



# the Source

*Let anyone who is thirsty come to me...*

In Genesis, an event takes place when all the people of the earth were united. They wanted to make a name for themselves. They began to build a tower to reach to the heavens. God considered this action as a rejection of His dominion over them. The LORD was so concerned about their actions, he confused their language and scattered them over the face of the earth.

In Acts, God changed the world again. Jesus had promised his followers that he would not leave them alone. The Advocate, the Spirit of Truth, would come to empower them as a guide, teacher, and continuation of His presence. The disciples were instructed to stay in Jerusalem and wait there for the baptism of the Holy Spirit. On the day of Pentecost, a Jewish festival, the disciples were still behind closed doors living in fear of the Jews and authorities. The Holy Spirit came upon them and empowered them with the ability to speak in all the languages of the people who were in Jerusalem from around the world. It is the reversal of the Tower of Babel. This time the diversity of languages united the people in being able to communicate the Gospel message throughout the earth. With the power from the Holy Spirit, the disciples went into the streets. The Holy Spirit reminded them of Jesus' words and empowered them to witness.

The Holy Spirit is still empowering us. Today, we reflect that power by celebrating World Communion Sunday. We unite with Christians all around the world as we partake of the body and blood of Jesus Christ.

*Myra Schomburg, First Church Member*

## A Family Affair

Today is World Communion Sunday. At First Church we come together the first Sunday of the month for Holy Communion. However, on the first Sunday in October, churches all over the world participate in communion. Holy Communion is a remembrance of Christ's last supper with his twelve disciples. All who call Jesus their Lord and invite him to live in their heart may go to receive communion. God's table is big enough for all of us! Holy Communion unites us together.

As we go to the front with extended hands to receive communion, we are saying we are ready to receive God's gift. Our church family of all ages forms a line to receive communion. Observe how people approach God's table. Is there a quiet moment to pray to God? Does anyone hold their hands in front of them? Discuss together how to respectfully and prayerfully receive communion. This fall at First Church, our new kindergarteners will have the opportunity to learn about communion and participate in communion during Sunday School. As a family, read Luke 22:19-20.

*Dear Lord, thank you for always being with us in our hearts. Help us remember how much you love us every time we receive Holy Communion. Amen.*

— Tammy Parks, Elementary Coordinator

**Consider  
the Source**  
Genesis 11:1 – 9;  
Acts 2:5-12

## Monday: Genesis 11:1-9

Have you ever considered "making a name" for yourself?

- Did you consult with God as you made your plan?

## Tuesday: Genesis 11:1-9

Do you know more than one language?

- How difficult was it for you to acquire this ability?
- How often do you use this language so you don't lose it?

## Wednesday: Acts 2:5-12

Jesus promised His disciples that He would not leave them alone. The Holy Spirit continues to be with us as well.

- How do you experience the Holy Spirit in your own life?

## Thursday: Acts 2:5-12

You cannot hide from the power of the Holy Spirit – even behind closed doors and hearts filled with fear. In my own experience, I continue to seek practices that allow the Holy Spirit into my heart and mind. I spend time listening, discerning, and paying attention.

- Unlock the doors to your heart and mind.

## Friday:

In the Modern Affirmation of Faith (UMH #885), we state: "We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and find strength and help in time of need."

Of all the affirmations of faith we use, this statement of our belief in the Holy Spirit speaks most deeply to me.

- Do you pay attention as you seek to find the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life?
- Spend time each day seeking the presence. Listen for your instructions to witness to the truth of Christ.

