

On Pentecost They Gathered

Acts 2:1-24, 32-47

Jane Parker Huber, 1981; rev. 1993

1 On Pen - te - cost they gath - ered quite ear - ly in the day,
 2 The peo - ple all a - round them were star - tled and a - mazed
 3 God pours the Ho - ly Spir - it on all who would be - lieve,
 4 O Spir - it, sent from heav - en on that day long a - go,

a band of Christ's dis - ci - ples to wor - ship, sing, and pray.
 to un - der - stand their lan - guage, as God in Christ they praised.
 on wom - en, men, and chil - dren who would God's grace re - ceive.
 re - kin - dle faith a - mong us in all life's ebb and flow.

A might - y wind came blow - ing, filled all the swirl - ing air,
 What un - i - ver - sal mes - sage, what great good news was here?
 That Spir - it knows no lim - it, be - stow - ing life and power.
 O give us hearts to lis - ten and tongues a - flame with praise,

and tongues of fire a - glow - ing in - spired each per - son there.
 That Christ, once dead, is ris - en to van - quish all our fear.
 The church, formed and re - form - ing, re - sponds in ev - ery hour.
 so folk of ev - ery na - tion glad songs of joy shall raise.

Jane Parker Huber explained that she wrote this text in 1981
 "to fill a gap in current hymnody," in that "many of the hymns
 concerning the activity of the Holy Spirit do not mention
 Pentecost."

Tune: MUNICH 7.6.7.6.D.
 Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch, Meiningen, 1693
 Harm. Felix Mendelssohn, 1847

Let Every Christian Pray

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Fred Pratt Green, 1970; rev. 1994

Acts 2

1 Let ev - ery Chris - tian pray, this day and ev - ery day,
2 The Spir - it brought to birth the church of Christ on earth
3 On - ly the Spir - it's power can fit us for this hour:

come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come! Was not the church we love
to seek and save the lost: God nev - er has with - drawn,
come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come! U - nite, in - struct, in - spire

com - mis - sioned from a - bove? Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come!
since that tre - men - dous dawn, the gifts of Pen - te - cost.
and fill us with your fire: come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come!

Noted contemporary British hymnwriter Fred Pratt Green retired from the parish ministry in 1969 and only then commenced his prolific output of hymn texts, which can be found in every major hymnal publication of the late twentieth century.

Tune: LAUDES DOMINI 6.6.6.6.6.6.
Joseph Barnby, 1868

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Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

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George Croly, 1854; alt.

Gal. 5:25; Matt. 22:37; John 1:32

1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
 2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,
 3 Have you not bid us love you ev - ery way?
 4 Teach me to feel that you are al - ways nigh;
 5 Teach me to love you as your an - gels love,

wean it from earth, through all its puls - es move;
 no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
 All, all your own: soul, heart, and strength, and mind;
 teach me the strug - gles of the soul to bear,
 one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame;

Stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as you are,
 No an - gel vis - i - tant, no o - pening skies;
 I see your cross— there teach my heart to stay;
 To check the ris - ing doubt, the reb - el sigh;
 The bap - tism of the heaven - de - scend - ed dove,

and make me love you as I ought to love.
 but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
 O let me seek you, and O let me find.
 teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.
 my heart an al - tar, and your love the flame.

George Croly, ordained in the Church of Ireland, was well known in London literary circles and served a poor parish. This hymn is from a collection he compiled for that congregation. Hellespont was the original name for the tune Morecambe.

Tune: MORECAMBE 10.10.10.10.
 Frederick C. Atkinson, 1870