



God's Spirit on the city

Day 3

[19 May]

With Mary... quench our thirst

From the open side of the sacrificial Lamb, from the right side of the new Temple, water has poured. In the beginning it was a small trickle. But instead of drying upon contact with the earth – Oh, surprise! – this trickle of water soon grew to become a spring, a ravine, a stream, and even a river...

On the banks of this river, we have walked and we have seen in the heart of the waters a profusion of fish, full of life. And on the shore, trees with green foliage bore fruit in abundance. Everything that the waters of this river managed to penetrate was as if washed, purified, revived.

What good news is given to us here?

In the dead waters of our hearts, mud can be replaced by sanctity. Abundant sin can be replaced by superabundant grace.

When it touches the waters of the river of Life, death perishes.

Could we allow this river to flow through our hearts?

Then, like a tree planted at the side of the river, we will bear fruit in abundance, fruits of grace, good to eat and to share: "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control" (Gal. 5:22). "As a deer longs for flowing streams" our hearts are thirsty for this water (Ps. 42:2). "If you knew the gift of God... you who would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." (John 4:10)

Come Holy Spirit, to quench our thirst and to make – in us and from us – streams of living water flow.

THE WORD AS THE WAY

Ezek 47:1-2, 8-9, 12 (© NRSVCE)

Then he brought me back to the entrance of the temple; there, water was flowing from below the threshold of the temple toward the east (for the temple faced east); and the water was flowing down from below the south end of the threshold of the temple, south of the altar. Then he brought me out by way of the north gate, and led me around on the outside to the outer gate that faces toward the east; and the water was coming out on the south side. (...) He said to me, "This water flows toward the eastern region and goes down into the Arabah; and when it enters the sea, the sea of stagnant waters, the water will become fresh. Wherever the river goes, every living creature that swarms will live, and there will be very many fish, once these waters reach there. It will become fresh; and everything will live where the river goes. (...) On the banks, on both sides of the river, there will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither nor their fruit fail, but they will bear fresh fruit every month, because the water for them flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for healing."

WORDS TO PRAY

Lord Jesus, our well of hope, let us drink from your waters. Give us something to drink that will quench our thirst for you, our thirst for love and our thirst for your mercy.

Holy Spirit, fill us with this "living water" so that everything in us will be metamorphosed and we will become new men and new women in Jesus Christ.

God the Father, help us, like Mary, to be able to say "yes," so that we will become living witnesses to the promises and the resurrection of Christ.

