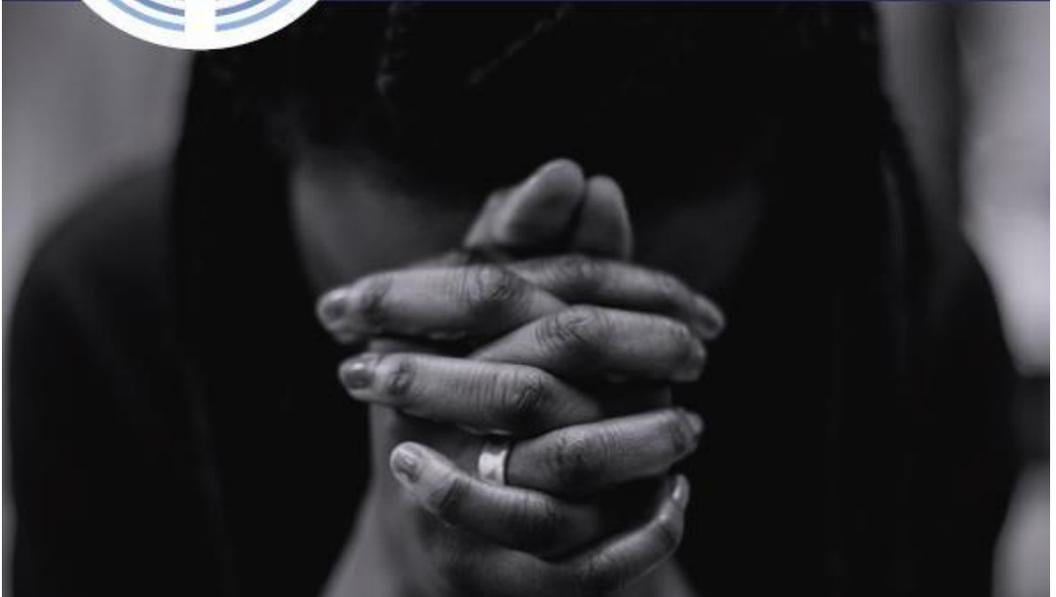


A Celebration of the Eucharist for Christ Church with St Mary's on Pentecost Sunday 31st May 2020

On the day of Pentecost, as God's Spirit filled the hearts of Jesus' followers, they miraculously started praising God in every possible language, languages they could not previously speak. And the crowd, who were from all around the region and spoke many languages said: *"We hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own languages!"*



Thy Kingdom Come is an annual invitation to prayer called by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. Lasting for eleven days and culminating today, Pentecost Sunday, the focus is specific prayer in churches, households and as individuals for friends, families, communities and countries to come to know the saving love of God in Jesus Christ, and for ourselves that, empowered by God's Spirit, we would grow in confidence to show and tell of God's love.

There are a wide range of resources, including daily videos, to support churches on the dedicated Thy Kingdom Come app (available on iOS and Android) or at www.thykingdomcome.global

The congregation are invited to join in all the words in bold.

When invited to stand, please only do so if comfortable able.

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The Greeting and Welcome : **The Revd Canon Simon Stevenette**

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
All **Amen.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
All **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Hymn: To God be the Glory

1 To God be the glory, great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life gate that we may go in.

Refrain:
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,

let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thro' Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he has done!

2 O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
To ev'ry believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus forgiveness receives. [Refrain]

3 Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. [Refrain]

The Pentecost Reading : Edward and Thomas Stevenette

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (chapter 2, verses 1-21)

“When the Feast of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Without warning there was a sound like a strong wind, gale force—no one could tell where it came from. It filled the whole building. Then, like a wildfire, the Holy Spirit spread through their ranks, and they started speaking in a number of different languages as the Spirit prompted them.

There were many Jews staying in Jerusalem just then, devout pilgrims from all over the world. When they heard the sound, they came on the run. Then when they heard, one after another, their own mother tongues being spoken, they were thunderstruck. They couldn't for the life of them figure out what was going on, and kept saying, “Aren't these all Galileans? How come we're hearing them talk in our various mother tongues? Parthians, Medes, and Elamites; Visitors from Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia,

The Lord is here.

All **His Spirit is with us.**

Children's Talk : Ailsa Palmer

a Peruvian Gloria

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father. **Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father.**

To him be glory for ever.

To him be glory for ever.

Chorus:

Alleluia, amen. **Alleluia,**
amen, alleluia, amen,
alleluia, amen.

1. Glory to God, glory to
God, Son of the Father.

**Glory to God, glory to God, Son
of the Father.**

To him be glory for ever.

To him be glory for ever.

(Chorus)

2. Glory to God, glory to
God, glory to the Spirit.

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory
to the Spirit.**

To him be glory for ever.

To him be glory for ever.

(Chorus)

Introduction

The presiding minister introduces the service

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 this 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.

As we wait in silence,
All **fill us with Your Spirit.**

As we listen to Your word,
All **fill us with Your Spirit.**

As we worship You in majesty,
All **fill us with Your Spirit.**

As we long for Your refreshing,
All **fill us with Your Spirit.**

As we long for Your renewing,
All **fill us with Your Spirit.**

As we long for Your equipping,
All **fill us with Your Spirit.**

As we long for Your empowering,
All **fill us with Your Spirit.**

Silence is kept.

Prayer of Penitence

A time to say sorry to God

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'

A short time of silence

All Lord have mercy upon us, forgive us where we have gone wrong and sinned and help us to walk from now on in your way. Amen.

May the God of love and power bring you back to himself, forgive you and free you from your sins, and restore you to newness of life by his Spirit.

The Prayer for Thy Kingdom Come

**Almighty God,
your ascended Son has sent us into the world
to preach the good news of your kingdom:
inspire us with your Spirit
and fill our hearts
with the fire of your love,
that all who hear your Word
may be drawn to you,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

All: Amen.

Bible Reading : Joel 2 28-32 Hugo Stevenette

At the end of which the reader may say:

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

Hymn : O Thou who camest from above

1 O thou who camest from above
the fire celestial to impart,
kindle a flame of sacred love
on the mean altar of my heart!

2 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.

4 Ready for all thy perfect will,
my acts of faith and love repeat;
till death thy endless mercies seal,
and make the sacrifice complete.

Source: [Ancient and Modern: hymns and songs for refreshing worship #258](#)

Sermon : Ailsa Palmer

The Creed

The minister addresses the whole congregation

Let us affirm together with those who are being baptised the faith
of the Church

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

All: 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?

All: 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?

All: I believe and trust in Him.

This is the faith of the Church.

All: This is our faith.

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

Intercessions : Nicola Stevenette

The intercessions include space for people to pray silently for their five people to come to know God's love.

The following response maybe used at times:

Lord, bless Your world

All: And fill us with Your Spirit

Merciful Father,

**All: accept these prayers for the sake of Your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen**

Sharing Stories

At the end of these eleven days of Thy Kingdom Come prayer, congregation members are invited to think about stories of what has happened locally and what they have noticed as they have prayed for others.

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.

(2 Corinthians 1.22)

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

The table is prepared

Risen Lord Jesus Christ, we believe You, and all we have heard is true. When You break bread may we recognize You as the fire that burns within us, that we may bring light to Your world.

Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here

All **His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is always right to give You thanks,
God our Creator, loving and
faithful, holy and strong. You
made us and the whole
universe, and filled Your
world with life.

You sent Your Son to live among us,
Jesus our Saviour, Mary's child.
He suffered on the cross;
He died to save us from our sins;
He rose in glory from the dead.

You send Your Spirit to bring new life
to the world, and clothe us with power
from on high. And so we join the
angels to celebrate and sing:

All **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.**

Father, on the night before He died,
Jesus shared a meal with his friends.
He took the bread, and thanked You.
He broke it, and gave it to them, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine.
He thanked You, and gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you. This is my blood,
the new promise of God's unfailing love.
Do this to remember me.

Jesus Christ has died.

All **Jesus Christ has died.**

Jesus Christ is risen.

All **Jesus Christ is risen.**

Jesus Christ will come again.

All **Jesus Christ will come again.**

Father, as we bring this bread and wine, and
remember His death and resurrection,
send Your Holy Spirit, that we who share
these gifts may be fed by Christ's body
and His blood.

Pour Your Spirit on us that we
may love one another, work for
the healing of the earth, and
share the good news of Jesus, as
we wait for His coming in glory.

For honour and praise belong to You, Father, with
Jesus Your Son, and the Holy Spirit:
one God, for ever and ever.

All **Amen, Amen, Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Being made one by the power of the Spirit, let us pray
with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All **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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The presiding minister breaks the consecrated bread.

We break this bread to share
in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

All **Jesus, Lamb of God, have
mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins, have
mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant
us peace.**

Giving of Communion

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which He gave for you, and His blood which He
shed for you.

Eat and drink
in remembrance that He died for you,
and feed on Him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

All are welcome at God's table.

For most of us in this time of pandemic, receiving the Bread and Wine according to the practice of the Church of England is impossible. This prayer of Spiritual Communion taken from Great St Mary's Church Cambridge, is a beautiful way to remember Jesus and abide in Him.

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given me, for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.

Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.

O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day.
Amen.

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.

All **Amen.**

**Come Holy Spirit, to all baptised in Your Name,
that we may turn to good whatever lies
ahead. Give us passion, give us fire; make us
transform the world from what it is, to what
You have created it to be. Amen.**

Hymn: The spirit Comes to set us free, walk, walk in the light

The Spirit lives to set us free,
Walk, walk in the light.
He binds us all in unity,
Walk, walk in the light.
*Walk in the light,
Walk in the light,
Walk in the light,
Walk in the light of the Lord.*
Jesus promised life to all,
Walk, walk in the light.
The dead were wakened by his call,
Walk, walk in the light.
*Walk in the light,
Walk in the light,
Walk in the light,
Walk in the light of the Lord.*
He died in pain on Calvary,
Walk, walk in the light.

To save the lost like you and me,
Walk, walk in the light.
Walk in the light,
Walk in the light,
Walk in the light,
Walk in the light of the Lord.
We know his death was not the end,
Walk, walk in the light.
He gave his Spirit to be our friend,
Walk, walk in the light.
Walk in the light,
Walk in the light,
Walk in the light,
Walk in the light of the Lord.
The Spirit lives in you and me,
Walk, walk in the light;
His light will shine for all to see,
Walk, walk in the light.
Walk in the light,
Walk in the light,
Walk in the light,
Walk in the light of the Lord.

Commission

For fifty days we have celebrated the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ over the powers of sin and death. We have proclaimed God's mighty acts and we have prayed that the power that was at work when God raised Jesus from the dead might be at work in us. As part of God's Church here in Old Town, Swindon, I call upon you to live out what you proclaim. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, will you dare to walk into God's future, trusting Him to be your guide?

All **By the Spirit's power, we will.**

Will you dare to embrace each other and grow together in love?

All **We will.**

Will you dare to share your riches in common and minister to each other in need?

All **We will.**

Will you dare to pray for each other until your hearts beat with the longings of God?

All **We will.**

Will you dare to carry the light of Christ into the world's dark places?

All **We will.**

Blessing

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

All **Amen.**

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

All **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.

All **Amen.**

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

All **Amen.**

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

All **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

A little more about Thy Kingdom Come...

During the 11 days of Thy Kingdom Come, it is hoped that everyone who takes part will:

- Deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ
- Pray for God's spirit to work in the lives of those they know
- Come to realise that every aspect of their life is the stuff of prayer

After the very first Ascension Day the disciples gathered with Mary, constantly devoting themselves to prayer while they waited for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Like them, our reliance on the gift of the Holy Spirit is total – on our own we can do nothing.

Through the centuries Christians have gathered at that time to pray for the coming of the Holy Spirit. 'Thy Kingdom Come' picks up this tradition. Over the past three years more and more worshipping communities have dedicated the days between Ascension and Pentecost to pray 'Come Holy Spirit'.

We are praying that the Spirit will inspire and equip us to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with our friends and families, our communities and networks. It has been amazing how many varied ways there have been in which people from every tradition have taken up this challenge. The effects have been remarkable.

It is our prayer that those who have not yet heard the Good News of Jesus Christ and his love for the world will hear it for themselves, and respond and follow Him. Specifically, we again invite each and every Christian across the country to pray that God's Spirit might work in the lives of 5 friends who have not responded with their 'Yes' to God's call.

Whether you have joined in 'Thy Kingdom Come 'before or not, we invite you to take part – along with churches from over 65 different denominations in over 170 countries around the world.