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As we move toward the Solemnity of Pentecost, two thoughts hold my attention. The entrance antiphon for today, “You will receive the power of the Holy Spirit coming upon you, and you will be my witnesses even to the ends of the earth.”

The second is the invitation that Paula offered a few weeks ago, to allow ourselves to rest in the words of John’s Gospel. Perhaps it is more than resting – we need to allow each word to penetrate to the core of our inmost being.

Jesus, the Bread of Life, the Good Shepherd, Light, Vine, one with Abba God and especially the words of the discourse at the Last Supper.

“Do not let your hearts be troubled ...”

“Thomas said to him, ‘Master we do not know where you are going: how can we know the way?’ Jesus said, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life.’”

“Whoever has seen me has seen Abba God.”

“Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you.”

“If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done to you.”

“As Abba God loves me so I also love you. Remain in my love.”

“Love one another as I have loved you. No greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for ones’ friends.”

“If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you.”

“It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you.”

“When the Advocate comes whom I will send you from the Father ... the Spirit will testify to me. For if I do not go the Advocate will not come to you, but if I go, I will send the Spirit to you.”

“Go out to the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature.”