



The feast of
Pentecost 2023

**The Parish
Eucharist**

We gather to worship

Welcome to this morning's Eucharist for the Feast of Pentecost as we come together to celebrate the gift of God's Holy Spirit, who sustains and inspires the Church.

Collection plates are at the back of church if you would like to donate before the service begins, instead of waiting for the collection.

When the bell rings we stand to sing this hymn,

**1. Holy Spirit, living breath of God,
breathe new life into my willing soul.
Bring 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.**

**2. 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 strivings into works of grace;

Breath of God show Christ in all I do.

**3. 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.
May the fragrance of our prayers arise;
lead us on the road of sacrifice,
that in unity the face of Christ
may be clear for all the world to see.**

The priest greets the people,

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

*Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.*

And also with you

Alleluia, Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The priest 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,	fill us with your Spirit.
As we listen to your word,	fill us with your Spirit.
As we worship you in majesty,	fill us with your Spirit.
As we long for your refreshing,	fill us with your Spirit.
As we long for your renewing,	fill us with your Spirit.
As we long for your equipping,	fill us with your Spirit.
As we long for your empowering,	fill us with your Spirit.

The Pentecost Reading

Acts 2.1-21

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."

At the end the reader says,

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

The priest invites us to reflect on our sins, then we say,

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit: Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

You bring pardon and peace to the sinner: Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You bring light to those in darkness: Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our
Lord. **Amen.**

We sing the Gloria

**Glory, glory to God, glory to God in the highest,
peace to his people on earth, peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Glory, glory to God, glory to God in the highest,
peace to his people on earth, peace to his people on earth.**

**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, receive our prayer.**

**You alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory, the glory, the glory of God the Father.
Amen (x6)**

The priest prays the Collect of the Day,

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 choir sings Psalm 104

The response is



Lord, ___ send out your Spi - rit,



and re - new ___ the face ___ of the earth.

Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, you are great indeed!
How manifold are your works, O Lord! the earth is full of your creatures;
Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

If you take away their breath, they perish and return to their dust.
When you send forth your spirit, they are created,
and you renew the face of the earth.

Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord be glad in his works!
Pleasing to him be my theme; I will be glad in the Lord.

Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

We hear God's Word

Gospel Acclamation

Stand

Gospel Reading

John 7.37-39a

We all sing after the choir,

Alleluia... **Alleluia...**

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

Alleluia...

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you, O Lord.

On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing in the temple, 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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Sit

After a short time of reflection we stand and say,

**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 from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Kneel or sit

The response is,

Lord, come to...

And fill us with your Spirit

and at the end,

**Hear our prayer, and make us one in heart and mind
to serve you with joy for ever. Amen.**

The notices are given

We celebrate Jesus in Bread and Wine

The Peace

The priest introduces the Peace, where we greet one another in fellowship.

We also exchange our candles with one another.

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.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The Offering

We sing this hymn, during which the plate and card reader will be available for contactless and cash donations. Please indicate if you wish to make an offering.

**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 cloth me round, the while my path illuming.**

**Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become my inner clothing;
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.**

**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.**

The priest takes the bread and wine and says this prayer of preparation,

Blessed be God, who feeds the hungry, who raises the poor, who fills our praise.

Blessed be God for ever.

The Eucharistic Prayer

Please remain standing during the Eucharistic Prayer if it is comfortable for you.

The priest says

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 thanks and praise.

The priest praises God for his mighty acts and the choir sings,

We kneel or sit.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and God of might,
heaven and earth are
full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna,
hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna,
hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he, blessed is he,
blessed is he who comes in the name
He who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna,
hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna,
hosanna in the highest.**

The priest continues, recalling the Last Supper, then the Deacon says,

Great is the mystery of faith

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

The Prayer continues ending with

*...forever and ever **Amen.***

The Lord's Prayer

We sit or kneel

Being made one by the Spirit, as our Saviour taught us, so we 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.

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 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.**

We share in Communion

Those who do not wish to receive are warmly invited to come forward for an individual blessing. Gluten free wafers are available. Communion will be administered in both kinds, on the hand and from the chalice (optional). Please do not intinct (dip) the wafer in the chalice. Communion will be brought to those seated in the south aisle.

The priest says,

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

We sing,

**Jesus, Lamb of God, Jesus, Lamb of God,
You take away the sins of the world
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, Jesus, Lamb of God,
You take away the sins of the world
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, Jesus, Lamb of God,
You take away the sins of the world
Grant us your peace, grant us your peace.**

Blessing of Light

Blessed are you, sovereign God, overflowing in love.
With Pentecost dawns the age of the Spirit.
Now the flame of heaven rests on every believer.
Strong and weak, women and men tell out your word;
the young receive visions, the old receive dreams.
With the new wine of the Spirit
they proclaim your reign of love.
Amid the birth pangs of the new creation
the way of light is made known.
Source of freedom, giver of life,
blessed are you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.

*As this hymn is sung we re-light the candles which have been shared,
and the Paschal Candle is extinguished. We sing this hymn,*

**Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
and lighten with celestial fire;
thou the anointing Spirit art,
who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.**

**Thy blessed unction from above
is comfort, life, and fire of love;
enable with perpetual light
the dullness of our mortal 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.**

**Teach us to know the Father, Son,
and thee, of both, to be but one,
that through the ages all along
this may be our endless song,
Praise to thine eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

The choir sings the Anthem:

Come Holy Ghost - Attwood

Silence is kept.

The Dismissal

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 High Wycombe, 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?

By the Spirit's power, we will.

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

We will.

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

We will.

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

We will.

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

We will.

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

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.

We stand to sing our final hymn

**1. We have a gospel to proclaim,
good news for all throughout the earth;
the gospel of a Saviour's name:
we sing his glory, tell his worth.**

**2. Tell of his birth at Bethlehem
not in a royal house or hall
but in a stable dark and dim,
the Word made flesh, a light for all.**

**3. Tell of his death at Calvary,
hated by those He came to save,
in lonely suffering on the cross;
for all he loved, his life he gave.**

**4. Tell of that glorious Easter morn:
empty the tomb, for he was free.
He broke the power of death and hell
that we might share His victory.**

**5. Tell of his reign at God's right hand,
by all creation glorified,
he sends his Spirit on his Church
to live for him, the Lamb who died.**

**6. Now we rejoice to name him King:
Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
This gospel-message we proclaim:
we sing His glory, tell His worth.**

We bow our heads and pray for God's blessing,

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

The deacon says,

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

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

We remain standing as the ministers leave. After the service, everyone is welcome to stay for refreshments at the back of church. Please stay and join us. If you are a newcomer or visitor we would love to meet you.

Please take your service sheet with you as you leave.