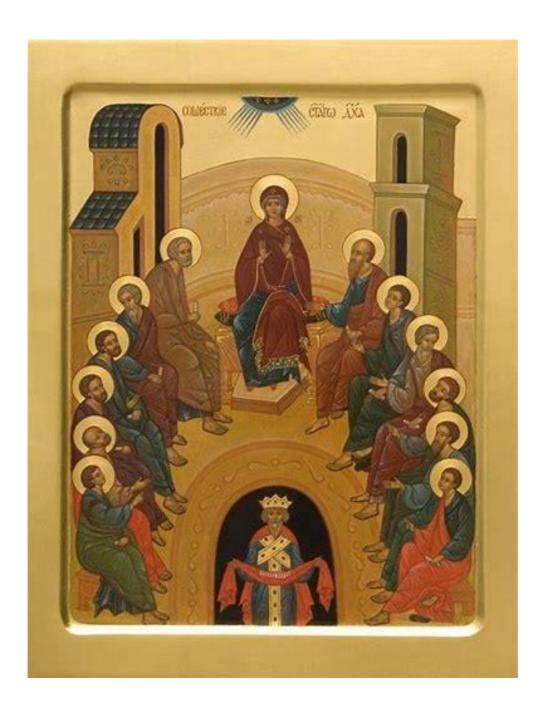
# THE FEAST OF PENTECOST (ALSO KNOWN AS WHITSUNDAY)



June 5, 2022 8:00 a.m. The Feast of Pentecost is often taken as the day on which the church began, and so today is frequently called 'the birthday of the Church'. This, of course, depends on one's understanding of what constitutes the Church: is it the calling by Jesus of disciples? Is it that moment on the Cross when Jesus commits his mother into the care of his beloved disciple? Is it the conception of Jesus, when Mary becomes the first to 'bear God' in and to the world? Perhaps the fact that there are so many possible 'birthdays' for the Church, so many times when the Spirit can be seen to be poured out on the Church, shows us that what we are dealing with here is not any 'fixed day' (or date – a fact that the date of Pentecost always depends on Easter underlines), but a constant outpouring of God's gracious goodness.

Certainly, the Feast we celebrate today gives us a chance to recall and celebrate that what continues to sustain the Church is the gracious gift by God of God's creating, empowering, loving, and warming Holy Spirit. As Luke tells it, the rag tag bunch of disciples, following Jesus' command as he departed from them to wait in Jerusalem until they receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, become empowered to confess all that they saw God had done in and through Jesus to a large crowd gathered in Jerusalem. The crowd was gathered for the holy feast of Pentecost, that day which, in Jewish faith, marks the 'Feast of Weeks' – or a form of Harvest Festival. But it also came to signify, by the time Acts was written, a reminder of the covenant God established with all creation when God spoke to Noah. It became, therefore, a time to remember when God renewed the whole creation after the flood.

There is, therefore, a lovely 'symmetry' that in this Christian festival we recall the gift of the Spirit and think about the power and work of the Spirit in renewing the whole creation. And, given the renewal of the earth following the flood, it is a reminder to us that this renewing of the Spirit comes after Jesus has overcome the flood of death. We have been reflecting on this since Easter. Hence, Pentecost also marks the end of the liturgical Easter season (though every Sunday is a remembrance of Easter and the Resurrection.).

Furthermore, the gift of the Spirit to the apostles and other disciples described in Acts – that they could speak so that each member of the large crowd in Jerusalem could 'hear, each of us, in our own native language' (Acts 2:8) – shows a reversal of the Tower of Babel. Now, rather than different languages being a sign and cause of confusion and disunity between peoples, the Spirit transforms those 'differences', enabling the differences to be a sign of God's embrace of all creation, not a single group or tribe.

This gives us quite a bit to ponder as we gather as the Church in this place today and each Sunday. Are we allowing the Spirit to empower us; so that, rather than a 'rag tag' collection of people who may feel rather tired and worn out after the ravages of Covid, we are empowered to share the transforming love of God? Are we listening to the promptings of the Spirit, so that we, too, find ways of sharing the good news to those around us in ways they can understand? Are we as a community and a nation allowing the Spirit to transform our differences and our view of difference, so that, rather than causing hostility and confusion, we see them as signs of God's abundance? Above all, are we able to hear, see and feel the Spirit leading us into all truth: the truth of God's reconciling love for all people and the continual renewing of God's creation, in which God invites us to discern and then play our part?

# **GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME**

The people stand as a bell is rung. We sing:

2.

# **Opening Hymn**

Come down, O Love divine,
 Seek thou this soul of mine,
 And visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
 O Comforter, draw near,
 Within my heart appear,
 And kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
Till earthly passions turn
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
And let thy glorious light
Shine ever on my sight,
And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity
 Mine outward vesture be,
 And lowliness become mine inner clothing;
 True lowliness of heart,
 Which takes the humbler part,
 And o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

4. And so the yearning strong, With which the soul will long, Shall far outpass the power of human telling; For none can guess its grace, Till he become the place Wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

> Words: Italian, Bianco da Siena (d. 1434) tr. R, F. Littledale (1833–90) Music: Down Ampney, by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's Kingdom, now and for ever.

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Christ is risen. Alleluia!

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The President welcomes the congregation in suitable words, followed by a sentence of Scripture.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

# We say together

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Let us pray.

The people pray silently, and then the President 'collects' the silent prayer:

O God, who in smoke and fire upon Mount Sinai gave the law to Moses, and who revealed the new covenant in the fire of the Spirit: grant, we pray, that, kindled by that same Spirit which you poured forth upon you apostles, we may fulfil with joy your commandment of love. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

# THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 2: 1-21

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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.' All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another,

'What does this mean?'

But others sneered and said.

'They are filled with new wine.'

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. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning.

No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

"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.

Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 104: 26-36, 37b

Response: Send forth your Spirit, Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

- 26. O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.
- 27. Yonder is the great and wide sea, with its living things too many to number, creatures both small and great.
- 28. There move the ships, and there is that Leviathan that you made for the sport of it.
- 29. All of them look to you to give them their food in due season;

R.

- 30. You give it to them, they gather it up; you open your hand and they are filled with good things.
- 31. You hide your face and they are terrified; you take away their breath and they die and return to their dust.

R.

- 32. You send forth your spirit and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth.
- 33. May the glory of the Lord endure for ever; may the Lord rejoice in all his works.
- 34. He looks at the earth and it trembles; he touches the mountains and they smoke.

R.

- 35. I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
  I will praise my God while I have my being.
- 36. May these words of mine please him, I will rejoice in the Lord.
- 37. Bless the Lord, O my soul. Alleluia!

R.

# **SECOND READING:**

Romans 8:14-17

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Church in Rome

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption.

When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—
if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

#### Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

# And also with you.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

# Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you....

'I have said these things to you while I am still with you.

But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.

I do not give to you as the world gives.

Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

For the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

After the sermon, silence is kept.

## The Nicene Creed

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:

#### All stand

We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father [and the Son], who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

# THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

Prayers are offered for the world, the Church, for our local community, those sick or "in any other adversity", and we remember the faithful departed.

# For the Anglican Church

We pray for The Anglican Church of Southern Africa; The Diocese of Perth; All Saints, Rosebud w. St Katherine's, McCrae; St James' and St Peter's Kilsyth/Montrose; St Barnabas' Balwyn; St Stephen's Richmond.

#### For all in need

May all who are in trouble, in need or sickness find peace and refreshment in you especially: Ann, Cecily, John, Coral, Keith, Erica, Peter, Helen, Claire, John, Margaret, Joan, Thea, John, Ray, Kaye, Clive, Christine and others we mention before God in the silence of our hearts.

#### For the Faithful Departed

We pray for those whose anniversary of death occurs this week: Winifred Mary Barber, Wilhelmena Belcher, Nancy Browne, John Creighton Dean, Judith Granger, Edmund Hagerty, Alistair Hillier, Edgar Hindell, Harold Hood, Alison Clare Hughes, Hilda Lester, William Ian Lowry, Henry Mark, Olive Newnham, Katharine (Kitty) Roff, Ruby Wailes.

#### The President concludes

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers. Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

The Spirit of truth comes to convict of sin, of righteousness, and of judgement.

#### Silence is kept.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiveness.

Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

# THE GREETING OF PEACE

United by the Spirit, we are the Body of Christ. His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Risen Lord be always with you. Alleluia! Alleluia!

And also with you. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Members of the congregation greet one another in an appropriate way.

# THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

During the following hymn, the people's gifts are brought forward, and the altar prepared.

# **Offertory Hymn**

- Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire, And lighten with celestial fire; Thou the anointing Spirit art, Who dost Thy sevenfold gifts impart.
- Thy blessèd unction from above ls comfort, life, and fire of love; Enable with perpetual light The dullness of our blinded sight.
- Anoint and cheer our soilèd face
   With the abundance of thy grace;
   Keep far our foes, give peace at home;
   Where thou art guide, no ill can come.

4. Teach us to know the Father, Son, And Thee, of both, to be but One; That through the ages all along This, this may be our endless song.

Praise to thy eternal merit, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

> Words: John Cosin (1594–1672) based on Veni Creator Spiritus Music: Veni Creator (Mechlin). Mode viii

The President offers prayers over the gifts, to which the people respond:

Blessed be God for ever.

The President then begins the Great Thanksgiving Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The President continues with the prayer, concluding with:

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.

The President continues the prayer until the deacon says:

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died.** 

Christ has died,
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The President continues the prayer, which concludes:

...we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

A brief silence is kept.

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:

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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

# THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

As the President breaks the bread, the following is said:

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ. We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread. We sing:

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us. Jesus, Redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Come, let us take this holy sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Communion is distributed.

After Communion, silence is kept.

## THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

All stand. The President offers a prayer, concluding with:

Father,

we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

Please sit for notices.

## **CLOSING HYMN**

#### All stand.

- O Thou who camest from above, The pure celestial fire to impart, Kindle a flame of sacred love On the mean altar of my heart.
- There let it for thy glory burn
   With inextinguishable blaze,
   And trembling to its source return
   In humble prayer and fervent praise.
- 3. Jesus, confirm my heart's desire

  To work, and speak, and think for thee;

  Still let me guard the holy fire,

  And still stir up the gift in me.
- Ready for all thy perfect will,
   My acts of faith and love repeat;
   Till death thy endless mercies seal,
   And make the sacrifice complete.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707–88) Music: Hereford, Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810–76)

The priest pronounces a blessing to which all respond: **Amen.** 

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia! In the name of Christ. Amen. Alleluia! Alleluia!

## **NOTICES**

#### Welcome

We are very pleased to welcome the families, sponsors and friends of Danielle and Lincoln House who are to be baptized at the 10:00 a.m. eucharist this morning.

## **Tonight**

Festal Choral Evensong (BCP) for Pentecost at 6:30 p.m., followed by refreshments in the Hall. Please join us for a fitting end to the Easter Season.

#### Readers/Servers/Eucharistic Assistants Refresher Course

Thank you to all who attended the refresher course for all those involved in these important ministries last Sunday.

<u>Public Lecture:</u> Identity and Inclusion: Jesus and the Syruphoenician Woman in Mark's Gospel This public lecture will cover the socio-cognitive ramifications of ethnic identity in the ancient world, and Jesus' response.

Presented by Dr Elizabeth Shively, Director of Teaching and Senior Lecturer in New Testament, University of St Andrews (School of Divinity), Co-Investigator on the Figuring the Enemy Project, and Honorary Research Fellow, Trinity College Theological School.

Date: Tuesday 14 June 2022

Time: 7:30 – 9:00pm

Location: Old Warden's Lodge, Trinity College Theological School

100 Royal Parade, Parkville, VIC 3052

RSVP: By 5pm Sunday 12 June 2022 / Click here to RSVP

https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=913196&

Enquiries: Theological School | 03 9348 7127 / theologyevents@trinity.edu.au

# **READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: FEAST OF THE HOLY TRINITY**

Proverbs 8:1–4, 22–31 Psalm 8

Romans 5:1–5 John 16:12–15

## THE WEEK AHEAD

Weekdays Monday – Saturday	9:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer
<u>Day</u>	Morning Prayer in Chapel and by	Evening Prayer Zoom (details below)
Monday, 6 June Ember Day	Psalm 86 Ezekiel 32:1–16 2 Corinthians 7:2–16	Psalm 88 Deuteronomy 21:22–22:12 Acts 8:4–13
Tuesday, 7 June Ember Day	Psalm 90 Ezekiel 32:17–32 2 Corinthians 8:1–15	Psalms 119:89–104 Deuteronomy 24:5–22 Acts 8:14–25
Wednesday, 8 June Ember Day	Psalm 89:1–18 2 Chronicles I 2 Corinthians 8:16–24	Psalm 89:19–38 Deuteronomy 26 Acts 8:26–40
Reflections on the Lections	Via Zoom: see details below	
Thursday, 9 June Columba of Iona	Psalm 89:39–53 2 Chronicles 2:1–3:2 2 Corinthians 9	Psalm 91 Deuteronomy 27 Acts 8:1–9
Holy Eucharist at 10:15 a.m.	I Kings 18:41–46;	Ps. 65:9–11; Matthew 5:20–26
Friday, 10 June Ember Day	Psalms 92; 93 2 Chronicles 4:9–5:10 2 Corinthians 10:1–12	Psalm 94 Deuteronomy 28:1–20 Acts 9:10–19a
Saturday, II June Barnabas, Apostle and Martyr	Psalm 101 Ecclesiastes 12:9–14 Acts 4:32–37	Psalm 150 Exodus 3:1–15 John 17:17–26
Holy Eucharist at 9:30 a.m.	Job 29:11–16; Ps 98;	Acts 11:22–30,13:1–3; Matt. 10:7–13
Next Sunday, 5 June Trinity Sunday	8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist & Meditation

**Morning Prayer** 

9:00 a.m., Monday - Saturday

Meeting ID: 709 867 2691; Passcode: 630283

https://zoom.us/j/7098672691?pwd=TFBBSGYxb2lhcUI3RWRIdmIXWDQ4Zz09

**Evening Prayer** 

5:00 p.m., Monday - Saturday

Meeting ID: 709 867 2691; Passcode: 630283

https://zoom.us/j/7098672691?pwd=TFBBSGYxb2lhcUl3RWR1dm1XWDQ4Zz09

**Reflections on the Lections** 

7:30 p.m., Wednesday, 8 June

Meeting ID: 926 3986 2120; Passcode: 551393

https://zoom.us/j/92639862120?pwd=dkpiSXdMa0VvZnVUYm5hUWFzWGcydz09