

Worship at Home: Pentecost

23rd May 2021

OPENING MUSIC

If ye Love me, Thomas Tallis

Sung by York Minster Choir

*If ye love me,
keep my commandments,
and I will pray the Father,
and he shall give you another comforter,
that he may 'bide with you forever,
e'en the spirit of truth.*

John 14:15–17

GREETING

The Archbishop of York

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen

Welcome to York Minster on this the day of Pentecost. Today we give thanks for the coming of the Holy Spirit bringing to birth the community of people who bear the name of Christ, which we call the Church, spread over all the earth.

The church is a 2000-year-old, two billion strong revolutionary movement of love and justice and for the last nine days between Ascension and Pentecost, Christians around the world have been praying together in many and various ways for the coming of God's Kingdom, as part of a movement of prayer, called Thy Kingdom come, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

It's wonderful to be here today in this magnificent Church, a place where prayers have been said since the year 627. Like every church, this Cathedral was built on the foundation of faith in Jesus Christ, and we stand on that faith today.

Jesus Christ, whom we worship, is our crucified, risen and ascended Lord and we have walked with him through his journey of love. We have faced the agony of his suffering and death on a cross. We have rejoiced at his bursting free from the bonds of death. We have enjoyed his risen presence with us. As he makes himself known as we break bread. We have celebrated his return to the throne before which every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that this Jesus is Lord. And in these last days, just as his first followers did, with the followers of his own time, we await the coming of the promised Holy Spirit, the Father's gift to his people, through whom we make Christ known to the world.

Alleluia. Christ is Risen

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia

In 2019 15,000 were able to gather together in Trafalgar Square to celebrate the Festival of Pentecost. Of course things we couldn't have dreamed of have happened in our world since then. We can't gather in those numbers today, but we can raise our voices and join with those who were worshipping that day in the opening hymn 'Ten Thousand Reasons'.

SONG

Ten Thousand Reasons

Performed by

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 forevermore

Oh Jesus 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 forevermore

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
Lord I'll worship Your Holy name

Spirit of the living, fall afresh on me
Spirit of the living, fall afresh on me
Melt me, mold, me, fill me, use me
Spirit of the living, fall afresh on me

Words and Music: Matt Redman

CONFESSION

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.

cf 1 Corinthians 2.9

We confess to you our selfishness and lack of love:
fill us with your Spirit.
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

We confess to you our fear and failure in sharing our faith:
fill us with your Spirit.
Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

We confess to you our stubbornness and lack of trust:
fill us with your Spirit.
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

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 that the Spirit will work through our lives to bring Christ to the world:

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father,
ignite in us your holy fire;
strengthen 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.

All Amen

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Acts 2: 1-8

Read by....

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.'

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

SONG

How Great is our God

Performed by...

The splendour of a King, clothed in majesty
Let all the Earth rejoice
All the Earth rejoice
He wraps himself in light
And darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice.

Trembles at His voice
How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God.

Age to age He stands
And time is in His hands
Beginning and the end
The Godhead Three in One
Father Spirit Son.

The Lion and the Lamb
The Lion and the Lamb
How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God.

Name above all names
Worthy of our praise
My heart will sing
How great is our God
You're the name above all names
You are worthy of our praise
And my heart will sing.

How great is our God
How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God
How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God.

The whole world sings, the whole world sings
How great is our God
How great is our God
How great, how great is our God.

Words and Music: Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 15: 26,27 16: 4b- 15

Read by

When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. But I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them. "I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts.

Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.

When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Archbishop of York

HYMN

Come down O love divine

Performed by

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.

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.

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.

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 he become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

Words: Discendi, amor santo Bianco da Siena (died 1434)

Trans. Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-1890)

Music: Down Ampney

DECLARATION OF FAITH

Let us declare our faith in God.

All We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us with power from on high.
We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

INTERCESSIONAL PRAYERS

Introduced by Cardinal Vincent Nichols

Music: Spirit of the living God, by Daniel Iverson

We pray in anticipation and ask for the gift of the Holy Spirit, now that's so central to our faith. It's the Holy Spirit that gives life to the church, that gave that first impetus to the gathering of the disciples and Mary to go out and begin that proclamation of the gospel, the Good News that only Jesus Christ brings into this world. And so we pray for a strengthening in that Spirit in that effort to announce the gospel in word and in deed.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me

Meld me, mold me, fill me, use me

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me

Generous God, we thank you for the power of your Holy Spirit.

We ask that we may be strengthened to serve you better.

Lord, come to bless us

All and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the wisdom of your Holy Spirit.
We ask you to make us wise to understand your will.

Lord, come to bless us
All and fill us with your Spirit.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me
Meld me, mold me, fill me, use me
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me

We thank you for the peace of your Holy Spirit.
We ask you to keep us confident of your love wherever you call us.

Lord, come to bless us
All and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the healing of your Holy Spirit.
We ask you to bring reconciliation and wholeness where there is division,
sickness and sorrow.

Lord, come to bless us
All and fill us with your Spirit.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me
Meld me, mold me, fill me, use me
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me

We thank you for the gifts of your Holy Spirit.
We ask you to equip us for the work which you have given us.

Lord, come to bless us
All and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the fruit of your Holy Spirit.
We ask you to reveal in our lives the love of Jesus.

Lord, come to bless us
All and fill us with your Spirit.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me
Meld me, mold me, fill me, use me
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me

We thank you for the breath of your Holy Spirit,
given us by the risen Lord.

Lord, come to bless us
All and fill us with your Spirit.

We ask you to keep the whole Church, living and departed,
in the joy of eternal life.

Lord, come to bless us
All and fill us with your Spirit.

Generous God, you sent your Holy Spirit upon your Messiah at the river Jordan,
and upon the disciples in the upper room: in your mercy fill us with your Spirit,

**All hear our prayer, and make us one in heart
and mind to serve you with joy for ever.
Amen.**

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me
Meld me, mold me, fill me, use me
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me*

LORD'S PRAYER

Said by...

**All 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.**

REFLECTION

Given by Asha Malankar, Naujavan

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

The Archbishop of York

May the Spirit, who hovered over the face of the waters when the world was
created, breathe into you the life he gives.

All Amen.

May the Spirit, who overshadowed the Virgin when the eternal Son came among
us, may you joyful in the service of the Lord.

All Amen.

May the Spirit, who set the Church on fire upon the Day of Pentecost, bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ.

All Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Filled with the Spirit's power,
Go in the light and peace of Christ,
Alleluia, Alleluia.

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia

SONG

We Seek your Kingdom

Performed by

We seek your kingdom throughout every sphere
We long for heaven's demonstration here
Jesus your light shine bright for all to see
Transform, revive, and heal society.

Before all things, in him were all things made
Inspiring culture, media, and trade
May all our work serve your economy
Transform, revive, and heal society.

Peace, truth, and justice reigning everywhere
With us be present in our public square
Fill all who lead with your integrity
Transform, revive, and heal society.

Forgive us Lord, when we have not engaged
Failing to scribe your heart on history's page
Make us again what we were made to be
Transform, revive, and heal society.

Faithful to govern ever may we be
Selfless in service, loving constantly
In everything may your authority
Transform, revive, and heal society.

Words and Music by Noel Robinson, Andy Flannagan and Graham Hunter

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Service led by the Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell

With thanks to

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*BSL Interpretation by **Naomi Barry**.*

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