

Readers' Theatre – Pentecost

Note: Works effectively if the 3 voices are dispersed around the sanctuary. Perhaps 1 at the front, and 2 + 3 on the sides.

1 reads as a narrator. 2 + 3 augment the telling. In the first 3 paragraphs, each set crescendos to the last line.

Voice 1: After waiting many days in silence – suddenly

Voice 2: Abruptly!

Voice 3: Swiftly!!

Voice 2: Unexpectedly!!

Voice 1: In Jerusalem, on the day of Pentecost, the disciples' house was filled with the sound of rushing wind

Voice 2: Streaming!

Voice 3: Galing!

Voice 2: Breezing!!

Voice 3: Gusting!!

Voice 1: And suddenly appearing among them were divided tongues, like fire

Voice 2: Flaming!

Voice 3: Flaring!

Voice 2: Burning!!

Voice 3: Glowing!!

In this paragraph, the readers slow the pace down and almost move to a whisper.

Voice 1: All the followers of Jesus were filled with the Holy Spirit – and began to speak in other languages

Voice 2: Other languages

Voice 3: Languages

Voice 2: Languages

Voice 3: Languages

The narrator picks up the “whisper” and 2+3 steadily crescendo and pick up the pace in this paragraph.

Voice 1: And the bewildered crowd, hearing them, asked: Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? How is it that we hear them speaking in our own native languages?

Voice 2: Parthians

Voice 3: Medes

Voice 2: Elamites

Voice 3: Judeans

Voice 2: Mesopotamians

Voice 3: Cappadocians

Voice 2: Asians

Voice 3: Egyptians

Voice 2: Libyans

Voice 3: Jews and proselytes

Voice 2: Cretans and Arabs

The narrator's key line, said loudly.

Voice 1: We hear them in our own languages speaking about God's deeds of power!

Reflective, and slow – emphasizing the key word.

Voice 2: *What* does this mean?

Voice 3: What *does* this mean?

Voice 2: What does *this* mean?

Voice 3: What does this *mean*?

As a narrator

Voice 1: In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your youth will see visions, your old men and women will dream dreams.

I will show wonders in the heaven above and signs on the earth below.

The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

And on that day, everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved!

Thanks,

Voice 2: Thanks

Voice 3: Thanks

All: *Thanks be to God!*

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