

Lectio DIVINA

Lectio Divina for the Pentecost Sunday

We begin our prayer:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Fulfill for us your gracious promise,
O Lord, we pray, so that by his coming
the Holy Spirit may make us witnesses
before the world
to the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

(Prayer after the Fourth Reading, Vigil
of Pentecost)

Reading (*Lectio*)

Read the following Scripture two or three times.

John 20:19-23

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

Meditation (*Meditatio*)

After the reading, take some time to reflect in silence on one or more of the following questions:

- What word or words in this passage caught your attention?
- What in this passage comforted you?
- What in this passage challenged you?

If practicing lectio divina as a family or in a group, after the reflection time, invite the participants to share their responses.

Contemplation (*Contemplatio*)

Read the scripture passage again, followed by this reflection:

How does this passage connect with the experience of your daily life?

Jesus came and stood in their midst. Where do I see Christ present in my day? In whom do I feel the presence of Christ?

As the Father has sent me, so I send you. Where is God sending me? What can I do this week to discern and carry out God's will?

He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit." How does the Holy Spirit inspire ("breathe in") my life? What gifts do I need from the Holy Spirit to be a better disciple?

Prayer (*Oratio*)

Read the scripture passage one more time. Bring to the Lord the praise, petition, or thanksgiving that the Word inspires in you.

After all have had a chance to make their prayer, all recite the Lord's Prayer and the following:

Closing Prayer:

Send forth your spirit, they are created
and you renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the LORD endure forever;
may the LORD be glad in his works!
Who looks at the earth and it trembles,
touches the mountains and they smoke!
I will sing to the LORD all my life;
I will sing praise to my God while I live.
May my meditation be pleasing to him;
I will rejoice in the LORD.

(Psalm 104:30-34)

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