

SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR: Pentecost A

Please refer to [Guidelines for Children's Addresses in Worship](#) document produced by the LCA Department of Liturgics and Grow Ministries - download guidelines [here](#).



MAIN POINT

Jesus brings peace through the Holy Spirit

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." (John 20:21-22)

AIDS

Electric fan plugged into a power source

ADDRESS

What does the wind do? Have you ever thought of it bringing peace? Imagine it's a hot day, you're stuck inside, the air-conditioner is not working, you're sweaty and very, very irritated. Then someone brings out the old electric fan. (turn on the fan and let it blow on the children)

Can you imagine how nice that would feel on a hot day? It would feel good. Did you know that's how sweat works? When your body senses it's too hot, beads of sweat form on your skin. It only takes effect when it comes in contact with the air though. Sweat comes out, sits on your skin, and waits for contact with the air to provide a soothing, cool feeling. It's actually the air, or 'wind' that does the work.

In the Bible reading, we hear of Jesus' disciples sitting in a room with doors locked because they were afraid of the Jews. Then suddenly Jesus appears! This was very strange, because the disciples had just witnessed Jesus' death. They didn't know that he had risen from the dead. So not only were the disciples scared, but now their hearts were jumping at the sight of Jesus!

What does Jesus do next? First, he shows them the scars on his hands and feet – evidence that he was actually Jesus. Then, he says "Peace be with you". He breathes on them! Not just a puff, a quick 'smell my breath', but he actually breathes the Holy Spirit on them!

Turn the fan on again so the children can imagine Jesus breathing the Holy Spirit

And again he says "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you. Receive the Holy Spirit".

Now imagine how that breath of the Holy Spirit would have brought a beautiful peace over the disciples. From that day on, Jesus' disciples were to share it with others. So the peace of the Holy Spirit has been passed on and on through the generations even to now, where we receive the Holy Spirit too.

PRAYER

Dear loving Father, thank you for the peace of the Holy Spirit. Help us to be reminded every day that you bring peace to our hearts, minds and bodies. Help us to share that good news with others. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

You may wish to hand out *Growing Faith at Home* or another resource before the children return to their seats.

For more information about Grow Ministries and other resources for ministry to children, young people and their families, please contact:

e: growministries@lca.org.au p: (08) 8267 7300 www.growministries.org.au