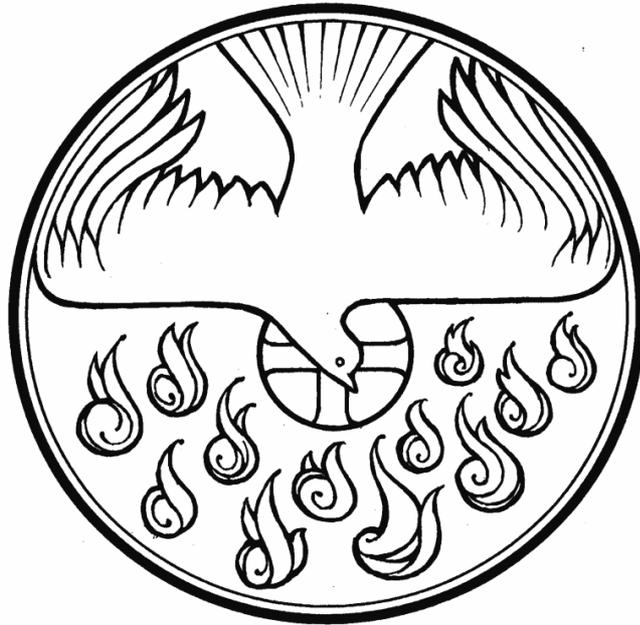


# The Liturgy of the Feast of Pentecost



## The Gathering

In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
*All Amen.*

## The Greeting

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

Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
*All He is risen indeed. Alleluia.*

## Introduction

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.

## Responsory

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.**

## Hymn

1 Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire  
and lighten with celestial fire;  
thou the anointing Spirit art,  
who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.

2 Thy blessed unction from above  
is comfort, life, and fire of love;  
enable with perpetual light  
the dullness of our mortal sight.

3 Teach us to know the Father, Son,  
and thee, of both, to be but one;  
that through the ages all along  
this may be our endless song:

4 Praise to thine eternal merit,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

## The Pentecost Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (2.1-13)

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.’ All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, ‘What does this mean?’ But others sneered and said, ‘They are filled with new wine.’

The Lord is here.

**All His Spirit is with us.**

### **Prayer for Personal Renewal**

Be with us, Spirit of God;

**All nothing can separate us from your love.**

Breathe on us, breath of God;

**All fill us with your saving power.**

Speak in us, wisdom of God;

**All bring strength, healing, and peace.**

### **The Gloria**

**All Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,**

**we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,**

**Lord God, Lamb of God,**

**you take away the sin of the world:**

**have mercy on us;**

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

### **The Collect**

Let us pray that the Spirit will work through our lives  
to bring Christ to the world.

*Silence is kept.*

God, who as at this time  
taught the hearts of your faithful people  
by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit:  
grant us by the same Spirit  
to have a right judgement in all things  
and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort;  
through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**All Amen.**

### **Canticle**

**All The Spirit of God fills the whole world. Alleluia.**

- 1 I will take you from the nations, ♦  
and gather you from all the countries.**
- 2 I will sprinkle clean water upon you, ♦  
and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses.**
- 3 A new heart I will give you, ♦**

and put a new spirit within you,

**4 And I will remove from your body the heart of stone ♦  
and give you a heart of flesh.**

**5 You shall be my people, ♦  
and I will be your God.**

*Ezekiel 36.24-26,28b*

*All The Spirit of God fills the whole world. Alleluia.*

### **Gospel Reading**

*For the acclamation we sing:*

**Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit**

**Come and fill our hearts anew, Holy Spirit.**

**And we lift our hearts before you as a token of our love,**

**Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*All Glory to you, O Lord.*

<sup>19</sup>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." <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

John 20:19-23

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*All Praise to you, O Christ.*

## Sermon

## The Creed

**We believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God  
begotten not made  
of one Being with the Father,  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

### Prayers of Intercession

We pray for God to fill us with his Spirit.

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.**

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.**

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.**

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

### **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.

*cf 2 Corinthians 1.22*

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.  
*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

## Preparation of the Table

Blessed be God,  
who feeds the hungry,  
who raises the poor,  
who fills our praise.  
**All Blessed be God for ever.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here  
**His Spirit is with us**

Lift up your hearts  
**We lift them to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God  
**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and everlasting God,  
through Jesus Christ, your only Son our Lord.  
This day we give you thanks  
because in fulfilment of your promise  
you pour out your Spirit upon us,  
filling us with your gifts, leading us into all truth,  
and uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one  
faith.

Your Spirit gives us grace to call you Father,  
to proclaim your gospel to all nations  
and to serve you as a royal priesthood.  
Therefore we join our voices with angels and archangels,  
and with all those in whom the Spirit dwells,  
to proclaim the glory of your name,  
for ever praising you and *saying*:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory,  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;  
who in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks,  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them saying:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.

Therefore heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon  
the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of his kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit,  
inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him and with him and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you Father Almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours forever and ever Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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 forever. Amen.**

## Breaking of the bread

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

## Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.

## Invitation to Communion

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

## Prayer of Spiritual Communion

**My Jesus, I believe that You  
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love You above all things,  
and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment  
receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You  
were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never  
permit me to be separated from You. Amen.**

## Prayer after Communion

Faithful God,  
who fulfilled the promises of Easter  
by sending us your Holy Spirit  
and opening to every race and nation  
the way of life eternal:  
open our lips by your Spirit,  
that every tongue may tell of your glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**All Amen.**

## Hymn

1 Come down, O Love divine! seek out this soul of mine  
and visit it with your own ardour glowing;  
O Comforter, draw near, within my heart appear,  
and kindle it, your holy flame bestowing.

2 There let it freely burn, till earthly passions turn  
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;  
and let your glorious light shine ever on my sight,  
and make my pathway clear, by your illumining.

3 Let holy charity my outward vesture be,  
and lowliness become my inner clothing;  
true lowliness of heart which takes the humbler part,  
and for its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

4 And so the yearning strong with which the soul will long  
shall far surpass the power of human telling;  
for none can guess its grace till we become the place  
in which the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

### **Blessing of Light**

Blessed are you, sovereign God, overflowing in love.  
With Pentecost dawns the age of the Spirit.  
Now the flame of heaven rests on every believer.  
Strong and weak, women and men tell out your word;  
the young receive visions, the old receive dreams.  
With the new wine of the Spirit  
they proclaim your reign of love.  
Amid the birth pangs of the new creation  
the way of light is made known.  
Source of freedom, giver of life,  
blessed are you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**All Blessed be God for ever.**

*You may like to now light a candle in your own home as a  
reminder of the gift of the Holy Spirit given to you.*

## 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 at St. Peter's Tewin, St. Giles Codicote, St. Mary's Welwyn, St. Peter Ayot St. Peter, St. Michaels Woolmer Green and All Saints Datchworth 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.**

*The Easter Candle is extinguished.*

## Conclusion

Today we have remembered the coming of God's power on the disciples and we invite that same Spirit to drive us out into the wild places of the world.

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.**