

Rhythms of Grace • Pentecost Year 2

Theme: Pentecost- The Season of the Holy Spirit and her gifts

Scripture: Acts 2:1-11, Ephesians 4: 11-12 I Corinthians 12: 4-12

Date: _____

Location: _____

Volunteer Roles:

Facilitator _____

Storyteller _____

Celebrant _____

Center Leader _____

Guide _____

Items needed for this Session

Gathering: large roll of kraft paper (wide enough to do whole-body tracing), markers, scissors

Storytelling: cut out shapes of participant's bodies on kraft paper, several 5" construction paper stars (3 or 4 per child), markers

Response Activities:

Feathery Doves- cardstock dove shapes (see resources), white feathers (available in craft stores), white glue

Wind Instruments- a collection of recorders, Irish penny whistles, kazoos, flutes and sanitary wipes

Acrostic Poems- paper, markers

Wind Socks- construction paper, hole punch, stickers, markers, yarn, colored ribbon for streamers

Regathering: recording of the Spiritual "Evr'y time I feel the Spirit," (Lift Every Voice and Sing hymnal #114 and several recordings available on Youtube.com and i-tunes) rhythm instruments, elements for the Eucharistic table (see Eucharist-Book 1)

Eucharist: Eucharistic Prayer (see Book 1 p. 100), *Gather our Hearts* song lyrics (see book 1 p. 99), Bible, Jesus doll, altar table, and elements (pita bread/rice crackers, juice, chalice, paten, purificator, corporal altar cloth)

Dismissal: *Jesus Loves Me* song lyrics (see Book 1 p. 99)

Session Plan • Pentecost Yr. 2

Gathering: As participants arrive, they are encouraged to make a whole-body tracing of themselves on kraft paper, cut it out and decorate it, drawing facial features, clothing, and adding their name. Then, post the bodies near the storytelling area. (for those who will not feel comfortable doing this, have some “blanks” prepared that can be used.)

Storytelling: Jesus doll, Bible, a telling of the Pentecost story and the gifts of the Holy Spirit including dialogue with the participants and adding their gifts to the whole-body cut outs.

Response Activities:

Feathery Doves : Create another image of the Holy Spirit gluing white feathers to cardstock dove cut outs. Recall other places in the Bible (Jesus’ baptism) where the Holy Spirit arrives in the form of a dove.

Wind Instruments: Provide a variety of inexpensive wind instruments (plastic recorders, penny whistles, slide flutes, etc.) for the children to play with. Wipe each piece with a sanitizing wipe between uses to keep instruments germ-free!

Acrostic Poem: Write the name of the participant on a sheet of paper with the letters of the name running down the side of the page. Add words that begin with the first letter of each letter in the person’s name and that describe an attribute of gift or that person.

Windsocks: Decorate an 8 ½ X 11” sheet of construction paper with stickers. Roll lengthwise into a column and staple or tape shut at the top and bottom. Punch a hole on two opposite sides at the top and thread a length of yarn through to hang the wind sock. If desired, add red and orange and yellow streamers to the bottom of the sock by taping them to the inside of the column.

Regathering: Gather in a circle and distribute percussion instruments. When the song “*Ev’ry Time I Feel the Spirit*” is played, march in a circle around and around for the choruses and stop and be silent for the verses. At the next chorus, march in the opposite direction, stopping again at the next verse. Repeat until the end of the song. Singing *Jesu, Jesu* participants bring Eucharistic elements to the Celebrant then sit in a circle around the Eucharistic table.

Eucharist: Sing: *Gather our hearts, Oh God*

Gather our hearts, oh God.
Gather our thoughts, oh God.
Bring us together around you.

Celebration of the Eucharist

Dismissal: All sing and sign Jesus Love Me.
Celebrant provides the blessing:

Celebrant: "Go in Peace to Love and Serve the Lord."

Participants: "Thanks be to God!"

Story Telling • Pentecost, The Season of the Holy Spirit and her Gifts Yr. 2

Place the Bible and Jesus doll by the Storyteller.

Have the construction paper stars and markers ready to write down each person's response to the gifts that they have.

Our story today is from our Bible (*show Bible*), our book that tells the stories of God and God's people, of Jesus (*show Jesus doll*), God's son, and of how much God loves us (*place hands over heart*).

This story is about a time after Jesus had gone to live with his Father in heaven. His friends missed him, but they remembered that he told them that he would send a special gift to comfort them and to give them strength. Jesus called this gift the Holy Spirit.

One day, sure enough, the disciples were all together and suddenly there was a huge wind. It was really loud. Let's see if we can make a loud wind noise together: (*all make a wind noise*)

The disciples were a little scared, but suddenly they found that they felt changed: the Holy Spirit had come and filled them with power and good things.

They began to see that each of them had gifts- abilities- things that they were really good at- that they could use to help build the Church and to carry on in Jesus' name.

One of them found that he was a good teacher. Another became very wise. Another spoke messages from God and still another found that he could heal people who were sick. The Holy Spirit filled Jesus' friends with abilities to make the world a better place.

All of YOU have special gifts that the Holy Spirit- God- has given you. What do we think those gifts might be? Usually, when we are good at something, it shows a gift, or talent, that we have.

What are you good at? What do you like to do? What gifts has God given you?

(Invite the children to share their gifts. Write these down on the construction paper stars and tape them inside each kraft paper cut-outs hanging on the wall)

(When all are finished the star, look at all the papers and proclaim:) We thank you, God, for our gifts, brought to us by your Holy Spirit.

Amen. *Continue by explaining the activities of the day.*