

Leader:

St. Theresa of Avila once said, Christ has no body now on earth but yours,
no hands but yours,
no feet but yours,
yours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion
is to look out to the earth,
yours are the feet by which He is to go about doing good
and yours are the hands by which He is to bless us now.

As you know, a number of people in this congregation have taken on the challenge of the Pentecost Project. Each of them asked the question, "Where is there hurt or brokenness in this community, and how can I create healing and wholeness?" Let us hear what happened to each of them on their journeys this summer! I would like to ask each participant to announce where they saw God during their Pentecost Project. As each person finishes their sharing, I will say to them, "You took God's love to our community," and the congregation will say "Thank you for being Christ in the world."

(Time for each participant to share in two or three sentences what they took on and what their experience was, how they experienced God.)

Leader: (Turning to the congregation) In a word or phrase, offer back to this group where YOU see God in their Pentecost Projects. (Take a moment for people to verbalize.)

Leader: (turning to the Pentecost Project Participants) Hold the hands of the other participants, and lift them up. You are holding Christ's hands. May your hands CONTINUE to be Christ's hands in this neighborhood, that this neighborhood might be more and more blessed by your love in behalf of this community of faith.

Leader: (turning to the congregation) You also, hold the hands of the people closest to you. Yours also are the hands of Christ in this neighborhood, in ways you have been practicing for years, and in ways you have not yet even begun to imagine!

And take a moment now to meet one another's eyes. St. Theresa said that our are the eyes through which Christ's compassion in to look out to the earth. Think of what has already begun to happen as we have gone into this neighborhood with Christ's hands and feet! What will happen when we go out into this neighborhood with the eyes of Christ's compassion?

Let us celebrate our Pentecost Project Participants, and let us learn from them and join with them in the coming months and years as this church becomes a Pentecost church in every aspect of its being! Amen.