

### WELCOME AND NOTICES

- Platinum Jubilee Party from 3pm today will now be at the Church, due to the weather.
- Funeral of Lee Butt will take place here on Tuesday at 1.30pm.
- Christianity Explored continues on Wednesday evening at 7.30pm
- Arts Festival volunteers needed. Please sign up to help.

### CALL TO WORSHIP:

God declares: "I will pour out my Spirit on all people"

"and everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (Acts 2:17, 21).

### OPENING PRAYER, CONFESSION AND PARDON

Lord and Saviour, Redeemer and King, we worship you on this day of celebration, where we celebrate both the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and celebrate the outpouring of your Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Accept our praises as an offering of worship, as we bring our thankfulness to you for giving us a great monarch and an even greater gift – your Holy Spirit. Forgive us, Lord, for the times we fail to celebrate your goodness to us, and fail to recognise your wonderful gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord accepts all those who come to him seeking forgiveness for their sins. In faith and love accept his gracious word to you today. He says, "Your sins are forgiven." Thanks be to God. Amen.

### SONGS:

**O GOD OF BURNING, CLEANSING FLAME, SEND THE FIRE!**

**Your blood-bought gift today we claim:  
Send the fire today!  
Look down and see this waiting host,  
And send the promised Holy Ghost;  
We need another Pentecost!  
Send the fire today!  
Send the fire today!**

**God of Elijah, hear our cry: Send the fire!  
And make us fit to live or die:  
Send the fire today!  
To burn up every trace of sin,  
To bring the light and glory in,  
The revolution now begin!  
Send the fire today!  
Send the fire today!**

**It's fire we want, for fire we plead: Send the fire!  
The fire will meet our every need:  
Send the fire today!  
For strength to always do what's right,  
For grace to conquer in the fight,  
For power to walk the world in white:  
Send the fire today!  
Send the fire today!**

**To make our weak hearts strong and brave: Send the fire!  
To live, a dying world to save:  
Send the fire today!  
Oh, see us on Your altar lay,  
We give our lives to you today,  
So crown the offering now we pray:  
Send the fire today!  
Send the fire today!  
Send the fire today!**

**HOLY SPIRIT, WE WELCOME YOU.**

Holy Spirit, we welcome you.  
Move among us with holy fire,  
As we lay aside all earthly desires;  
Hands reach out and our hearts aspire.  
Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit,  
Holy Spirit, we welcome you.

Holy Spirit, we welcome you.  
Holy Spirit, we welcome you.  
Let the breeze of your presence blow,  
that your children here might truly know  
How to move in the Spirit's flow.  
Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit,  
Holy Spirit, we welcome you.

Holy Spirit, we welcome you.  
Holy Spirit, we welcome you.  
Please accomplish in me today  
some new work of loving grace, I pray;  
Unreservedly have your way.  
Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit,  
Holy Spirit, we welcome you.

**OFFERTORY SONG: THERE MUST BE MORE  
THAN THIS**

There must more than this  
O Breath of God, come breathe within.  
There must be more than this:  
Spirit of God, we wait for You.  
Fill us anew, we pray;  
Fill us anew, we pray.

Consuming fire, fan into flame  
A passion for Your name.  
Spirit of God, fall in this place.  
Lord, have Your way,  
Lord, have Your way with us.

Come like a rushing wind,  
Clothe us with power from on high.  
Now set the captives free;  
Leave us abandoned to Your praise.

Lord, let Your glory fall;  
Lord, let Your glory fall.

Consuming fire, fan into flame  
A passion for Your name.  
Spirit of God, fall in this place.  
Lord, have Your way,  
Lord, have Your way with us.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Lord, we offer you the gifts of our money,  
our time and our energy for your kingdom's  
sake. Bless now these gifts and ourselves  
for the honour of your holy name. **Amen.**

**INTRODUCTION TO THE THEME: JUBILEE &  
PENTECOST**

**JUBILEE – REST FOR ALL**

In the Bible every seventh day was a day of rest for people. Similarly, every seventh year the people were to allow the land to rest. But at the end of every seventh set of seven years, totalling 49 years, a jubilee was proclaimed. So, on the 50<sup>th</sup> year it was a Jubilee. Jubilee was a period of rest for everyone, where people, property and land were given back to the former owner. It was a recognition that everyone and everything belongs to God.

Now that's all very well, but today is Pentecost. So, what's the link between Jubilee and Pentecost? The answer? 50.

**PENTECOST – THE JEWISH HARVEST OF THE  
FIRST CROP**

Today we come to Pentecost, that great Jewish festival which was the fiftieth day after Passover. It was an agricultural festival when the farmers brought the first sheaf of the crop and offered it to God, partly as a sign of gratitude and partly as a prayer that the rest of the crop would be safely

gathered in. Yet for the Jew, Pentecost had become more than an agricultural festival. It was a time when they remembered that 50 days after the Passover and the escape from Egypt, the Lord gave them the law at Mount Sinai. So Pentecost isn't just about the first of the crop, the sheaf which says the harvest has begun; it is about God giving to his people the way of life by which they must carry out his purposes. The giving of the Spirit at Pentecost was given to all Jesus' followers, just as the Law was given through Moses to God's people. As we know, the people couldn't carry out the Law because their hearts continually turned away from God. Now the Spirit would change all that. Through being filled with the Spirit the followers of Jesus would desire to live in God's way and have the power to do it. All of that is behind what Luke tells us what happened on the day of Pentecost that came ten days after Jesus' ascension.

#### **READING: Acts 2:1-12**

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

<sup>5</sup> Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. <sup>6</sup> When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. <sup>7</sup> Utterly amazed, they asked: 'Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans?' <sup>8</sup> Then how is it that each of us

hears them in our native language? <sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome <sup>11</sup> (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs – we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!' <sup>12</sup> Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, 'What does this mean?'

This is the Word of the Lord

#### **Thanks be to God**

#### **TABLE TIME**

- Make Pentecost crowns
- Either take a copy of my reflection for today and discuss it.
- Discuss the questions
  - What comes to your mind when the Holy Spirit is mentioned?
  - What does the reading say about the evidence of the coming of the Holy Spirit? Where is the sound of the wind coming from?
  - What is the purpose of the power of the Holy Spirit in the lives of Jesus' followers?
  - What is the significance of people from all over the Mediterranean region hearing the disciples speak in their own native languages?
  - Why do you think the Holy Spirit came at the harvest festival of Pentecost?
  - How is Pentecost linked to the Ascension of Jesus?

- What has the Spirit done among us recently that has grabbed the attention of others?
- If nothing, why is that so?

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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: HOLY SPIRIT, LIVING BREATH OF GOD

Holy Spirit, living breath of God,  
Breathe new life into my willing soul.  
Bring the presence of the risen Lord  
To renew my heart and make me whole.  
Cause Your word to come alive in me,  
Give me faith for what I cannot see;  
Give me passion for Your purity;  
Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

Holy Spirit, come abide within,  
May Your joy be seen in all I do.  
Love enough to cover every sin  
In each thought and deed and attitude:  
Kindness to the greatest and the least,  
Gentleness that sows the path of peace.  
Turn my strivings into works of grace;  
Breath of God, show Christ in all I do.

**Holy Spirit, from creation's birth,  
Giving life to all that God has made,  
Show Your power once again on earth,  
Cause Your church to hunger for Your ways.**

**May the fragrance of our prayers arise;  
Lead us on the road of sacrifice,  
That in unity the face of Christ  
May be clear for all the world to see.**

### CLOSING PRAYER AND BLESSING

Loving God, you gave us the gift of your Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Now fill us with your Spirit and guide us by your Spirit as we go from here to proclaim Jesus in all we say and do; for your glory's sake. **Amen.**

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

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**