

The Holy Spirit: Hebrew Scriptures  
Class 4, June 11, 2020  
The Rev. Rob Wood

Opening Prayer or musical piece...

## Syllabus

May 21	Overview, Terms, Music, Creed, Liturgy
May 28	The Holy Spirit Hebrew Scriptures
June 4	The Holy Spirit in Jesus' Ministry; 'Trinity' Moments
June 11	The Holy Spirit as a gift to the Disciples and Us
June 18	The Holy Spirit and the Church today: Creed and Liturgy
June 25	The Holy Spirit and You

## How we know about The Holy Spirit: recap

- in our personal lives and the life of the church
- in the Bible
- in the Creed: *We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.*
- in our worship: baptism, Eucharist, Ordination, Confirmation
- in our music

## Terms in Hebrew Scriptures

- Hebrew: *Nephesh* (breath) and *Ruah* (wind); Greek: *Pneuma*
- sometimes male pronouns, sometimes female

Activity in the Hebrew Scriptures has been summarized as:

1. shape creation, animate animals and human kind
  - a. Genesis 1:1-2 (wind/spirit over waters) and
  - b. Genesis 2:7 (breath into Adam's nostrils)
2. The Holy Spirit: to reveal God's messages
  - a. Ezekiel 37 – Dry bones given life
  - b. Isaiah 11:1-3; ISAIAH 42:1-4; ISAIAH 61:1-4
3. The Holy Spirit: to teach by these revelations the way to be faithful and fruitful
  - a. Psalm 143:8-10
4. The Holy Spirit: to elicit faith, repentance, obedience, praise
  - a. Joel 2:28-32

5. The Holy Spirit: to equip for strong, wise and effective leadership
  - a. Numbers 27:15-23 – Joshua and leadership
  - b. Deut 34:1-9 – more on Joshua
  - c. 1 Samuel 10:1,3– Saul anointed King
6. The Holy Spirit: to give skill and application to creative work: Zechariah 4:4-7

Last Week...The New Testament
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Persona – like an actor in Greek theater wearing a mask for each character. Same voice and windpipe, different face of the moment.

The Holy Spirit – a persona who does what a person does: hears, speaks, convinces, testifies, shows, leads, guides, teaches, prompts, speaks, commands, forbids, desires, helps, intercedes with groans.

When does the Holy Spirit begin its work? Pentecost? Upper Room on the Day of Resurrection, or **conception... The Conception and Birth of Jesus: Luke 1:26-35**

**Luke 3: The Baptism of Jesus [a ‘Trinity’ moment]**

**Matthew 28:16-20** “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”

**John 14:** the Advocate,<sup>[i]</sup> the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name,

**Romans 8:** <sup>14</sup> For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ...<sup>26</sup> Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes<sup>[g]</sup> with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup> And God,<sup>[t]</sup> who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit<sup>[s]</sup> intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.<sup>[t]</sup>

**1 Corinthians 12:4-13** <sup>4</sup> Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; <sup>5</sup> and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; <sup>6</sup> and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.... <sup>13</sup> For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

**2 Corinthians 13:11-13:** The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

June 11 – more in the New Testament

**What Jesus says: no blaspheming against the Holy Spirit (ie, not using the Holy Spirit's name in vain)**

Mark 3: Then [Jesus] went home; <sup>20</sup> and the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. <sup>21</sup> When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, "He has gone out of his mind." <sup>22</sup> And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons." <sup>23</sup> And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? <sup>24</sup> If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. <sup>25</sup> And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. <sup>26</sup> And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. <sup>27</sup> But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered. <sup>28</sup> "Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; <sup>29</sup> but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin" — <sup>30</sup> for they had said, "He has an unclean spirit."

**Actions of the Holy Spirit in the New Testament can be described as follows:**

1. Reveals Jesus' reality and the truth about him
2. unites believers to Christ in regenerative, life giving ways
3. assures believers that they are children and heirs of God
4. mediates fellowship with the Father and the Son as a first installment of eternal life
5. transforms believers progressively through prayer and conflict
6. gives gifts to build up the body of Christ
7. Divine Help in times of persecution
8. prays effectively in and for believers
9. prompts missionary action

1. **Reveals Jesus' reality and the truth about him –**

a. **John 14:26** (Advocate words above)

b. **Luke 4:** Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was **led by the Spirit** in the wilderness, 2 where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. 3 The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." 4 Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'" 5 Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. 6 And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. 7 If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." 8 Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" 9 Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, 10 for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' 11 and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" 12 Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" 13 When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time. 14 Then Jesus, **filled with the power of the Spirit,** returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. 15 He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

- c. **Acts 4** – <sup>8</sup> Then Peter, **filled with the Holy Spirit**, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup> if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup> let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. <sup>11</sup> This Jesus is

‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;  
it has become the cornerstone.’<sup>[f]</sup>

<sup>12</sup> There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

2. **unites believers to Christ in **regenerative, live-giving ways****

- a. **John 3:5-8** – <sup>3</sup> Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> He came to Jesus<sup>[a]</sup> by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.”<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of **water and Spirit**. <sup>6</sup> What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.<sup>[c]</sup> <sup>7</sup> Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You<sup>[d]</sup> must be born from above.’<sup>[e]</sup> <sup>8</sup> The wind<sup>[f]</sup> blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

b. **Acts 10 – The Story of Peter (Jew) and Cornelius (Gentile)**

c. **Holy Spirit in Ephesus: Acts 19:1-6**

- d. **Ephesians 4** -- I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup> with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup> making every effort to maintain the **unity of the Spirit** in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup> There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

### 3. assures believers that they are children and heirs of God

- a. **Romans 8:12-17** -- <sup>12</sup> So then, brothers and sisters,<sup>[l]</sup> we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— <sup>13</sup> for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup> For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup> For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba!<sup>[m]</sup> Father!” <sup>16</sup> it is that very Spirit bearing witness<sup>[n]</sup> with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup> and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.
- b. **Ephesians 1:13 -- 11** In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup> so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup> In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup> this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God’s own people, to the praise of his glory.

### 4. mediates fellowship with the Father and the Son as a first installment of eternal life

- a. **Romans 5:1-5** -- Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we<sup>[a]</sup> have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom we have obtained access<sup>[b]</sup> to this grace in which we stand; and we<sup>[c]</sup> boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> And not only that, but we<sup>[d]</sup> also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.
- b. **2 Cor 5:5** -- For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens... <sup>4</sup> For while we are still in this tent, we groan under our burden, because we wish not to be unclothed but to be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. <sup>5</sup> He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

**5. transforms believers progressively through prayer and conflict**

- a. **2 Corinthians 3:17-18** -- <sup>17</sup> Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup> And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.
- b. **Galatians 5:16-25** -- <sup>16</sup> Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup> For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law.... <sup>22</sup> the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. <sup>24</sup> And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

**6. gives gifts to build up the body of Christ**

- a. Romans 12:1-13 – I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. 3 For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. 4 For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, 5 so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. 6 We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; 7 ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; 8 the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. 9 Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; 10 love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. 11 Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. 12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. 13 Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

- b. 1 Cor 12 -- <sup>4</sup> Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; <sup>5</sup> and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; <sup>6</sup> and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.

**7. Divine Help in times of persecution**

- a. Luke 12:12 “For the Holy Spirit will teach you in what very hour what you ought to say.”
- b. Matthew 10:20 “For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.”

**8. prays effectively in and for believers**

- a. **Romans 8:** <sup>14</sup> For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ...<sup>26</sup> Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes<sup>[g]</sup> with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup> And God,<sup>[r]</sup> who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit<sup>[s]</sup> intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.<sup>[t]</sup>

**9. prompts missionary action**

- a. Luke 4 -- 16 When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, 17 and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

18 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
19 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

20 And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. 21 Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

- b. Acts 8:26-31 -- <sup>26</sup>Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south<sup>[g]</sup> to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) <sup>27</sup>So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" <sup>31</sup>He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him.
- c. Acts 13:1-3 Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a member of the court of Herod the ruler, <sup>[a]</sup> and Saul. <sup>2</sup>While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." <sup>3</sup>Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.
- d. Acts 16:6-15 -- They went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia... <sup>10</sup>When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. <sup>11</sup>We set sail from Troas [and came to] to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony.... <sup>13</sup>On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. <sup>14</sup>A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us.... The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. <sup>15</sup>When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home."