



FAITHFUL LIGHT CHURCH
Pastors: *Dennis & Diane Gordon*
HOLY DAYS #6 PENTECOST



GROUP SCRIPTURE READING:

Isaiah 32:13-15 “Upon the land of my people shall come up thorns and briers; yea, upon all the houses of joy in the joyous city: ¹⁴ because the palaces shall be forsaken; the multitude of the city shall be left; the forts and towers shall be for dens for ever, a joy of wild asses, a pasture of flocks; ¹⁵ **until the spirit be poured upon us from on high**, and the wilderness be a fruitful field, and the fruitful field be counted for a forest.”

Joel 2:28-29 “And **it shall come to pass afterward**, that **I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh**; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: ²⁹ ... in those days will I pour out my spirit.”

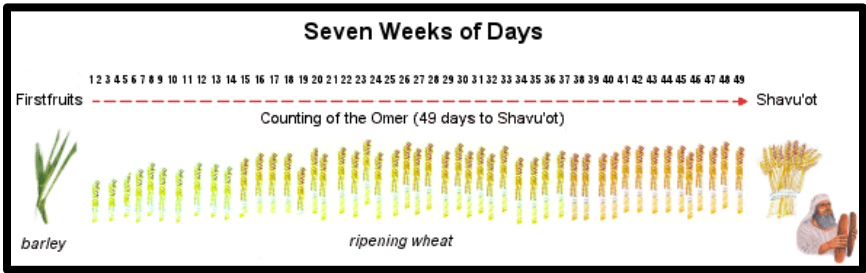
1. INTRODUCTION: The Feast of Pentecost is when the ,promise of God, to pour out His Spirit from on high upon the full count of His people Israel who had come to be saved, was fulfilled. Pentecost is the 50th day after Passover, counting to begin on Sunday after Passover, as in the year of our Lord’s crucifixion, 30 AD. All 12 tribes of Israel were gathered together in Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost, and God continues to pour out His Spirit upon us today!

ORDER OF SERVICE:

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| 1. Light Candles & Pray | 4. Dismiss Kids to Noah’s Ark with ‘Animals Go Marching Song’ | |
| 2. Children’s Songs & Story | 5. Adult Fellowship Break | 7. Bible Lesson & Group Prayer |
| 3. Intro Gospel Craft/Coloring | 6. Worship Song Set | 8. Blessing Songs & Benediction |

OBJECTS TO BRING: Fruit, Basket, Candy Fruit, Green Frosting, Paper Plates, Fuzzy Sticks

2. HOW ARE THE OMER AND PENTECOST RELATED?



“Counting the Omer” in Jewish homes, has been observed since the book of the law was given at Mt. Sinai, by counting the days from the Feast of Passover to Shavu'ot, the 50th day. In Christian churches the culmination of these 50 days is called “Pentecost”. The counting begins on the “1st Day” (Sunday) after the Passover to the 50th day, always a “1st Day”. Pentecost was not a new Sabbath but was and is one of seven Holy Days of God to be observed in addition to the weekly Sabbath Day. Jewish families celebrate the counting of the Omer from the day of the first cut barley until the 50th day, supposing it to commemorate when Moses received the Torah on Mt. Sanai. Churches of many denominations celebrate the fiftieth day from the Sunday after Passover to “Pentecost”, as the coming of the Holy Spirit to birth the church of Jesus Christ. with the fall harvest to be fulfilled at His coming.

Leviticus 23:15-16 “And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven sabbaths shall be complete; Even unto the morrow after the seventh sabbath shall ye number fifty days;”

Some assemblies of both Jewish and Christian faiths, have confused the Sabbath of Passover with the 7th Day Sabbath, but the Old Testament (Torah) makes it clear that the “1st Day” begins and ends this count after the 7th Day Sabbath, because this count is part of the God’s plan of salvation. All of God’s Holy Days are called His Sabbaths. The first Day of Firstfruits was fulfilled by Jesus, like the Wave Sheaf harvested in the end of the Sabbath that also begins the 1st Day, when Jesus rose up to Heaven, then the Firstfruits Spring harvest of the church was later fulfilled by Jews believing in Christ.

3. MEANING OF THE FULL COUNT OF PENTECOST

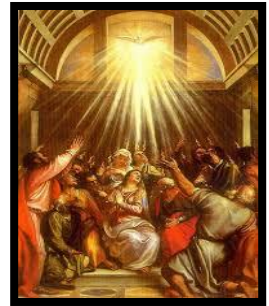


The Church of God called Israel before the birth of Jesus Christ, brought not only the first harvest of Barley into the tabernacle of God, but they brought baskets of fruit. The full counting of the Omer and bringing baskets filled with fruit, is symbolic of the full harvest of souls being gathered, “whosoever will”, to come in to the Tabernacle with God.

The Spring Harvest was of the full Omer or full count, of Israel who received the Messiah, who were sealed by the Holy Spirit, and called up to Heaven to consummate of God’s covenant with the Nation of Israel, in the end of their generation, 70 AD. The Fall Harvest shall be the full count of believing Jews and Gentiles grafted in to the vine of Israel, sealed with God’s Holy Spirit, the promise of power from on high, and rising up to heaven in the first resurrection.

*Luke 24:48 “And, behold, **I send the promise of my Father** upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.”*

*Acts 12:16-18 “But **this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;**¹⁷ And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, **I will pour out of 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;**¹⁸ and on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.”*



These two harvests, the Spring Harvest of Israel who received the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, and the Fall Harvest of Jews and Gentiles grafted in - the Omer fully counted! When the full count has come in, the Fall Harvest will also be lifted up to heaven with Jesus!

4. PENTECOST IN THE TORAH IS NOT THE GIVING OF THE LAW, BUT IS THE POURING OUT OF GOD’S SPIRIT

*Joel 2:28-29 “And it shall come to pass afterward, that **I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh**; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: ²⁹ and also upon the servants and upon the handmaids **in those days will I pour out my spirit.**”*

Was the gift of Pentecost speaking in tongues? No, the gift of



Pentecost was the power of the Holy Spirit of God coming upon God’s people, enabling them to preach the Gospel in the (tongues) languages, of every nation of the Jews who had come to Jerusalem for the Feast of



First Fruits. The Jewish people today do not understand the richness of the whole picture that is found in the Old Testament, and the real fulfillment found in the New Testament. Searching the scriptures, we find that Pentecost is so much more than the giving of the Law.

PENTECOST is the fulfillment of the last of the Spring feasts of God that were commanded to be kept for all generations, both as memorials of, and shadows of God’s salvation yet to come. Isaiah prophesied of a time when God’s Spirit would be poured out so that God’s people would be fruitful! The Holy Spirit is represented by the dove upon which they place their hands! **Pentecost brought the promise and favor of the Father back upon His people.**

*Isaiah 32:13-15 “Upon the land of my people shall come up thorns and briers; yea, upon all the houses of joy in the joyous city: ¹⁴because the palaces shall be forsaken; the multitude of the city shall be left; the forts and towers shall be for dens for ever, ... ¹⁵**until the spirit be poured upon us from on high, and the wilderness be a fruitful field, and the fruitful field be counted for a forest.**”*

The harvest in the fields is ripe, and the workers few, will you go?

5. JESUS NAILED BLOOD ORDINANCES TO THE CROSS



Jesus came **not to abolish the law and the prophets, but to establish a new covenant in His own blood for the forgiveness of sins, fulfilling the requirement of blood to be shed for sin.** The new covenant replaced **the old covenant requiring the blood of animals** to be sacrificed continually, with **the blood of the Messiah shed once for all.** Changing from the blood of the Old Covenant to the blood of the New Covenant did not change who God is; the plan of redemption revealed in His feast days is the same.

***Romans 7:12-13** “Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, just, and good. ¹³ Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful.”*

The 613 laws of Moses were the schoolmaster which brought the people to understand that Jesus came to redeem them. **The penalties of death attached to breaking any of these 613 laws were against the people.** The ordinances requiring blood sacrifices were nailed to the cross because Jesus shed His own blood once for all, **leaving in place God’s wonderful plan of redemption which is revealed in the observance of His holy days.** The holy days, which times are figured from the appearance of the full moon, **are the Sabbath days that are shadows of God’s plan of redemption that is yet to unfold** on those days in the future. The Fall Feasts shall be fulfilled as surely as the Spring Feasts were fulfilled!

***Colossians 2:13-17** “And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; ¹⁴ **Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;** ¹⁵ And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it. ¹⁶ Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an **holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days;** ¹⁷ Which **ARE a shadow of things to come;** but the body is of Christ.”*

6. BELIEVERS IN CHRIST ARE THE 2 WAVE LOAVES

Leviticus 23:9-12 “And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, ¹⁰ Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then **ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest:** ¹¹ **and he shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the sabbath the priest shall wave it.** ¹² **And ye shall offer that day when ye wave the sheaf an he lamb without blemish of the first year for a burnt offering unto the LORD.**”

Besides the blood sacrifices pointing to Christ, **two loaves of leavened bread** representing Old and New Covenant believers were offered to God at the **Feast of Firstfruits**. These loaves were the first fruits of the wheat harvest from the field, **looking forward to our day**, representing purified believers in whom the leaven of sin has been deactivated.



Leviticus 23:17-20 “**Ye shall bring out of your habitations two wave loaves** of two tenth deals: they shall be of fine flour; they shall be baked with leaven; they are the **firstfruits** unto the LORD. 18: And ye shall offer with the bread seven lambs without blemish of the first year, and one young bullock, and two rams: they shall be for a burnt offering unto the LORD, with their meat offering, and their drink offerings, even an offering made by fire, of sweet savour unto the LORD. 19: Then ye shall sacrifice one kid of the goats for a sin offering, and two lambs of the first year for a sacrifice of peace offerings. 20: **And the priest shall wave them with the bread of the firstfruits for a wave offering before the LORD, with the two lambs:** they shall be holy to the LORD for the priest.”

Jesus fulfilled the offering of blood shed once for all; He was both the scapegoat who bore our sins outside the camp, and the Lamb who ascended to Heaven as the wave offering. Jesus is the Bread of Heaven, who gives us life, and makes us holy before God. **Believers are now a holy people, made righteous by faith in the LORD Jesus Christ**, and we wave ourselves before Him in worship, **dedicating ourselves solely for His purposes as did the priests!**

7. THE BASKET OF FRUIT IS THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

In addition to the blood sacrifices and loaves, individual Israelites were required to bring a **'basket of fruit'** to present before God.



Deuteronomy 26:1-3 “And it shall be, when thou art come in unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance, and possessest it, and dwellest therein; 2: That thou shalt take of the first of all the fruit of the earth, which thou shalt bring of thy land that the LORD thy God giveth thee, and shalt put it in a basket, and shalt go unto the place which the LORD thy God shall choose to place his name there. ³And thou shalt go unto the priest that shall be in those days, and say unto him, I profess this day unto the LORD thy God, that I am come unto the country which the LORD sware unto our fathers for to give us.”

Deuteronomy 26:4-11 “And the priest shall take the basket out of thine hand, and set it down before the altar of the LORD thy God. 5: And thou shalt speak and say before the LORD thy God..... And thou shalt set it before the LORD thy God, and worship before the LORD thy God: 11: And thou shalt rejoice in every good thing which the LORD thy God hath given unto thee, and unto thine house, thou, and the Levite, and the stranger that is among you.”

The basket of fruit was symbolic of the **spiritual fruit Israel’s God** would produce in the lives of His people **after He had rescued them from the slavery of sin**. The presentation of fruit **looks forward to our day when we present our fruit before the Lord**. He gives us grace and time to grow by drinking of the life-giving water of His word and Spirit, but if we do not, we will not bear fruit.

Luke 13: 6-9 “He spake also this parable; A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came and sought fruit thereon, and found none. 7: Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard, Behold, these three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and find none: cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground? 8: And he answering said unto him, Lord, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it: 9: And if it bear fruit, well: and if not, then after that thou shalt cut it down.”

8. JESUS CHRIST WAS THE FIRSTFRUIT OF THE DEAD, ISRAEL WAS THE FIRSTFRUIT CALLED THE SPRING HARVEST & WE SHALL RISE IN THE FALL HARVEST.

1 Corinthians 15:20 “But now is Christ risen from the dead and become the firstfruits of them that slept.”

Revelation 14:4 “These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.”

Believing Israel was first to be saved before the Gentiles - the only men ever alive upon the earth who were of the House of Israel, who also followed the Lamb where ever He went, were Jewish Christians belonging to both the old and new covenant churches. These two lampstands, also called the two prophets, gave their testimony before they were killed.

Revelation 11:7-12 “And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.”⁸ And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.⁹ And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves....¹¹ And after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them.¹² And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them.”

God consummated His covenant with these 144000 Jewish believers who were born again of the Holy Spirit. These were the First Fruit of Israel, whose dead bodies had lain in the streets of Jerusalem for 3 ½ years. Jesus called for these 144,000 to, “Come up here”. They rose to their feet, flesh came upon their bones, and they rose up to Heaven! This was not the resurrection to come but a calling up seen by all who trembled before God.

Matthew 23:37-38 “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!³⁸ Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.”

The old unbelieving House of Israel was left to them desolate in 70 AD, for their people were killed in the sieges that came upon Jerusalem because they would not come to be saved, and their Temple was destroyed.

9. PENTECOST, IS ABOUT SPIRITUAL FRUIT.

Galatians 5:22-23 “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, ²³ meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.”

If you produce such fruit you will be like Abraham who was called a friend of God. Flamboyant showy gifts can easily fool God’s people, but it is by Spiritual fruit that God knows His own, and shows us who is truly a prophet from God and who is false:



Matthew 7:15-20 “Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. 16: Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? 17: Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. 18: A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. 19: Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. 20: Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.”

Jesus died on the cross to save us from the wages of sin, to cleanse us and plant the seed of the Gospel in our hearts so that we might come alive in Him and bear much fruit!

Yes we are saved by grace, and Jesus gives us an abundance of His grace! Yet the scriptures tell us that God expects that we will grow up to bear good fruit, but just as we do not expect young children to produce babies, or young trees to produce fruit, so God gives us time to produce spiritual fruit.

- Jesus is looking for the fruit of His Spirit in our lives.
- God gives us spiritual gifts & we are not to quench the Holy Spirit.
- Evidence of the Holy Spirit is not tongues, but spiritual fruit.
- Without God’s fruit in our lives, any operation of gifts is false.
- If Jesus does not find Spiritual fruit produced in our lives, it could end in our being hewn down and cast into the fire!
- We are recognized by both believers and unbelievers, by our words and actions: We too are known by our Spiritual fruit.

10. FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS FROM LIVING WATER

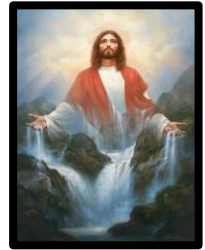


Jesus gives clear instruction for how to maintain an intimate and close relationship with Him. There is always enough of the Spirit that God promised to give, flowing from the River of Life, His Holy Spirit that Springs up from His presence in you. **Problems we face can**

become like a damn that holds back and hinders the flow of God's Spirit, like this damn built by beavers stops up the flow of the river. Jesus tells us how to maintain that abundant life.

John 7:38 "He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water."

The way we do or do not trust the Lord depends upon our surrendering to God and trusting the ability of His Holy Spirit to work in our lives. When we trust in ourselves rather than the Lord, we are like busy beavers building a dam, and our faith becomes dry because we stopped the flow of living water. The disciples were instructed to sit and wait for the Spirit to come, completely surrendered to Him!



Acts 2:2-3 "And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. ³ And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them."

If we are living close to Jesus, sitting and waiting in His presence and getting the dam of our own self-reliance out of the way, then the Holy Spirit will continually fill us. If we begin to forget the glory and importance of Christ in our lives, relying on our own resourcefulness, then our faith dwindles and becomes stagnant, until the Spirit of God no longer moves freely in our lives. Do not quench the Holy Spirit of God in your life, nor in your prayers, but completely surrender yourself to God praying in the Spirit, and with your understanding also, trusting the Spirit to give you what to say.

11. LET'S ALL ASK OURSELVES THESE QUESTIONS:

Am I producing good fruit?

Does living water flow from my belly like Jesus said?

Do I still produce some fruit that is not so good?

So yes, we all have need to tarry in the upper room of prayer!!

Psalm 1:1-4 "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. ² But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. ³ And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."

Tarrying in the upper room, is like planting ours elves firmly at Jesus' feet, so that the life-giving water of His word and His Spirit immerses us continually in His presence, so that the fruit of His Spirit is produced abundantly in our lives! These are the questions we address today on the **Feast of Firstfruits/Pentecost**. Oh, that we may be like the 120 in the upper room, daily purging ourselves of every wickedness, as we wait upon the Lord, so that He may continually fill us with the Spirit of His power from on high to be witnesses for Him to the uttermost parts of the earth! May we all be ready when Jesus comes!



LET'S PRAY TOGETHER:

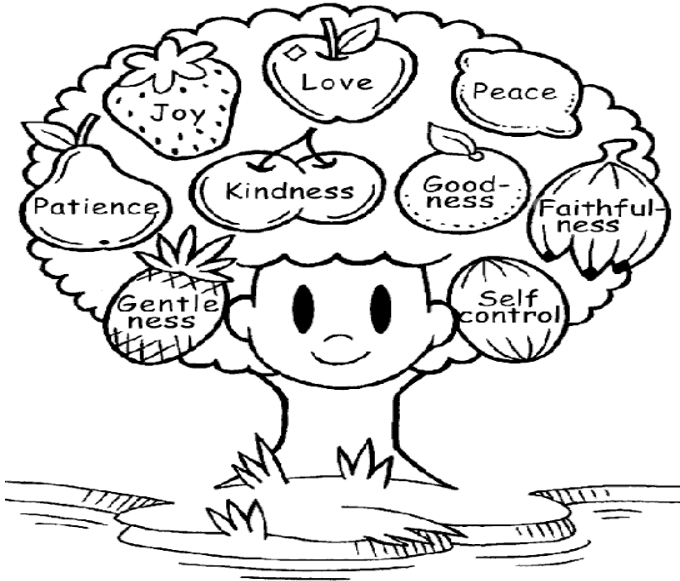
LORD JESUS**, our Father, we offer up our life, our breath, our thoughts, our desires, and everything we are to you. As we wait in your presence, we pray that you cleanse us from every sin, so that our lives may bring glory to you, Lord. We wait for you to fill us and immerse us in your holy Spirit, so we might be completely filled and have power to be witnesses for you in our everyday lives, and reach out to all the world in Jesus name, **AMEN!

Jesus told His disciples, and you and me too, to wait on the Lord to receive power from on high from the Holy Spirit. God’s Holy Spirit will grow beautiful sweet fruit in your heart, and give you power to witness to others about the Gospel of salvation and about His love for them. Jesus wants us to plant ourselves in the living water of His word, the Bible, and sit quietly to hear from Him when we pray. Jesus loves you so much, and wants you to love Him too!

John 7:37-38

“If any man thirst,
let him come unto me, and drink.

³⁸ He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said,
out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water..”



Jesus loves me, and wants me to sit quietly beside
The Living Water of His presence, and drink of Him
So that the fruit of His Spirit will grow in me.
God’s Holy Spirit makes me sweet.



Directions:

1. Punch a hole at top of plate & insert a Fuzzy Stick through the hole to form a loop for hanging.
2. Color the Tree, Fruit, and Living Water, cut out the circle & glue to paper plate with curved edge.
3. Put dots of frosting ‘glue’ around the edge of the plate & place ‘Fruit of the Spirit’ on the dots.