

## **Bible Study for May 17-23, 2021**

### **Read: Romans 8:22-27**

#### **Notes:**

Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, held this year on May 23. Crossing all boundaries that would separate us, the Spirit brings the wideness of God's mercy to places we least expect it – to a crowd of strangers of different lands and tongues as told to us in Acts 2:1-21. Jesus promises his disciples that they will be accompanied by the Holy Spirit, and that this Spirit reveals the truth. On Pentecost we celebrate that we too have been visited by this same Spirit.

In our reading for today we find that by pouring the Holy Spirit into our hearts, God gives us the promised first fruit of eternal life so that we await God's future in hope. In the meantime, the Spirit also intercedes for us by carrying the prayers of our weak human hearts to God.

#### **Questions to Ponder:**

What have you eagerly expected during the past year or two that did not come off as planned? How did you express your disappointment?

What would a world like ours be like if there were no decay or death? How do you imagine it?

What frustrates you most about living in a fallen world?

How can the hope in verses 22-25 help you during times of trial?

What is the difference between hope and wishful thinking? How has your hope in Christ aided you in your life?

When was the last time you did not know how to pray? How did the Holy Spirit help you?