

Confirmation Spring 2023

Reading 1

Ezekiel 36:24-28

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel

Thus says the Lord GOD:

I will take you away from among the nations,
gather you from all the foreign lands,
and bring you back to your own land.

I will sprinkle clean water upon you
to cleanse you from all your impurities,
and from all your idols I will cleanse you.

I will give you a new heart and place a new spirit within you,
taking from your bodies your stony hearts
and giving you natural hearts.

I will put my spirit within you and make you live by my statutes,
careful to observe my decrees.

You shall live in the land I gave your fathers;
you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

The word of the Lord.

Reading 2

Acts of the Apostles 2:1-6, 14, 22b-23, 32-33

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled,
they were all in one place together.

And suddenly there came from the sky
a noise like a strong driving wind,
and it filled the entire house in which they were.

Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire,
which parted and came to rest on each one of them.

And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit
and began to speak in different tongues,
as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven
staying in Jerusalem.

At this sound, they gathered in a large crowd,
but they were confused
because each one heard them speaking in his own language.

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and
proclaimed to them:

“You who are Jews, indeed all of you staying in Jerusalem.
Let this be known to you, and listen to my words.

“Jesus the Nazorean was a man commended to you by God
with mighty deeds, wonders, and signs,
which God worked through him in your midst,
as you yourselves know.

This man, delivered up by the set plan and foreknowledge of
God,
you killed, using lawless men to crucify him.

“God raised this Jesus;
of this we are all witnesses.
Exalted at the right hand of God,
he received the promise of the Holy Spirit from the Father
and poured it forth, as you both see and hear.”

The word of the Lord.

Gospel

Matthew 16:24-27

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to all,

“Whoever wishes to come after me, must deny himself,
take up his cross, and follow me.

For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it,

but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it.

What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world
and forfeit his life?

Or what can one give in exchange for his life?

For the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father’s
glory,

and then he will repay each one according to his conduct.”

The Gospel of the Lord.