

### Sentence of Scripture

God's love has been poured into our hearts  
by the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Romans 5.5

### Prayer of the day

O God,  
who in smoke and fire upon Mount Sinai gave the law to Moses,  
and who revealed the new covenant in the fire of the Spirit:  
grant, we pray, that, kindled by that same Spirit  
which you poured forth upon your apostles,  
we may fulfil with joy your commandment of love.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### Readings

#### Genesis 11:1–9

Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. <sup>2</sup>And as they migrated from the east, they came upon a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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." <sup>5</sup>The LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which mortals had built. <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>Come, let us go down, and confuse their language there, so that they will not understand one another's speech." <sup>8</sup>So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. <sup>9</sup>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. (NRSV)

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

#### Psalm 104:26–36

<sup>26</sup> Lord, how various are your works:

**in wisdom you have made them all,  
and the earth is full of your creatures.**

<sup>27</sup> There is the wide, immeasurable sea:

**there move living things without number, great and small;**

<sup>28</sup> There go the ships, to and fro:

**and there is that Leviathan whom you formed to sport in the deep.**

<sup>29</sup> These all look to you:

**to give them their food in due season.**

<sup>30</sup> When you give it to them, they gather it:

**when you open your hand they are satisfied with good things.**

<sup>31</sup> When you hide your face, they are troubled:

**when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.**

<sup>32</sup> When you send forth your spirit they are created:

**and you renew the face of the earth.**

<sup>33</sup> May the glory of the Lord endure for ever:

**may the Lord rejoice in his works.**

<sup>34</sup> If he look upon the earth, it shall tremble:

**if he but touch the mountains, they shall smoke.**

<sup>35</sup> I will sing to the Lord as long as I live:

**I will praise my God while I have any being.**

<sup>36</sup> May my meditation be pleasing to him:

**for my joy shall be in the Lord.**

### **Acts 2.1–21**

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. <sup>5</sup> Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup> Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?” <sup>8</sup> And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup> Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” <sup>12</sup> All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” <sup>13</sup> But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

(cont)

<sup>14</sup> 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. <sup>15</sup> Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup> No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: <sup>17</sup> ‘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. <sup>18</sup> Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. <sup>19</sup> And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. <sup>20</sup> The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.

<sup>21</sup> Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

(NRSV)

### **John 14:8–17**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to . . .

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

<sup>8</sup> Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” <sup>9</sup> 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’? <sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

<sup>15</sup> “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever.

<sup>17</sup> 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.

(NRSV)

This is the Gospel of our Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**