



Message: ***Trust the Wind*** | May 24, 2026 | Speaker: **Pastor Eddie Eddy**

Acts 2:1-21 The Coming of the Holy Spirit

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

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

14 But 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. 15 Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. 16 No, 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.*

*18 Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.*

*19 And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.*

*20 The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.*

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

Trust the Wind

As a pastor, if I asked most churchgoers to name the three biggest celebrations in the Christian year, people would quickly say Christmas and Easter. But I wonder how many would think of Pentecost as the third great celebration of the Church. And yet, Pentecost is exactly that.

Today is the birthday of the Church. Today we celebrate the promised arrival of the Holy Spirit. We remember the moment when the wind and the fire swept through Jerusalem and touched the disciples in a way that changed everything forever.

After His resurrection, Jesus told the disciples to remain in Jerusalem until they were "clothed with power from on high" (Luke 24:49). And ten days after Jesus ascended into heaven, that promise became reality.

It happened during the Jewish Festival of Weeks...Shavuot in Hebrew, Pentecost in Greek. It was a festival celebrating God giving the Law...or the ten commandments... to Moses on Mount Sinai. So...Jerusalem was packed with travelers from all over the world, people speaking different languages and coming from different cultures. And into that crowded city came the sound of heaven.

Acts chapter 2 tells us the Holy Spirit arrived with the sound “like the rush of a violent wind.” Normally, when we picture the Holy Spirit, we think of peaceful images...a dove, a quiet whisper, gentle comfort. But Luke wants us to understand something here: this moment was powerful. It was disruptive. It demanded people’s attention.

The disciples saw what looked like flames of fire separating and resting over each person. Suddenly they began speaking languages they had never learned. Can you imagine the scene? Pilgrims from all over the world hearing Galilean fishermen speaking in their own native languages.

The crowd didn’t know what to think. Some were amazed. Others were confused. And of course, some did what people still do today when they see something they don’t understand...they mocked it. “They must be drunk.”

But Peter stood up right in the middle of the chaos and declared, “These people are not drunk! This is the Spirit of God!” And in that moment...the Church was born. So let me simply say this morning: Happy Birthday, Church.

This morning I want us to spend a few moments thinking about two things that showed up that day...the wind and the fire...and what they teach us about the presence of God.

First, the wind. Notice carefully what Acts says. It does not say there was a violent wind blowing through the room. It says there was “a sound like the rush of a violent wind.” Jesus spoke about the Spirit this way in John chapter 3 when He said, “The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

That’s how the Holy Spirit often works. You can’t see the wind itself, but you can see what the wind moves. When the curtains blow with an open window, you know the wind is there. When the trees bend, you know the wind is there. When you feel a breeze against your skin...you trust something unseen is moving around you. That’s how the Spirit works in our lives.

We may not physically see the Holy Spirit, but we see the evidence of His presence. Changed hearts. Restored lives. Courage where fear once lived. Peace in the middle of storms.

SHORT PAUSE

I remember years ago heading out to my deer stand after work. I was late, but I figured I could still squeeze in a little time in the woods and unwind. There was a main trail leading back to my favorite spot, and as I walked in, I caught movement off to my left.

And there he was. The kind of buck hunters dream about. Giant rack. I had gotten close enough to hear him breathe. I was twenty yards away and he had absolutely no idea I was there. I froze. Slowly I knocked an arrow, drew back, settled my pin, and waited for the perfect shot.

Now if you’ve ever bow hunted, you know wind can completely change the path of an arrow. Today’s bows are faster and more forgiving, but way back then...the bow I was using...not so much.

Everything felt perfect. He gave me a broadside shot. I released the arrow...and then I heard it. The wind. I couldn’t see the wind...but I could see the effect it had on my arrow. That arrow floated right over the back of that deer...stuck in a tree behind him...and the next thing I heard...was that buck crashing off through the woods...probably laughing at me the whole way.

Here’s the thing...I couldn’t see the wind. I barely even felt the wind. But I sure knew it was there. I can tell you this...the wind saved that deer that day. Sometimes the Spirit works like that too. We may not see Him directly, but we can absolutely trust His presence and His power.

PAUSE

Then there was the fire. Acts says, “Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.” Whether this was literal fire or something that looked like fire, Luke is clearly connecting this moment to the presence of God throughout Scripture.

Think about Moses and the burning bush. God revealed Himself through fire that burned without consuming. God was present there. And now...in our scripture for today...God’s presence is showing up again through fire...not on a mountain, not in a bush, not hidden

behind the curtain of a temple...but resting upon ordinary believers. That matters, because Pentecost reminds us that the presence of God is no longer confined to one place. Through the Holy Spirit, God now dwells within His people.

When the Spirit touched the disciples, they were changed. Jesus had already justified and redeemed them through the cross and resurrection...but now the Spirit empowered them with boldness, passion, and a burning desire to share the Gospel. They weren't speaking nonsense or meaningless sounds. They were proclaiming the mighty works of God in languages people could understand. The Gospel was no longer staying in one room. It was going out into the world. And hear this...that same Spirit still empowers the Church today.

PAUSE

Do you know what directs a controlled prairie burn? The wind. You can't see it, but if the fire is spreading, you know something is moving. The wind gives the fire direction and power. The Holy Spirit still does the same thing in the Church. I remember reading about the 1983 America's Cup yacht race. The United States had held that title for years, but Australia was mounting a serious challenge.

Everything came down to one final race. The crowds gathered. Television cameras were everywhere. The boats were ready. The crews were ready. Everything was set. But there was one problem. **No wind.** And in sailing, no wind means no race. Nothing moves without the wind.

And the same can be said of our faith. Spiritually speaking...nothing truly happens without the movement of the Holy Spirit. The Hebrew and Greek words for Spirit both carry the meaning of breath or wind.

One preacher said it this way: "I cannot fully explain the Spirit of God. Jesus said it is like the wind. You do not see the wind, but you know when it comes and when it goes."

Church, every time we share the Gospel, every time we encourage someone, every time we speak hope into someone's darkness, the Holy Spirit is moving. The same wind that rushed through Jerusalem on Pentecost is still blowing today. The same fire that ignited the disciples still burns within the Church. So may we trust the wind. May we follow where the Spirit leads. And may the fire of God continue to burn brightly within us.

To God be the glory. Amen.