEEK

| June 15 | 8:00 am | 10:30 am | |
|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Acolyte | Judy Hadjian | Dawson Hope | Altar Guild: Janey Coombes & Judy Egan |
| EM | Jack Lefler | Bonnie Smith | Flower Guild: Betty Martin |
| Lectors | Mark Hennes & Holly Pate | Dawson Hope & Keytha Graves | Organist: Judy Moyer |
| Ushers | Andrew Wilkinson | Monty Ross & Jan Hanna | Celebrant & |
| Chancellor | Carl Bye | David Baumgardner | Preacher: Rev. Rebecca Bridges- |
| Coffee Hour | Erlys Ploeger | Jackie Buttinelli | Monday Volunteer (6/16) |
| Video | n/a | Ann Murphy | Mark Hennes |
| Counters | n/a | Jenny Lucas & Carolyn Parker | |

Next Week at Resurrection

Monday, June 9
7:00 p.m. - AA (open meeting)

Thursday, June 12
11:30 a.m. ECW luncheon
12:30 p.m. ECW outing to STAR
Everyone is welcome!

Friday, June 13
All day Kitts decorating (Parish Hall)

Saturday, June 14
All day Kitts Private event (Parish Hall)

Sunday, June 15
8:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist, spoken, Rite II
10:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist, choral, Rite II
Celebrant: Rev. Rebecca Bridges

COMING UP ...

Thursday, June 19
Prayers and Squares

Saturday, June 21
Resurrection Men

Sunday, June 22
Holy Eucharist, spoken, Rite II
Holy Eucharist, choral, Rite II
4 Paws Collection Sunday

**Check your Parish Tidings
for upcoming details!**

Contact our priest, the Rev. Dr. Rebecca Bridges,
at this email: rector@episcopalloudon.com.

Email office@episcopalloudon.com to have your
ministry or committee's activities or meetings
added to the parish calendar.



TODAY'S ART

Pentecost, 1997

Sawai Chinnawong, Thai painter, 1959-

Acrylic on canvas

Public domain

The work of Thai artist Sawai Chinnawong gives a glimpse into the renewing presence of the Holy Spirit in other settings around the globe. In his painting Pentecost, Chinnawong depicts Acts 2:1–4. On the Jewish day of Pentecost all of Jesus' disciples are gathered in one place when a sound like a violent wind fills the house, and "they saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to

rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them" (Acts 2:3–4, NIV).

Although many artists have depicted this event, Chinnawong does so in surprising ways. He situates the Pentecost event within the traditions of Buddhist painting. The bright red and gold colors, along with the triple-peaked blue sawtooth *sinthao* line at the top of the image, identify a holy space. In Thai painting it is common to see the Buddha seated in the center of this space, often with his head surrounded by a stylized flame similar to the one filling the center of Pentecost. But where one might expect to find the singular figure of Buddha, instead one sees a community organized around a massive holy fire that is repeated in the small tongues of fire burning above each of the disciples' heads. The Holy Spirit fills the space and the disciples, burning intensely but not as a consuming fire.

Paintings of this subject traditionally associate the tongues of fire with the tops of the disciples' heads. Chinnawong borrows this convention but seems to emphasize that the outpouring of the Spirit is filling the disciples, enlivening their minds and their bodies. They gesture and "speak" (speech is conveyed in painting by bodily motion more than by open mouths) with a joy that is striking in its individuality and its commonality: their speech is an array of colorful patterns and gestures all vitalized and unified by the Spirit.

Chinnawong's painting leads us to reflect and reconsider the implications of this outpouring as it relates to the global dynamics of Christian thought and practice. It is the Holy Spirit that propels Christ's witnesses to the ends of the earth, and it is through the Spirit that people encounter God existentially and historically. Christian theology also ought to have such a starting point and acknowledge that it is the Holy Spirit that makes our encounters with God possible. Renewal movements realign traditional theological approaches by bringing the person and work of the Spirit into the foreground and reminding us that the Son and the Father come into focus through the Spirit.

Sawai Chinnawong is an ethnic Mon who was born in Burma and raised in Thailand in a Theravada Buddhist home. After losing both parents he moved to Bangkok to live with two older sisters. He decided to study art, and during his time as a student he became deeply curious about a Christian community located near his house. At age 23 he was baptized into the Christian church. For more than two decades he has devoted his artistic practice to painting biblical (or theological) images, while acknowledging and embracing his own cultural context. As Chinnawong says:

I believe Jesus Christ is present in every culture, and I have chosen to celebrate his presence in our lives through Thai traditional cultural forms. . . . My belief is that Jesus did not choose just one people to hear his Word but chose to make his home in every human heart. And just as his Word may be spoken in every language, so the visual message can be shared in the beauty of the many styles of artistry around the world. (ArtWay.com)

Excerpted from "Painting Pentecost," Amos Yong and Jonathan A. Anderson, The Christian Century, 28 May 2014.

<https://www.christiancentury.org/article/2014-05/painting-pentecost>

Adapted from their book, Renewing Christian Theology: Systematics for a Global Christianity (Baylor University Press).