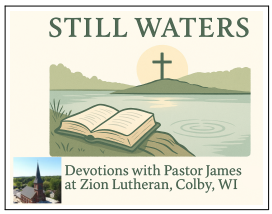
Date: May 24, 2026
Suggested Reading: Acts 2:1–21
Text: Acts 2:21
Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.



When Power Doesn't Look Like Power

We tend to think of power in big, visible ways. We look for strength that impresses: success, influence, or something that makes people take notice. Even in our spiritual lives we sometimes expect God's work to feel dramatic or overwhelming. If He doesn't, we may wonder if anything is really happening at all. That's the problem. We measure God's work by what we can see and feel.

At Pentecost, there was a moment of visible power, wind and fire, but that wasn't the lasting gift. The real power came through something much simpler: words. The disciples spoke, and through those words, the Holy Spirit brought people to faith. Three thousand were baptized, not because of spectacle, but because of the Word.

That same struggle lives in us. We hear God's Word so often it can begin to feel ordinary. A reading in church, a sermon, a familiar verse, it doesn't always feel powerful. Yet that is where God is at work.

The Gospel reminds us: God's power is not limited by how it looks. His Word still forgives sins, strengthens faith, and gives life. When we hear the Word, when we remember our Baptism, when we receive Jesus' Body and Blood, God is doing His greatest work: saving us.

We may not always feel it, but we can trust it. God's power is in His Word, and His Word never fails.

Prayer:
Lord Jesus, strengthen our faith to trust in Your Word, even when it seems simple or ordinary. Through Your Spirit, keep us in Your grace and lead us in Your truth. Amen.

Thought for the Day:
God's greatest power often comes in the simplest ways—through His Word, given for you.

Hymn: LSB 498 – Come, Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire

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