

The Oaks Community Church
Worship Guide



April 19, 2026

I. A Call to Worship

Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.
Acts 2:3,4 (NLT)

II. Worshipping God through Our Offerings

But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand. I Chronicles 29:14 (NIV)



III. Pentecost: A Harvest Festival & A New Covenant
Acts 2
Pastor Bethany Rivera

Part 1: Festivals & Introduction

Pentecost was part of a larger story God was telling:

- **Passover** → Freedom from slavery → *Jesus = our Passover Lamb*
- **Unleavened Bread** → Sinless, buried → *Jesus = perfect sacrifice*
- **First Fruits** → First of the harvest → *Jesus = first to rise from the dead*
- **Waiting (50 days)** → Anticipation
- **Pentecost** → Harvest begins → *The Church is born*

Pentecost marks the beginning of a new era—God dwelling in His people.

Part 2: God pours out His Spirit & the New Covenant begins

Acts 2:1-4: ¹When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ²Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

- God's power = Wind
- God's holiness = Fire
- God's presence = The indwelling Holy Spirit = Grace

Pentecost is the inauguration of The New Covenant of Holiness & Power through Grace.

- Acts 2:5 -41 - Peter preaches the first sermon of The New Covenant.

- Question: Are you open? Are you willing to receive the Holy Spirit and do what He is calling you and qualifying you to do in Jesus' Kingdom?

Part 3: God forms a Spirit-filled People (The Harvest & The Workers)

Acts 2:37-39: ³⁷ When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

³⁸ Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

- **Repent**
Turn from sin and toward Jesus
- **Be Baptized**
Publicly identify with Jesus
- **Receive The Holy Spirit**
Welcome God's presence into your life
 - **The Holy Spirit is a person**
 - A person who teaches, guides, speaks, empowers

We are ministers of a New Covenant

2 Corinthians 3:6: He (Jesus) has made us competent as ministers of the new covenant - not of the letter but of the Spirit, for the letter kills, but the spirit gives life.

Part 4: What does Spirit Filled Life Look like?

Acts 2:42-47: The Fellowship of the Believers

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.

⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

- Because of The Holy Spirit the steps that lead to the spiritually miraculous become practicable.

Part 5: Application: What do we do?

- Studying God's word together
- Communion
- Eating together & fellowshiping
- Praying together
- Giving

COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS- Acts 2

1. What stood out to you most from the sermon? Where do you currently feel most in need of God's presence—holiness, power, or grace?
2. God's Timing & Pentecost (Acts 2:1–4) -Why is it significant that the Holy Spirit came during Pentecost (a harvest festival)? What do wind and fire reveal about God's character and presence? How does it change your perspective to know that God's presence is now available to all believers, not just a few?
3. The New Covenant (Holiness, Power, Grace) -How does the truth that "God is now near" challenge your daily life? Why do you think God empowered ordinary, unqualified people (like the disciples)? Where do you feel unqualified in God's Kingdom? What would it look like for you to say "yes" to God despite your past?
4. The Gospel Response (Acts 2:37–41) -Why are repentance and baptism essential responses to the gospel? How would you explain the gospel simply to someone else?
5. The Holy Spirit as a Person Why is it important that the Holy Spirit is a *person* and not just a force? How do you personally relate to the Holy Spirit right now? What would it look like to grow in relationship with Him this week?

6. Spirit-Filled Community (Acts 2:42–47) -Which of these practices stands out to you most: teaching, fellowship, meals, prayer, generosity? Which one is hardest for you to live out? Why? How can your group better reflect this kind of Spirit-filled community?
7. Where is God inviting you to be more available, open, or willing? What is one step you will take this week to respond?
8. End in prayer: Pray to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Pray for boldness and openness. Pray for your group to become a Spirit-filled community. Pray for other needs of the community. Pray for your FRANCES.

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