# The Feast of Pentecost -- 19 May 2024

# Hymn 294 -- Come down, O Love divine

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,  
til 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.

# The Greeting -- Hello and Welcome

O Lord, open our lips  
and our mouth will proclaim your praise.  
Let us worship the Lord.  
All praise to his name.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Blessed be God for ever.

# Penitence -- saying sorry

Heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault; by what we have done and by what we have failed to do.  
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

# Forgiveness -- a reminder of God's gift

# Preparing -- to hear God's word

The lesson reader says:

Let us hear the word of the Lord.  
So may the light of your presence shine into our hearts.

# Acts 2:1-21 -- please be seated

A reading from Acts chapter 2 beginning at verse 1

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked: ‘Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!’ Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, ‘What does this mean?’ Some, however, made fun of them and said, ‘They have had too much wine.’ Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: ‘Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It’s only nine in the morning! No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: ‘ “In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

# Children's Spot

# John 7:33-39 -- please be seated

33 Jesus said, ‘I am with you for only a short time, and then I am going to the one who sent me. 34 You will look for me, but you will not find me; and where I am, you cannot come.’ 35 The Jews said to one another, ‘Where does this man intend to go that we cannot find him? Will he go where our people live scattered among the Greeks, and teach the Greeks? 36 What did he mean when he said, “You will look for me, but you will not find me,” and “Where I am, you cannot come”?’ 37 On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, ‘Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. 38 Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.’ 39 By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

# Hymn 386 Spirit of God, unseen

## 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.

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.

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

# The Sermon -- Is Pentecost only in the past?

# Collection Hymn 303 -- Lord of the church

1 Lord of the church, we pray for our renewing:  
Christ over all, our undivided aim.  
Fire of the Spirit, burn for our enduing,  
wind of the Spirit, fan the living flame!  
We turn to Christ amid our fear and failing,  
the will that lacks the courage to be free,  
the weary labours, all but unavailing,  
to bring us nearer what a church should be.

**2** Lord of the church, we seek a Father’s blessing,  
a true repentance and a faith restored,  
a swift obedience and a new possessing,  
filled with the Holy Spirit of the Lord!  
We turn to Christ from all our restless striving,  
unnumbered voices with a single prayer:  
the living water for our souls’ reviving,   
in Christ to live, and love and serve and care.

**3** Lord of the church, we long for our uniting,  
true to one calling, by one vision stirred;  
one cross proclaiming and one creed reciting,  
one in the truth of Jesus and his word!  
So lead us on; till toil and trouble ended,  
one Church triumphant one new song shall sing,  
to praise his glory, risen and ascended,  
Christ over all, the everlasting King!

# Declaring Faith -- affirming our belief

## 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.

# Praying Together -- Commitment and Petition

including Hymn 310 kneeling/seated

Spirit of the living God,  fall afresh on me.  
Spirit of the living God,  fall afresh on me.  
Break me, melt me,  mould me, fill me.  
Spirit of the living God,  fall afresh on me.

Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer  
and finally  
Merciful Father,  
accept these our prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

# Sunday Collect – for Pentecost and Daily Collect - for Guidance

# The Lord's Prayer -- we pray with Jesus

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.

# The Thanksgiving

Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

# The Closing Prayer

# Closing Hymn 195 - Lord, the light of your love is shining

Lord, the light of your love is shining  
in the midst of the darkness, shining  
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us  
Set us free by the truth you now bring us, shine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, shine  
fill this land with the Father's glory;  
blaze, Spirit, blaze,  
set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow,  
flood the nations with grace and mercy;  
send forth your word,  
Lord, and let there be light.

2 Lord, I come to your awesome presence,  
from the shadows into your radiance;  
by the blood I may enter your brightness,  
search me, try me, consume all my darkness. Shine on me, shine on me.

3 As we gaze on your kingly brightness,  
so our faces display your likeness,  
ever changing from glory to glory,  
mirrored here may our  
lives tell your story.  
Shine on me, shine on me.

We go into the world to walk in God's light,  
to rejoice in God's love and to reflect God's glory.