



6/9/2019 Jn. 20: 19-23 & Acts 2: 1-11

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[The Day of Pentecost](#)

#### ENTERING THE SCENE:

Two quotes for this special day: "A Christian life -- or a person who calls himself or herself a Christian -- that does not leave space for the Spirit and does not allow the Spirit to go forward is a pagan life, dressed as a Christian one," he said. [Pope Francis](#)

The day of Pentecost frees the apostles to believe in the power of the Lord. They receive the gift of the Spirit. God had not changed; they had, by the Spirit's gift. The Spirit is always unmerited favor. She always does it first. God is experienced as intimacy and warmth and fire, as love-power. She is surprising, elusive and free. The Spirit blows where the Spirit will, like the wind; it comes from and goes where you know not.

Richard Rohr: Great Themes of Scripture, p. 193, day 206

#### Jn. 20:19-23

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for **fear** of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "**Peace be with you.**" <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he **showed** them his hands and his side. Then the disciples **rejoiced** when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "**Peace be with you.** As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he **breathed** on them and said to them, "Receive the **Holy Spirit.**" <sup>23</sup> If you **forgive** the sins of any, they are **forgiven** them; if you **retain** the sins of any, they are **retained.**"

**DISCUSSION QUESTION:** The Spirit has given each of us unique ways to share our faith. What is my gift? How do I share it?

**PRAYER:** In quietness and trust, / I yield myself this moment / To the Presence that gives me life, / To the Reality that existed before the earth was made, / To the Spirit that came and comes as fire / To turn around our lives / And make them new. /

Burn within me, God! Let me feel your fire! Burn warm with love! Burn bright with joy! Burn hot to consume / all that makes me doubt your power in me, / your love through me. Burn away my barriers to completeness. Burn away my limited consciousness, / inbred by habits of thought, / by opinions of others, / by seeming necessities that have become my master Burn away my slavery to fear / And teach me, within, / the looseness of listening, / the rhythm of trust.

[Grace Adolphsen Brame](#) Grana, Janice. [Images](#). St. Mary's College Press. Winona MN. 1976. Page29.