

Sunday 28th May 2023
Pentecost

Reading 1: Acts 2: 1 - 21
Gospel: John 20: 19-23

GREETING

In the name of the Father,
And of the Son,
And of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

INTRODUCTION

Today we give thanks for the coming of the Holy Spirit bringing to birth the community of people who bear the name of Christ, which we call the Church, spread over all the earth.

Jesus Christ, whom we worship, is our crucified, risen and ascended Lord and since Easter 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. As he makes himself known as we break bread. We have celebrated his return to the throne before which every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that this Jesus is Lord. And in these last days, just as his first followers did, with the followers of his own time, we await the coming of the promised Holy Spirit, the Father's gift to his people, through whom we make Christ known to the world. Alleluia, Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

SONG

Send the Fire
(Click link) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vm0rPIbnqVU>

CONFESSION

What God has prepared for those who love him,
he has revealed to us through the Spirit;
for the Spirit searches everything.
Therefore, let us in penitence open our hearts to the Lord,
who has prepared good things for those who love him.

cf 1 Corinthians 2.9

We confess to you our selfishness and lack of love:
fill us with your Spirit.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

We confess to you our fear and failure in sharing our faith:
fill us with your Spirit.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

We confess to you our stubbornness and lack of trust:

fill us with your Spirit.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

May the Father forgive us
by the death of his Son
and strengthen us to live
in the power of the Spirit
all our days.
Amen.

READING 1: ACTS 2: 1 – 21

The Coming of the Holy Spirit

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ² 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. ³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵ Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶ And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷ Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?' ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' ¹² All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' ¹³ But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.'

Peter Addresses the Crowd

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵ Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷ "In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

¹⁸ Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹ And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. ²⁰ The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. ²¹ Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: JOHN 20: 19-23

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

TALK: (Click link) <https://youtu.be/6wxEZnAToiU>

SONG

Holy Spirit we welcome you
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ggUFZdNCpA>

THE CREED

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love,
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.
We believe in God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We pray for God to fill us with his Spirit.
Generous God,
we thank you for the *power* of your Holy Spirit.
We ask that we may be strengthened to serve you better.
Lord, come to bless us
and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the *wisdom* of your Holy Spirit.
We ask you to make us wise to understand your will.
Lord, come to bless us
and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the *peace* of your Holy Spirit.
We ask you to keep us confident of your love wherever you call us.
Lord, come to bless us
and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the *healing* of your Holy Spirit.
We ask you to bring reconciliation and wholeness
where there is division, sickness and sorrow.
Lord, come to bless us
and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the *gifts* of your Holy Spirit.
We ask you to equip us for the work which you have given us.
Lord, come to bless us
and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the *fruit* of your Holy Spirit.
We ask you to reveal in our lives the love of Jesus.
Lord, come to bless us
and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the *breath* of your Holy Spirit,
given us by the risen Lord.
We ask you to keep the whole Church, living and departed,
in the joy of eternal life.
Lord, come to bless us
and fill us with your Spirit.

Generous God,
you sent your Holy Spirit upon Jesus at the river Jordan,
and upon the disciples in the upper room:
in your mercy fill us with your Spirit,
**hear our prayer,
and make us one in heart and mind
to serve you with joy for ever. Amen.**

Silence is kept.

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.

SONG

Spirit of the living God

(Click link) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ccaFnRYLTok>

BLESSING

Today we have remembered the coming of God's power on the disciples and we invite that same Spirit to drive us out into the wild places of the world.

May the Spirit,
who hovered over the face of the waters when the world was created,
breathe into you the life he gives.

Amen.

May the Spirit,
who overshadowed the Virgin when the eternal Son came among us,
may you joyful in the service of the Lord.

Amen.

May the Spirit,
who set the Church on fire upon the Day of Pentecost,
bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ.

Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Filled with the Spirit's power,
Go in the light and peace of Christ, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

SONG

Bless the Lord oh my Soul

(Click link) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xGfbduLuZlo>