A reading from Acts

All Services

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

¹⁴But 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. ¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ 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.

¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women,

in those days I will pour out my Spirit;

and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above

and signs on the earth below,

blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness

and the moon to blood,

before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'"

The word of the Lord.

READING: Psalm 104 Early Service Only

"We will read the Psalm responsively."

LEADER: ²⁴O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

CONGREGATION: ²⁵Yonder is the sea, great and wide, creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great.

L: ²⁶There go the ships, and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.

C: ²⁷These all look to you to give them their food in due season;

L: ²⁸when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

C: ²⁹When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

L: ³⁰When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground.

C: ³¹May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in his works —

L: ³²who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke.

C: ³³I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

L: ³⁴May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the LORD.

C: 35bBless the LORD, O my soul. Praise the LORD!