

Family Service, Sunday 28th May 2023

Greeting & Invitation to Worship

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

The Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns.

Let us rejoice and shout for joy, giving God the glory.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

Opening Prayer

Faithful one, whose word is life: come with saving power to free our praise, inspire our prayer and shape our lives for the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn: 386 Spirit of God Unseen as the Wind

*Spirit of God, unseen as the wind,
gentle as is the dove:
teach us the truth and help us believe,
show us the Saviour's love!*

1.You spoke to us long, long ago -
gave us the written word;
we read it still, needing its truth,
through it God's voice is heard.

2.Without your help we fail our Lord,
we cannot live his way;
we need your power, we need your strength,
following Christ each day.

Collect of the Day: The Day of Pentecost

O Lord, from whom all good things come: Grant to us your humble servants, that, by your holy inspiration we may think those things that be good, and by your merciful guiding may perform the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen**

The First 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.”

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: 482 Jesus Bids Us Shine

1.Jesus bids us shine, with a pure, clear light,
Like a little candle burning in the night;
In this world of darkness, so we must shine,
You in your small corner, and I in mine.

2.Jesus bids us shine, first of all for Him
Well He sees and knows it if our light grows dim;
He looks down from Heav'n to see us shine
You in your small corner, and I in mine.

3.Jesus bids us shine, then, for all around,
Many kinds of darkness in this world abound;
Sin and want and sorrow, so we must shine,
You in your small corner and I in mine.

The Gospel Reading: John 7: 37-39

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to John:
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, 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; for as yet there was no Spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

World Vision Presentation

Hymn: 112 There is a Redeemer

1. There is a Redeemer,
Jesus God's own Son,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
Holy One.

*Thank You, O my Father
For giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit
'til the work on earth is done.*

2. Jesus my Redeemer,
Name above all names,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
O for sinners slain.

3. When I stand in glory
I will see His face,
And there I'll serve my King forever,
In that holy place.

Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in God the Father,
God almighty, by whose plan
earth and heaven sprang to being,
all created things began.**

**We believe in Christ the Saviour,
Son of God in human frame,
virgin-born, the child of Mary
upon whom the Spirit came.**

**Christ, who on the cross forsaken,
like a lamb to slaughter led,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
he descended to the dead.**

**We believe in Jesus risen,
heaven's king to rule and reign,
to the Father's side ascended
till as judge he comes again.**

**We believe in God the Spirit;
in one Church, below, above:
saints of God in one communion,
one in holiness and love.**

**So by faith, our sins forgiven,
Christ our Saviour, Lord and friend,
we shall rise with him in glory
to the life that knows no end**

Prayers of Penitence

We come to God as one from whom no secrets are hidden, to ask for his forgiveness and peace.

Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

Absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life: through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers and Thanksgivings

The Lord's Prayer

We sum up all our prayers and praises in the words our Saviour Christ has taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven: hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn: 294 Come Down O Love Divine

1 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.

2 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 clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

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

4 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 we become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

Dismissal

As we leave this place may we bring:

To a troubled world

Peace from Christ.

To a searching world

Love from Christ.

To a waiting world

Hope from Christ.

May God's hand lead us, God's eyes watch over us, God's ears hear our prayers, God's arms protect us and hold us close, God's word encourage us and God's love fill our hearts. And the blessing of God Almighty: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you this day and always. **Amen.**