

31st May 2020 , Whitsunday



Welcome – As we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to the gathered disciples it's good that we can read and pray together.

*Come Holy Spirit, come !
Inflame our souls with love.
Transforming every heart and home
with wisdom from above*

COLLECT- prayer for Pentecost

God, who as at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Acts of the Apostles. Ch. 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.'"

Psalm 104 25-35& 37

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

- . O Lord, how manifold are your works! in wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.
- . Yonder is the great and wide sea with its living things too many to number, creatures both small and great.
- There move the ships, and there is that Leviathan, which you have made for the sport of it
- . All of them look to you to give them their food in due season.
- You give it to them, they gather it; you open your hand and they are filled with good things.
- . You hide your face and they are terrified; you take away their breath and they die and return to their dust.
- You send forth your Spirit and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth.
- . May the glory of the Lord endure for ever; may the Lord rejoice in all his works.
- He looks at the earth and it trembles; he touches the mountains and they smoke.

. I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being. May these words of mine please him; I will rejoice in the Lord.

Bless the Lord, O my soul. Alleluia!

The first letter of Paul to the Corinthians. ch 12. 3b–13

No one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit.

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. ch20.19–23

It was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

This is the gospel of the Lord – Praise to you, O Christ.

PRAYERS

please add your own prayers and petitions

With our whole selves we pray; for the people of God all over the world from all worship traditions.. May we be willing to be made new by the power of the Holy Spirit. We ask for the grace and power to live out our faith in a changing and challenging world. Come Holy Spirit of God and bring unity.

With our whole selves we pray for the healing of the nations, for an end to warfare, violence and injustice. We remember areas of special need – where there is hunger, lack of clean water, homelessness. Where children die of preventable disease. Come Holy Spirit of God and bring hope.

With our whole selves we pray for those in our own country who are badly affected by the present situation. For all whose hopes and dreams are in tatters. For families struggling to make ends meet. For those who have lost their jobs, who are ill at home or in hospital. For all who risk their lives for others. .

Come Holy Spirit of God and bring love

With our whole selves we pray for people who will die today and those who have passed through death into God's nearer presence. For mourners distressed by regrets or angry with God and society at their loss. Come Holy Spirit of God and bring comfort.

With our whole selves we give thanks for the gift of the Holy Spirit and our Lord's promise of life through Him and with Him as we walk forward into whatever the future has in store for us

Come Holy Spirit of God, give us joy.

Amen

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