



SUNDAY SERVICE
Such Love
Pentecost, 5th June 2022

Gathering

Words of welcome

Gathering Prayer

Generous God, as we gather in this place, give us open hearts and minds to receive all you have for us.

Renew us with your life and warm us with your love, fill us with the power and presence of your Spirit. Amen.

God's word

The Promise

John 14.15-17, 25-27

"If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

"All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Such love (620)

The Fulfilment

Acts 2.1-21

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!"

Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

"In the last days, God says,
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,
your young men will see visions,
your old men will dream dreams.
Even on my servants, both men and women,
I will pour out my Spirit in those days,
and they will prophesy.
I will show wonders in the heavens above
and signs on the earth below,
blood and fire and billows of smoke.
The sun will be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood
before the coming of the great and
glorious day of the Lord.
And everyone who calls
on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Our response

Reflection

A Prayer of Confession

Lord, forgive us the days we don't feel like rejoicing and when we find peace evading us. We are sorry when we fail to live as Spirit-filled children of God. Negative emotions have a habit of infiltrating. We find ourselves fearing situations we can't control, doubting what we can't see or understand.

Others may share what you have done in their lives and sometimes we find ourselves being sceptical instead of accepting, believing and rejoicing in your wonders.

Lord God, forgive us. Help us to live more Spirit-filled lives. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

God sent his Son to shed his blood as payment for our sins.

God sent his Holy Spirit to live with us and in us.

Be at peace. For Jesus is faithful and just. Our sins are forgiven.

We praise you, Father God.

We thank you, Lord Jesus.

Holy Spirit, come fill us afresh. Amen.

The Collect for Pentecost

**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.**

Hymn

Holy Spirit, living breath of God,
Breathe new life into my willing soul.
Breathe the presence of the risen Lord,
To renew my heart and make me whole.
Cause Your Word to come alive in me;
Give me faith for what I cannot see,
Give me passion for Your purity;
Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

Holy Spirit, come abide within,
May Your joy be seen in all I do.
Love enough to cover every sin,
In each thought and deed and attitude.
Kindness to the greatest and the least,
Gentleness that sows the path of peace.
Turn my striving into works of grace;
Breath of God show Christ in all I do.

Holy Spirit, from creation's birth,
Giving life to all that God has made,
Show Your power once again on earth,
Cause Your church to hunger for your ways.
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise;
Lead us on the road of sacrifice,
That in unity the face of Christ
Will be clear for all the world to see.

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

"Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever. Amen." *Ephesians 3:20-21*

Baptism of Tania and Wanda

Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us that to enter the kingdom of heaven we must be born again of water and the Spirit, and has given us baptism as the sign and seal of this new birth. Here we are washed by the Holy Spirit and made clean. Here we are clothed with Christ, dying to sin that we may live his risen life. As children of God, we have a new dignity and God calls us to fullness of life.

Testimonies

Liturgy of Baptism

Recognition of Sponsors

The president asks the sponsor(s)

Do you present *these candidates* for baptism and willingly and responsibly take on the role of Christian guide and friend to help *N* grow in faith and trust?

Each replies

I do.

Presentation of the Candidates

The president asks the candidate(s)

Do you wish to be baptised?

Each replies

I do.

The president addresses the whole congregation

Faith is the gift of God to his people. In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling. People of God, will you welcome *these candidates* and uphold *them* in their new life in Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

The Decision

The president addresses the candidates

We all wander far from God and lose our way. Christ comes to find us and welcomes us home. In baptism we respond to his call. Therefore I ask:

Do you turn away from sin?

I do.

Do you reject evil?

I do.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I do.

Do you trust in him as Lord?

I do.

Signing with the Cross

A minister makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each candidate, saying

Christ claims you for his own.
Receive the sign of his cross.
Do not be ashamed of Christ.
You are his forever.

Stand bravely with him against all the powers of evil, and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, restore in you the image of his glory, and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ. Amen.

Prayer over the Water

The ministers and candidates gather at the baptismal font.

Praise God who made heaven and earth,
who keeps his promise for ever.

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

We thank you, almighty God, for the gift of water to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life.

Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through water you led the children of Israel from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land. In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us from the death of sin to newness of life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son, we baptise into his fellowship those who come to him in faith.

Now sanctify this water that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, they may be cleansed from sin and born again. Renewed in your image, may they walk by the light of faith and continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm, together with *these* who are being baptised, our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Baptism

N, is this your faith?

Each candidate answers

This is my faith.

N, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The president says

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace, that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit, and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory. **Amen.**

The Welcome and Peace

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:
N, by one Spirit we are all baptised into
one body.

We welcome you into the fellowship of
faith; we are children of the same
heavenly Father; we welcome you.

The president introduces the Peace

We are all one in Christ Jesus. We belong
to him through faith, heirs of the promise
of the Spirit of peace.

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

Commission and Prayers

N, today God has touched you with his
love and given you a place among his
people. God promises to be with you in
joy and in sorrow, to be your guide in life,
and to bring you safely to heaven. In
baptism God invites you on a life-long
journey. Together with all God's people
you must explore the way of Jesus and
grow in friendship with God, in love for
his people, and in serving others. With us
you will listen to the word of God and
receive the gifts of God.

We will now pray for you, and with you,
for the Queen, for the world and for each
other.

Further prayers ending with

**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.**

We go out to serve God

News and Notices

Hymn

249 Great is thy faithfulness

The National Anthem

God save our gracious Queen,
long live our noble Queen,
God save the Queen.
Send her victorious,
happy and glorious,
long to reign over us:
God save the Queen.

The Blessing

Now to him who is able to do far more
abundantly than all that we ask or think,
according to the power at work within us,
to him be glory in the church and in Christ
Jesus throughout all generations, for ever
and ever.

The God of all grace, who called you to
his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, establish,
strengthen and settle you in the faith;

Giving of a Lighted Candle

**A candle is lit and given to the newly
baptised.**

God has delivered us from the dominion
of darkness and has given us a place with
the saints in light. You have received the
light of Christ; walk in this light all the
days of your life.

**Shine as a light in the world
to the glory of God the Father.**

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

Go, filled with the Spirit, in the light and peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

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