

## Sermon Notes for 5/10

### **The Quirkiest Gift—And the No-Nonsense God it Signifies**

Handout May 10, 2026

#### Context-Setting History: Cast of Characters / Locations/ Key Dates

- Elena Guerra / Italy / 1890's
- Pope Leo XIII / The Vatican / 1890's
- Pope Leo XIV / The Vatican / Present
- Agnes Ozman / Topeka, Kansa / Jan 1, 1901
- Charles Parham / 1901 / Topeka Kansa / Jan 1, 1901
- Congress Passes and Renews "The Chinese Exclusion Act" / USA / 1882-1943
- Lucy Farrow / 1906 / Azusa Street, Los Angeles, CA
- William Seymour / 1906 / Azusa Street, Los Angeles, CA

Selections from Paul's Commentary on the Gift of Tongues:

"If I speak in the tongues of humans and of angels, but have do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging symbol" (1 Cor 13:1)12

"I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you; nevertheless, in church I would rather speak five words with my mind, in order to instruct others also, than ten thousand words in a tongue "(1 Cor 14:18-19, NRSVue)

Post-Script, What I hope Pope Leo XIV is Up to:

Combing the modern Catholic Social Teaching Tradition (eg economic justice, immigrant rights, the climate crisis) with reliance on the work of the Holy Spirit