



Raquette Lake Chapel Sunday Blast

May 26, 2024

"The Good News: Empowerment by the Spirit"

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

The mission of the Holy Spirit is... to incorporate empowerment for witness, sanctification, guidance into truth, and the assurance of our salvation. From the moment of Pentecost (celebrated by many last Sunday), the Holy Spirit has been actively involved in the lives of the Church and individual believers, **ENSURING THAT THE GOSPEL MESSAGE IS NOT ONLY PROCLAIMED BUT LIVED OUT CONFIDENTLY AND AUTHENTICALLY.**

How should we respond? We build a relationship with the Spirit through prayer and openness. We develop a regular practice of prayer, seeking the Holy Spirit's guidance and surrendering our will to God. This involves both speaking to God and listening for His voice. We engage with scripture by regularly reading, studying, and meditating on the Bible, asking the Holy Spirit to open scripture to us, revealing meaning and place in our lives. And we use the comfort we receive from the Holy Spirit to encourage and uplift others, pointing them to the hope and assurance found in Christ.

In summary, the mission of the Holy Spirit is to *empower, sanctify, guide, and assure us* as we live out the Gospel. Our response should be one of intentional engagement, seeking a deeper relationship with the Holy Spirit, and allowing the Spirit's transformative power to work through us in every aspect of our lives. This active cooperation not only enriches our spiritual journey but also makes us effective instruments of God's love and truth in the world. May it be so. Amen!

On Memorial Day May 27, 2024

"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." (John 15:13)



This remarkable declaration of love captures the spirit of Memorial Day. Those who have laid down their lives in service to our country embody this sacrificial love, a love that mirrors Christ's ultimate sacrifice on the cross. Their actions remind us of the depth of love and the cost of freedom. As we commemorate Memorial Day, let us do so with hearts full of gratitude, honoring the legacy of those who have sacrificed for us. Let their example inspire us to live lives of love, service, and remembrance, looking forward with hope to the ultimate peace promised by our Lord.

"In Flanders Fields" by John McCrae

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the
sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset
glow,
Loved and were loved, and now
we lie,
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies
grow in Flanders fields.*

Prayer Box: pray for healing for Holland, Gail, Barbara, Keith, Mia, Elizabeth, Patti, Joyce, Joe, Florence, Debbie, and John; pray for those who are traveling, especially Maggie, and Vance; pray for those suffering from depression; pray for all struggling families; pray for all who grieve; pray for the end of war in the Middle East and Ukraine; pray for those who died in defense of country.

Lord, hear our prayers!