

A Celebration of the Eucharist for Pentecost Sunday

On the day of Pentecost, as God's Spirit filled the hearts of Jesus' followers, they miraculously started praising God in every possible language, languages they could not previously speak. And the crowd, who were from all around the region and spoke many languages said: "We hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own languages!"



All are invited to join in all the words in bold/italics.

Processional Hymn

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Hymn 508

The Greeting and Welcome

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

All *Amen.*

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All *He is risen indeed. Alleluia.*

Words of informal welcome maybe added here

The Pentecost Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (chapter 2, verses 1-21)

This reading maybe read by multiple voices, especially if the congregation includes those who speak different languages.

“When the Feast of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Without warning there was a sound like a strong wind, gale force—no one could tell where it came from. It filled the whole building. Then, like a wildfire, the Holy Spirit spread through their ranks, and they started speaking in a number of different languages as the Spirit prompted them. There were many Jews staying in Jerusalem just then, devout pilgrims from all over the world.

When they heard the sound, they came on the run. Then when they heard, one after another, their own mother tongues being spoken, they were thunderstruck. They couldn't for the life of them figure out what was going on, and kept saying, "Aren't these all Galileans? How come we're hearing them talk in our various mother tongues? Parthians, Medes, and Elamites; Visitors from Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene; Immigrants from Rome, both Jews and proselytes; Even Cretans and Arabs!

"They're speaking our languages, describing God's mighty works!"

Their heads were spinning; they couldn't make head or tail of any of it. They talked back and forth, confused: "What's going on here?" Others joked, "They're drunk on cheap wine."

That's when Peter stood up and, backed by the other eleven, spoke out with bold urgency: "Fellow Jews, all of you who are visiting Jerusalem, listen carefully and get this story straight. These people aren't drunk as some of you suspect.

They haven't had time to get drunk—it's only nine o'clock in the morning. This is what the prophet Joel announced would happen:

"In the Last Days," God says,
"I will pour out my Spirit
on every kind of people:
Your sons will prophesy,
also your daughters;
Your young men will see visions,
your old men dream dreams.
When the time comes,
I'll pour out my Spirit
On those who serve me, men and
women both, and they'll prophesy.
I'll set wonders in the sky above
and signs on the earth below,
Blood and fire and billowing smoke,
the sun turning black and the moon blood-red,
Before the Day of the Lord arrives,
the Day tremendous and marvellous;
And whoever calls out for help
to me, God, will be saved."

The Lord is here.

All *His Spirit is with us.*

Kyrie Eleison

Lord, have mercy.

All *Christ, have mercy.*

Lord, have mercy,

Introduction

The presiding minister introduces the service

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 and His revelation of Himself through the breaking of bread. We have seen His return to the throne before which every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that this Jesus is Lord. And now, with the followers of His own time, we await the coming of the promised Holy Spirit, His gift to his people, through whom we make Christ known to the world.

As we wait in silence,

All *fill us with Your Spirit.*

As we listen to Your word,

All *fill us with Your Spirit.*

As we worship You in majesty,

All *fill us with Your Spirit.*

As we long for Your refreshing,

All *fill us with Your Spirit.*

As we long for Your renewing,

All *fill us with Your Spirit.*

As we long for Your equipping,

All *fill us with Your Spirit.*

As we long for Your empowering,

All *fill us with Your Spirit.*

Silence is kept.

Prayer of Penitence

A time to say sorry to God

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'

A short time of silence

**All *Lord have mercy upon us,
forgive us where we have gone wrong and sinned and
help us to walk from now on in your way. Amen.***

May the God of love and power bring you back to himself,
forgive you and free you from your sins,
and restore you to newness of life by his Spirit.

The Prayer for Thy Kingdom Come

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 you Word
may be drawn to you,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All *Amen.*

The Gospel Reading

John 20:19-23

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

The Homily

The Creed

The minister addresses everyone

Let us affirm together with those who are being baptized the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father source of all being and life, the One for whom we exist?

All *I believe and trust in Him.*

Do you believe and trust in God the Son who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

All *I believe and trust in Him.*

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

All *I believe and trust in Him.*

This is the faith of the Church.

All *This is our faith.*

***We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen***

Intercessions

The intercessions include space for people to pray silently for their five people to come to know God's love.

The following response maybe used at times:

Lord, bless Your world

All *And fill us with Your Spirit*

Merciful Father,

All *accept these prayers for the sake of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen*

The Peace

God has made us one in Christ.

He has set His seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come, has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.

(2 Corinthians 1.22)

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All *and also with you.*

All *Come Holy Spirit, to all baptized in Your Name, that we may turn to good whatever lies ahead. Give us passion, give us fire; make us transform the world from what it is, to what You have created it to be. Amen.*

Commission

For fifty days we have celebrated the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ over the powers of sin and death. We have proclaimed God's mighty acts and we have prayed that the power that was at work when God raised Jesus from the dead might be at work in us. As part of God's Church here in Market Harborough, I call upon you to live out what you proclaim. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, will you dare to walk into God's future, trusting Him to be your guide?

All *By the Spirit's power, we will.*

Will you dare to embrace each other and grow together in love?

All *We will.*

Will you dare to share your riches in common and minister to each other in need?

All *We will.*

Will you dare to pray for each other until your hearts beat with the longings of God?

All *We will.*

Will you dare to carry the light of Christ into the world's dark places?

All *We will.*

Blessing

May the Spirit, who hovered over 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, make 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.*

Recessional Hymn

O Spirit of the Living God

Hymn 531

A little more about Thy Kingdom Come...

Thy Kingdom Come is an annual invitation to prayer called by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. Lasting for eleven days and culminating today, Pentecost Sunday, the focus is specific prayer in churches, households and as individuals for friends, families, communities and countries to come to know the saving love of God in Jesus Christ, and for ourselves that, empowered by God's Spirit, we would grow in confidence to show and tell of God's love.

There is a wide range of resources, including daily videos, to support churches on the dedicated Thy Kingdom Come app (available on iOS and Android) or at <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

During the 11 days of Thy Kingdom Come, it is hoped that everyone who takes part will:

- Deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ
- Pray for God's spirit to work in the lives of those they know
- Come to realize that every aspect of their life is the stuff of prayer

After the very first Ascension Day the disciples gathered with Mary, constantly devoting themselves to prayer while they waited for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Like them, our reliance on the gift of the Holy Spirit is total – on our own we can do nothing.

Through the centuries Christians have gathered at that time to pray for the coming of the Holy Spirit. 'Thy Kingdom Come' picks up this tradition. Over the past three years more and more worshipping communities have dedicated the days between Ascension and Pentecost to pray 'Come Holy Spirit'.

We are praying that the Spirit will inspire and equip us to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with our friends and families, our communities and networks.

It has been amazing how many varied ways there have been in which people from every tradition have taken up this challenge. The effects have been remarkable.

It is our prayer that those who have not yet heard the Good News of Jesus Christ and his love for the world will hear it for themselves, and respond and follow Him. Specifically, we again invite each and every Christian across the country to pray that God's Spirit might work in the lives of 5 friends who have not responded with their 'Yes' to God's call.

Whether you have joined in 'Thy Kingdom Come' before or not, we invite you to take part – along with churches from over 65 different denominations in over 170 countries around the world.