

Order of Service Sunday 05052024

Who is the Holy Spirit? – 2 weeks to Pentecost

Welcome

Call to Worship

CH4 154/MP 506 – "O Lord my God!"

Bible: Acts 10: 44-48

44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. 45 The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. 46 For they heard them speaking in tongues^[b] and praising God.

Then Peter said, 47 "Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have." 48 So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

Bible: Romans 12

A Living Sacrifice

12 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. 2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Humble Service in the Body of Christ

3 For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. 4 For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, 5 so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. 6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your^[a] faith; 7 if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; 8 if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead,^[b] do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

Love in Action

9 Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. 10 Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. 11 Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. 12 Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. 13 Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. 16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. 18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. 19 Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. 20 On the contrary:

"If your enemy is hungry, feed him;
if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.
In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."

21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Video: How the Holy Spirit works in the bible -

<https://youtu.be/oNNZO9i1Gjc?si=WDv-JmJlpDHGCGiQ>

CH4 160/MP 560 – "Praise, my soul, the King of heaven"

Prayer and Lord's prayer

Reflection

Offering - MP 003/SofF 001 Abba, Father (sung twice)

Prayer for the offering

Prayer of Intercession

God of love,
in whom we abide in love,
with whom we serve in love,
by whom we love one another,
we bring our prayers for others,
for our world, for our nation, for our neighbours,
in solidarity and hope.

We pray for those around the world
affected by the great challenges of our time:
injustice, climate change, conflict and division.
May Your love overcome fear and distrust,
nurturing partnerships of hospitality and welcome,
seeking to build a world of peace and hope,
of sustainability and harmony.

We pray for communities
ravaged by injustice – economic and social,
that the work of those promoting justice for all
would bear fruit, bringing new hope,
that all might sing a new song to the Lord
and rejoice together.

We pray for leaders,
those given responsibility to make decisions on our behalf,
in councils and parliaments, boards and trusts,
that decisions would be made
through the lens of love and care, compassion and thoughtfulness,
seeking the benefit of all, not just the few.

We pray for Your Church,
in parishes and presbyteries,
that all would seek to live out their faith with authenticity and grace,
letting the love of God, expressed in action and kindness,
be our witness, without fear or worry.

We pray for families
whose lives have been overturned:
by conflict, seeking refuge and asylum,
that they would find welcome, support and a new start;
by poverty, seeking to feed and warm their families,
that they would retain their dignity;
by ill health,
seeking healing and restoration amidst an overstretched health system.

We pray, God of love,
in one breath lamenting situations that seem out of our control,
and with the next breath in joyful hope
for You lead us, a resurrection people, into the future,
abiding in Your love.
May we, in whatever way we can, inspired by Your love for us,

be Your hands and Your feet transforming the world about us,
one act of faithful service at a time.
Amen.

CH4 443/MP 220 – "He is Lord, he is Lord"

Benediction

Grace

Close

"Good, good, Father" (Anthony Brown and Pat Barret) – CCLI song #7036612