

## The Nature and Mission of the Kingdom

### The Holy Spirit

#### From the Catechism

**Explanation to the Third Article of the Apostles' Creed:** "I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith."

**Explanation to the Second Petition of the Lord's Prayer, "Thy Kingdom Come":** *"How does God's kingdom come?"* God's kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity."

#### From the Liturgies

**Invocation, All services:** "In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit"

**From the Gloria in Excelsis, Divine Service 3:** "You alone are the most high Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen."

**From the Apostles' Creed, Third Article:** "I believe in the Holy Spirit, . . ."

**From the Nicene Creed, Third Article:** "And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets."

**Declaration of Grace, Divine Service Setting 3:** "Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. "

**Prayer of Thanksgiving, Divine Service Setting 4:** "Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life and salvation that come to us in his body and blood."

**The Feast of Pentecost,** when the Holy Spirit was poured out on the new church, celebrated 50 days after the Resurrection.

**Collect for the Day of Pentecost:** "O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy consolation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. "

**Proper Preface for the Day of Pentecost:** "[Jesus Christ], who ascended above the heavens and, sitting at Your right hand, poured out on this day the promised Holy Spirit on His chosen disciples. For all this the whole earth rejoices with exceeding joy."

**Post -Communion Collect, Divine Service 3:** ". . . we thank You that for His sake You have granted us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve you; . . ."

**From the Offertory, Divine Service 3:** “Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.”

### From the Scripture

Gen 1:1-2; Ps 51:10-12; John 14:15-17; John 16:5-14; Rom 8:5-11; Rom 8:26-27; 1 Cor 2:6-16; 1 Cor 12:3; Gal 5:16-25; 2 Tim 3:14-17; 2 Pet 1:20-21

**The Promise and Pentecost:** Joel 2:28-29; Lk 3:15-16; John 7:37-39; Lk 24:49; Act 1:4-5; Acts 2:1-4, 16-18, 22-24, 32-33, 36-41

## The Gospel

### From the Catechism

**Explanation to the Third Article of the Apostles’ Creed:** “I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.”

### From the Liturgies

**The Alleluia Verse, Divine Service 1 and 2:** “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the Words of eternal life.”

**The Verse, Divine Service 4:** “These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.”

### From the Scripture

Mk 16:15-16; John 3:5-6; John 6:66-69; John 8:31-32; John 20:30-31; Rom 1:16; Rom 10:8-15; Rom 10:17; 1 Cor 1:18-25; 2 Cor 5:18-20; Eph 1:13; 1 Thess 1:5; 2 Thess 2:14; 1 Pet 1:5; 1 Pet 1:23, 25; Rev 14:6-7

## The Church

### From the Catechism

**Explanation to the Third Article of the Apostles’ Creed:** “In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.”

### From the Liturgies

**From the Apostles’ Creed, Third Article:** “I believe in the . . . holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, . . .”

**From the Nicene Creed, Third Article:** “And I believe in one holy Christian [catholic] and apostolic Church, . . .”

**From the Kyrie, Divine Services 1 and 2:** “For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mercy. For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mercy.”

**From “This is the Feast”, Divine Service 1 and 2:** “Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. . . . Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: . . .”

**From the Prayer of Thanksgiving”, Divine Service 1 and 2:** “Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. . . . Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. ”

**From the Lord’s Prayer, All Services:** “Our Father . . .”

**From the Post-Communion Collect, Setting 1:** “We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love towards one another;”

**Post-Communion Collect, Setting 2 and 4:** “Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end;”

**Opening Versicles, Divine Service Setting 3:** “Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, . . .”

**From the Confession, Divine Service Setting 4:** “Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, . . . Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, . . .”

### [From the Scripture](#)

Matt 16:15-19; John 13:33-35; John 17:6-21; Acts 2:41-42; 1 Cor 3:16-17; 1 Cor 12:12-31; Eph 2:19-22; Eph 4:1-16; 1 Pet 2:4-10; Rev 19:6-9; Rev 21:9-14, 22-23; Rev 22:17

## [Mission of the Church](#)

### [From the Liturgies](#)

**From “the Post-Communion Canticle “Thank the Lord”, Divine Service 1 and 2:** “Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell everyone what He has done.”

### [From the Scriptures](#)

**The Mission of the Church:** Matt 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16; Luke 24:46-48; Acts 1:8