



Open-air Worship for

PENTECOST SUNDAY

As God prepares his people once again
for the promised Holy Spirit,
grace, mercy and peace be with you.
and also with you.

Lord Jesus, as we wait in silence
make us ready for your Spirit

As we listen for your voice
make us ready for your Spirit

As we learn to love together
make us ready for your Spirit

As we hope and pray and sing
make us ready for your Spirit

As we go to live for Jesus
make us ready for your Spirit

Alleluia, alleluia. May the Spirit who set the Church on fire upon the day of Pentecost kindle again in us the love of the risen Christ, that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

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

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."

Seeking Forgiveness

Not only does the Holy Spirit give us God's strength to live better lives, the Spirit also opens our eyes to see our shortcomings and sinfulness. Our hearts are not pure, nor do we love as God would wish. Let's be still now, and invite the Spirit to bring into our mind what we need to acknowledge.

We have damaged the wonderful world that you made.

Lord, have mercy: **Christ, have mercy**

We have seen other people being ill-treated, but often fail to help them when we could.

Lord, have mercy: **Christ, have mercy**

We have heard the good news of Jesus, but have failed to pass it on to others.

Lord, have mercy: **Christ, have mercy**

Father, we have not loved you with all our heart, and we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

Lord, have mercy: **Christ, have mercy**

Listen! Here is good news for all who put their trust in God.

Jesus says: 'Your sins are forgiven.'

Thanks be to God!

For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. Alleluia, amen!

The Collect & Gospel Reading

Come Holy Spirit, and set our hearts on fire with love for you; strengthen us and all 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. **Alleluia, amen!**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord

When it was evening on that day, 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.

Reflection for the Day

1 Peter 5:12–14

Through Silvanus, whom I consider a faithful brother, I have written this short letter to encourage you, and to testify that this is the true grace of God. Stand fast in it. Your sister church in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you greetings; and so does my son Mark. Greet one another with a kiss of love. Peace to all of you who are in Christ.

Praying for Others

Resurrection God, where people have stopped expecting life to change, surprise them with new beginnings.

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart.

Hopeful God, where the future feels closed down or frightening,
open paths that people cannot yet see.

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart.

Holy God, keep reshaping us into people who are more truthful,
more loving, and more alive.

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart.

God of Witness, let the way we live speak clearly of justice, mercy,
and the love of Christ.

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart.

Suffering God, teach us how to remain faithful when following
Christ becomes costly.

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart.

God of Community, make your Church a place where nobody has
to carry life alone.

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart.

Strengthening God, teach us how to wait with patience, courage,
and expectation.

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart.

Sending God, send your Church into the world ready to bring peace, hope, and good news.

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart. Alleluia, amen!

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you. Alleluia, amen!

Sharing Communion

The Lord is here

God's Spirit is with us

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

Lord of all life, you created the universe, where all living things reflect your glory. You give us this great and beautiful earth, to discover and to cherish: **Holy, holy, holy Lord**

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: **Holy, holy, holy Lord**

You send your Spirit to bring new life to the world, and to clothe us with power from on high: **Holy, holy, holy Lord**

And so we join the angels to celebrate and sing: **Holy, holy, holy, Lord. Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. We sing hosanna evermore. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. We sing hosanna evermore**

Father, at supper before he died, Jesus took the bread, and thanked you: **Lord, we remember**

He broke it, and gave it to them, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me: **Lord, we remember**

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine and he gave you thanks: **Lord, we remember**

He gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you. This is my blood, it's poured out for your forgiveness, as a sign of God's love for you. Do this to remember me: **Lord, we remember**

Father, as we bring this bread and wine, and remember Jesus, his death and resurrection, send your Holy Spirit, that we who share these gifts may be fed by his body and his blood: **Alleluia, amen!**

Pour your Spirit on us to renew our lives

Come, Holy Spirit, come!

into our homes and all our relationships

Come, Holy Spirit, come!

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.

Blessing and honour, glory and power,

be yours for evermore. Alleluia, amen!

The Lord's Prayer

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.

After communion we pray together:

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

The blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Alleluia, amen!**

Filled with the Spirit's power, go in the light and peace of Christ. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, amen!**

These balloons are earthbound and cannot lift and soar until they are caught by the wind. Even in our strongest relationships, we are earthbound and cannot be ourselves until the winds of Love lift us to fly. These balloons are not free to surge and move until they are let go to explore the skies. Even in our deepest relationships, we are not free to love and care until we can let go and catch the Spirit which is Love. These balloons have no power and direction unless they are caught and controlled by the wind. Even in our truest relationships, we have no power and direction unless we allow the Spirit of Love to move within us.

O God, may your Spirit lift us from being earthbound and free us to soar, to explore, with boldness and purpose.
O God, help us to fly as people freed by your Spirit, to live, to love and to grow.

Three ... two ... one:

Alleluia, amen!