

The Feast of Pentecost – 31st May 2020

Introduction

Welcome to our service – I know there are people joining us for worship from both near and far and wherever you are we hope that our time together will help you feel the joy and peace that comes from worshipping together. For the younger members of the family there is Sunday Club at Home and you can find all the activities and cartoon links on our website each week. If you have any prayer requests or you would like a phone call please do contact us.

AT Bonjour
TW Failte roibh
AT Ola
TW Guten tag
AT Salva
TW Shikamoo
AT Shalom
TW Yassas

As you may have guessed today we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost and we will hear in our Epistle how the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke in many languages. For this service Ted has got promotion from a walk on part to preacher! We sing our opening hymn Come down, O love divine.

Hymn

Come down O love divine <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=flvKDgktutI&t=3s>

Introduction

Jesus Christ, whom we worship, is our crucified, risen and ascended Lord and we have walked with him through his journey of love.
We have faced the agony of his suffering and death on a cross.
We have rejoiced at his bursting free from the bonds of death.
We have enjoyed his risen presence with us
and his revelation of himself through the breaking of bread.
We have seen his return to the throne before which every knee shall bow
and every tongue confess that Jesus is Lord.
And now, with the followers of his own time,
we await the coming of the promised Holy Spirit, his gift to his people,
through whom we make Christ known to the world.

The Collect

Holy Spirit, sent by the father, ignite in us your holy fire; strengthen your children with the gift of faith, revive your Church with the breath of love, and renew the face of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Epistle Reading Acts 2: 1-11

read by David Holroyd

The Coming of the Holy Spirit

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.'

Gospel Reading John 7: 37-39

read by Gill Holroyd

On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, 'Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, "Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water." ' Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Sermon - Rev Ted Woods

Hymn

Spirit of God unseen as the wind

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dy8AZ46GKqc>

Prayers of Intercession

read by Gabriel & Kitty Cardeira

Living God, we remember today how you transformed the lives of the disciples; how, through the Holy Spirit you turned their fear into confidence, their weakness into strength, their doubt into faith and their sorrow into joy.

Come to us now through the same Spirit. Deepen our faith, strengthen our commitment and enlarge our vision. Help us to open our lives more fully to the presence of your Spirit that we may know you better and be instruments of your love and care wherever we may be. Lord, in your mercy ***Hear our prayer***

Living God, on that first Day of Pentecost, your Spirit came in tongues of flame and as a rushing wind, and the disciples were enabled to do and say wonderful things. But you are also revealed by the still small voice. Make us aware of your gifts of encouraging, enabling, serving and supporting, which, though they may not hit the headlines, are yet evidence of your kingdom and presence among us. Teach us to be open to the Spirit and to use your gifts to build up both the church and the community. Lord, in your mercy ***Hear our prayer***

Living God, pour your Spirit of wisdom and insight, of courage and compassion, on all who bear the responsibility of leadership both in the world and in our country. Guide them in all the difficult decisions they have to make about care and cash, lives and livelihoods as they grapple with the present coronavirus pandemic and its consequences.

We pray too for church leaders. Grant them strength and foresight in all the decisions about mission, ministry and management that they have to make, and equip them and us that, in all the challenges that lie ahead, we may seek to be your living and active body here on earth Lord, in your mercy ***Hear our prayer***

Living God, we thank you for all who work selflessly and sacrificially on the front line – doctors, nurses, radiographers and midwives, those in the emergency and security services, carers, shop assistants, bus drivers, delivery people, cleaners and so many more. May they be encouraged by our prayers and appreciation.

We pray especially at this time for Amanda, Barbara, Graeme and Mike. Help them and all who are ill or recovering at this time to know that you are with them even in the darkest times and bring them healing and hope.

Lord, in your mercy ***Hear our prayer***

Living God, we thank you that your loving care embraces both the living and the dead. Hear our prayers for all those who have passed into their eternal rest - Jonathan Foster, Joan Trappe and Cathy Pope. Comfort all who mourn and grant them peace and hope. Lord, in your mercy ***Hear our prayer***

The Holy Spirit was poured out on the disciples like a rush of wind and with tongues of fire. Ever since, God's Holy Spirit has enriched and empowered all who open their hearts and minds to receive it. In wonder and confidence let us all be Disciples of Christ. Amen.

The Peace

God has made us one in Christ.
He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come,
has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Taking of the Bread and Wine

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this bread to set before you, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God forever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this wine to set before you, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation.

Blessed be God forever.

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father,

And now we give you thanks
that, after he had ascended far above all heavens,
and was seated at the right hand of your majesty,
he sent forth upon the universal Church your holy and life-giving Spirit;
that through his glorious power the joy of the everlasting gospel
might go forth into all the world.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:



**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Gracious God, in the fullness of time you sent Jesus Christ
to share our fragile humanity.

Through Jesus' life, death and resurrection
you opened the path from brokenness to health,
from fear to trust, from pride and conceit
to reverence for you.

Rejected by a world that could not bear the Gospel of life,
Jesus knew death was near.

His head anointed for burial by an unknown woman,
Jesus gathered together those who loved him.

He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it and gave it to his friends,
saying, 'Take and eat: this is my body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.'

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave you thanks,
and said, 'Drink this all of you, this is my blood of the new covenant
which is shed for you and for many.

Whenever you drink it, Do this for the remembrance of me.'

And now we gather at your table
in response to his commandment,
to share the bread and cup of Christ's undying love,
and to proclaim our faith.

**Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

Breathe your Holy Spirit,
the wisdom of the universe,
upon these gifts that we bring to you:
this bread, this cup,
ourselves, our souls and bodies,
that we may be signs of your love for all the world
and ministers of your transforming purpose.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory is yours, Creator of all,
and we bless your holy name for ever. **Amen.**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Giving of Communion

Prayer after Communion

Faithful God, who fulfilled the promises of Easter by sending us your Holy Spirit and opening to every race and nation the way of life eternal: open our lips by your Spirit, that every tongue may tell of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn

Breath on me breathe of God <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TssHTATafi0>

The Blessing

Lord Christ,
may the boldness of your Spirit transform us,
may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us,
may the gifts of your Spirit equip us to serve and worship you;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be with you, and all that you love and care for,
this day and always. **Amen.**