

Worship at Home

Pentecost Sunday

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Archbishop Justin

It is my great joy that, despite the physical restrictions we're all living within, we are able to gather together to worship on this Pentecost Sunday, the day we rejoice in the most wonderful gift of the Holy Spirit who brings to birth the Christian church.

Since Ascension ten days ago many in this country and across the world have been praying fervently for a fresh empowering of the Holy Spirit as we pray 'Thy Kingdom Come', waiting for God's power to renew us that we might faithfully witness to Jesus Christ.

My prayer on this day is that each of us may know the empowering presence of God with us so that we may effectively live out this Good News. Each part of the service will follow on without announcement and the words you need will appear on the screen. Please do raise your voices in song, open your hearts in prayer and receive all that God gives. A moment's silence as we still ourselves in God's presence.

THE GATHERING

Archbishop Justin

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

ALL: And also with you

INVITATION

Thelma

Each of us comes to God in need of renewal through the fire of God's love, in need of refreshment for our souls, in need of nourishment for our hunger. Hear then these words of invitation from the living God through the prophet Isaiah:

'Come, all you who are thirsty,
come to the waters;
and you who have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
with no money and with no cost.
Why spend money on what is not bread,
and why labour on what does not satisfy?
Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good,

and you will delight in the richest of fare. Give ear and come to me;
listen, that you may live.
Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call on him while he is near.

The Holy Spirit unites us, and I am absolutely delighted that so many friends have accepted my invitation to participate in this act of worship. Each contribution has been made just for this service.

A HOMILY FOR PENTECOST

His Holiness Pope Francis

SONG

Ten thousand reasons

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing
When the evening comes

Bless the Lord oh my soul, oh my soul
Worship His Holy name
Sing like never before, oh my soul
I'll worship Your Holy name

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Bless the Lord oh my soul, oh my soul
Worship His Holy name
Sing like never before, oh my soul
I'll worship Your Holy name

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years
And then for evermore

Bless the Lord oh my soul, oh my soul
Worship His Holy name
Sing like never before, oh my soul
I'll worship Your Holy name.

Bless the Lord oh my soul, oh my soul
Worship His Holy name
Sing like never before, oh my soul
I'll worship Your Holy name
I'll worship Your Holy name
Yes, I'll worship Your Holy name.

Words and Music: Matt Redman

CONFESSION

Led by Archbishop Justin

We come now to confess our sins together: What God has prepared for those who love him, he has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything. Therefore, let us in penitence open our hearts to the Lord, who has prepared good things for those who love him. Come, let us return to the Lord and say together:

**Lord our God,
in our sin we have avoided your call.
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.
Have mercy on us;
deliver us from judgement;
bind up our wounds and revive us;
in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

All: Amen

May the Father forgive us by the death of his Son
And strengthen us
To live in the power of the spirit
All our days.

All: Amen.

COLLECT FOR PENTECOST

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
your ascended Son has sent us into the world
to preach the Good News of your kingdom:
inspire us with your Spirit
and fill our hearts with the fire of your love,
that all who hear your Word
may be drawn to you,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

PSALM 139

Read by Heidi Crowter

Psalm 139 verse 14 says I praise you am fearfully and wonderfully made. We are all wonderful, not because of what we have done, but because God is wonderful, and He has made us wonderful. God so loves me, even when I mess up. We all sin and disobey God every day. Jesus died on the cross and rose again so we could be forgiven by God. When God looks at me He sees the wonderfulness of Jesus, because my sin is forgiven through Him. Because God made us, our response should be praise with all our being. Let's read together verses 1 to 16.

O Lord, You have searched,
and you know me.

You know when I sit and when I rise;
you perceive my thoughts from afar.

You discern my going out and my lying down;
you are familiar with all my ways.

Before a word is on my tongue
you know it completely, O Lord.

You hem me in behind and before,
and have laid your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
too lofty for me to attain.

Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?

If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
if I settle on the far side of the sea,
even there your hand will guide me,
your right hand will hold me fast.

If I say, 'Surely the darkness will hide me
and the light become night around me,'

even the darkness will not be dark to you;
the night will shine like the day,
for darkness is as light to you.

For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I will praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful,
I know that full well.

My frame was not hidden from you
when I was made in the secret place,
when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes saw my unformed body;
all the days ordained for me were written in your book
before one of them came to be.

Psalm 139:1-16

HYMN

Love Divine, All Loves excelling

Love Divine, all loves excelling
Joy of heaven to earth come down
Fix in us thy humble dwelling
All thy faithful mercies crown
Jesus, thou art all compassion
Pure unbounded love thou art
Visit us with thy salvation
Enter every trembling heart.

Breathe oh breathe Thy Loving Spirit
Into every troubled breast
Let us all in Thee inherit
Let us find the promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning
Alpha and Omega be
End of faith as its beginning
Set our hearts at liberty.

Finish, then, thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
Till with Thee we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

*Words: S. Wesley
Tune: Blaenwern, W. P. Rowlands*

SCRIPTURE READING

Read by Ciaran McCabe

(Acts, Ch. 2)

A reading from Acts, chapter two. The coming of the Holy Spirit.

When the day of the 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 the 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 of each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all of these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we can hear, each of us, in our own native language?" Peter standing with the eleven raised his voice and addressed them. This is what was spoken through prophet John; In the last days it will be that God declares that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh and your sons and daughters shall prophesy and your young men shall see visions and your old men shall dream dreams. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. Jesus of Nazareth was crucified and killed. This Jesus God raised up and all of that are witnesses.

Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God and having received the Father, the promise of the Holy Spirit. He has poured out this to you, both see and hear. Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter, and to the other Apostles, "Brothers what shall we do?" Peter said to them, "repent and be baptised every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children and for all who are far away. Everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him". So those who welcomed his message were baptised and that day about three thousand persons were added. All who believed were together and had all things in common, they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had their need.

Day by day as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and they ate food with a glad and generous heart, praising God and having the good will of all the people, and day by day the Lord added to their numbers, to those who were being saved.

Thanks be God for his world.

SERMON

Archbishop Justin

CREED

Archbishop Angaelos

Greetings to you all. My name is Archbishop Angaelos of the Coptic Orthodox Church and I am here with you today, because like many of you, if not all of you, I believe that what we have in common is genuinely much, much greater than what separates us. We all believe in the empowering of the Holy Spirit and we believe that on the day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit descended and empowered them as He empowers us today. So with that understanding, Let us affirm our faith in the words of the Apostles creed.

**We believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
We believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
he will come to judge the living and the dead.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of the saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.**

INTERCESSIONS

Led by Pastor Agu

At Pentecost we simply don't tell a story about how the first disciples received the Holy Spirit. We pray today that we might receive that same power from on high. Let us pray to our Father.

Music: Veni Sanctus Spiritus (Nardone)

Gabriella Noble and Gavin Roberts, Choral Scholars of St Martin-In-The-Fields

Where our souls are dry and weary, we seek the living water of your presence;

All: Come Holy Spirit.

Where our hearts are broken and wounded, we seek the healing of the comforter;

All: Come Holy Spirit.

Where our lives are weak and overwhelmed, we seek the power of your breath;

All: Come Holy Spirit.

Where our witness is unfaithful and unfruitful, we seek the enabling of the advocate;

All: Come Holy Spirit.

Where our faith is cold and stagnant, we seek the fire of your love; come Holy Spirit.

Come Holy Spirit, fill us afresh today we ask in the name of Jesus, that we might glorify our Father in heaven.

All: Amen

Music: Veni Sanctus Spiritus (Nardone)

Gabriella Noble and Gavin Roberts, Choral Scholars of St Martin-In-The-Fields

We now pray for the people and the issues that are important to us. Come now Holy Spirit and renew the hearts of your people.

Dear God, you love all you have made. We pray for our world. We pray for those who have little and those who face a difficult future, for those who live in fear and those who have nothing. We pray that your Spirit of peace would come and unite the nations.

Come Holy Spirit,

All: And fill the hearts of your people.

Dear God, you know all our needs. Send your Spirit of wisdom on our nation and our leaders. Help them to make decisions that are good for all. Strengthen the hands of those who work for peace and frustrate those who stir up division, hatred and violence.

Come Holy Spirit,

All: And guide the hearts of your people.

Dear God, you love us when we don't yet love you. We pray that your Spirit would come and draw everyone to receive your love. We pray for those we know, that they might come to faith.

Come Holy Spirit,

All: And open the hearts of your people.

Dear God, your Son knows pain and suffering. Send your Spirit of healing on those who are in pain. And we pray for those who look after the sick and dying, that you would strengthen them through your Spirit.

Come Holy Spirit,

All: And strengthen the hearts of your people. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Led by Archbishop Angaelos

On the day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit descended and was given so that the Good News could be shared, and on that day it was shared by a handful, but to multitudes, and they all received this wonderful Good News in their own language. And so now as we recite the prayer that our Lord himself has taught us, I encourage you to join me, but to recite in the language of your choice.

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.

SONG

Blessed be your name

Blessed Be Your Name in the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow, Blessed be Your name

Blessed Be Your name, when I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness, Blessed Be Your name

Every blessing You pour out, I'll turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in, Lord still I will say

Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name

Blessed be Your name when the sun's shining down on me
When the world's 'all as it should be', Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name on the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering, Blessed be Your name

Every blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in, Lord still I will say

Blessed be the name of the Lord, Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord, Blessed be Your glorious name,
I find a way to sing your praise.

You give and take away, You give and take away
My heart will choose to say, Lord, blessed be Your name

Blessed be the name of the Lord, Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord, Blessed be Your glorious name.

Your name.

Words and Music: Matt Redman

FINAL PRAYER

Archbishop Justin

A final prayer from the Church of South India:

O God, who to an expectant and united Church
Granted at Pentecost the gift of the Holy Spirit:
Give us the help of the same Spirit
In all our life and worship,
That we may expect great things from you
And attempt great things for you,
And show to the world your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ;
To whom with you and the Holy Spirit be honour and glory,
Now and for evermore.

All: Amen

My colleague and friend, the Archbishop of York, due to retire in just a few days will give the final blessing:

BLESSING

Archbishop Sentamu

May the God of peace,
Who rose again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
That great shepherd of the sheep
By the blood of the eternal covenant
Make you perfect to do his will
Working in you that which is all pleasing in his sight
and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit
Come down upon you and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

HYMN

Amazing Grace

Matt Redman and Friends

We're going to end by singing Amazing Grace, and we sing it not only with joy and amazement in our hearts at the grace that has been poured upon us, but praying that those for whom we pray might come themselves to sing in praise of our gracious and faithful God whose steadfast love endures for ever.

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch; like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares
We have already come
'Twas grace that brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun

We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun

Words: John Newton (1725-1807)

Tune: New Britain (Amazing Grace), Trad.

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