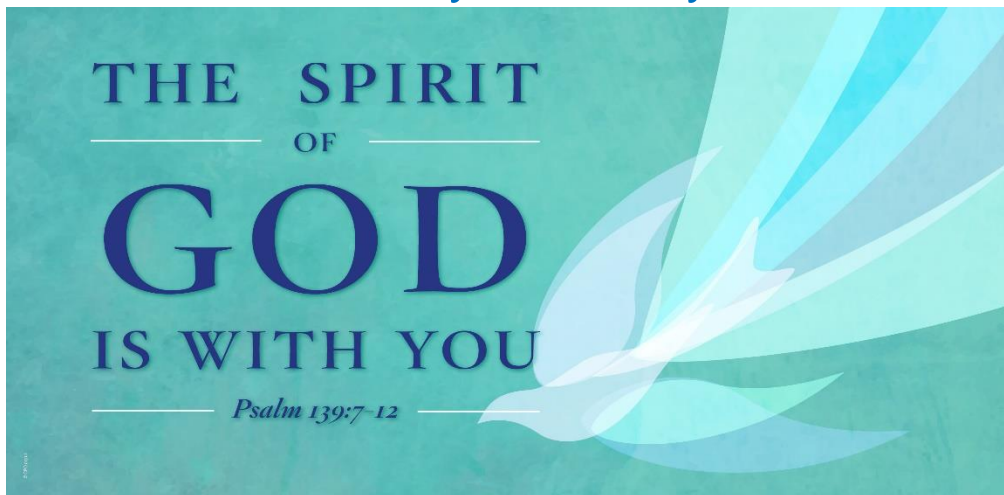


Worship for Fleet URC & Beacon Hill URC

Sunday 23rd May 2021



Pentecost Sunday: Opening Doors

Led by Karen Smith with Laura Mead from Christian Aid

Opening music: Breathe on me, breath of God

Welcome & Gathering Prayer

Lord, help us to look out and listen for your Holy Spirit.
May we welcome you with open hearts and minds.
Call us, inspire us, surprise us and challenge us.
Give us confidence and calm assurance.
Lead us to your power and love. Amen

Call to worship

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth,
Darkness was over the deep, and the Spirit of God was
hovering over the waters.

Centuries before Jesus walked among us,
The Spirit of God was promised to him, so that he would bring
justice to the nations.

Jesus sent the Spirit of truth to teach us and give us peace.

At Pentecost the Spirit came, as the rush of violent wind and tongues of fire.

That same Spirit is among us now. **Let us worship God!**

Submitted by Chip Hardwick

<https://thepastorsworkshop.com/calls-to-worship-pentecost/>

Prayers of Adoration, Thanksgiving & the Lord's Prayer

Faithful God,
you fulfilled the promise of Easter
by sending your Holy Spirit
and opening the way of eternal life
to all the human race.

We confess that
your Spirit gives light,
but we have preferred darkness;
your Spirit gives wisdom,
but we have been foolish;
your Spirit gives power
but we have trusted in our own strength.

We ask for forgiveness.
Scripture reminds us that
there is now no condemnation
for those who live in union with Christ Jesus;
for the law of the Spirit of life
has set us free from the law of sin and death.

Keep us in the unity of your Spirit,
that every tongue may tell of your glory;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Original materials by R A Bending, adapted by the Isle of Man
Methodist Staff Team

The Lord's Prayer from 'Thy Kingdom Come'
<https://vimeo.com/42550649>

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.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen
(*A modern form*)

Reading: Psalm 139: 7 -12 read by John Johnstone

7 Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?
8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.
9 If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
if I settle on the far side of the sea,
10 even there your hand will guide me,

your right hand will hold me fast.

¹¹ If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me
and the light become night around me,"

¹² even the darkness will not be dark to you;
the night will shine like the day,
for darkness is as light to you.

This is the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Hymn: There's a Spirit in the Air

There's a spirit in the air,
telling Christians everywhere :
'Praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working in our world! '

Lose your shyness, find your tongue,
tell the world what God has done :
God in Christ has come to stay.
We can see his power today!

When believers break the bread,
when a hungry child is fed,
praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working, in our world.

Still the Spirit gives us light,
seeing wrong and setting right :
God in Christ has come to stay.
We can see his power today!

When a stranger's not alone,
where the homeless find a home,
praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working, in our world.

May the Spirit fill our praise,
guide our thoughts and change our ways.
God in Christ has come to stay.
We can see his power today!

There's a Spirit in the air,
calling people everywhere :
praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working, in our world.
Brian Wren (b. 1936) R&S 329

Reading: Acts 2: 1 -21 read by John Johnstone

1 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. **2** Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.
3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. **4** All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.
5 Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. **6** When they heard this sound, a

crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. **7** Utterly amazed, they asked: “Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? **8** Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? **9** Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, **10** Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome **11** (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!” **12** Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this mean?” **13** Some, however, made fun of them and said, “They have had too much wine.” **14** 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. **15** These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It’s only nine in the morning! **16** No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: **17** “ ‘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. **18** Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. **19** I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. **20** The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great

and glorious day of the Lord. **21** And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

This is the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Song: What will be our future? Written & sung by Revd. Ray Stanyon by permission

A Reflective discussion:

A chat with Laura Mead from Christian Aid – the impact of the pandemic on the work of Christian Aid

Christian Aid Week Prayer read by Laura

Great God, Who makes the sun to rise, and opens the heavens
Hear the cry of the people Who sow in hope for rain,
but reap only despair Hear the cry of the people Seeking
shelter from the storm, their hopes and homes submerged
Hear the cry of the people, When creation is hitting back, with
rage and resistance Give us hope, grant us salvation, Give us
a new relationship with creation With reverence to tend this gift
from You And say once again of the earth and all you created
It is GOOD. Amen

(Bob Kikuyu Global Theology Advisor, Christian Aid)

Prayers of Intercession & Concern

Let us pray that God will 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.

Father in the name of Jesus.

Send the Holy Spirit.

We thank you for the wisdom of your Holy Spirit.

We ask you to make us wise to understand your will.

Father in the name of Jesus.

Send the Holy 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. Father in the name of Jesus.

Send the Holy 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.

Father in the name of Jesus.

Send the Holy 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.

Father in the name of Jesus.

Send the Holy Spirit.

We thank you for the fruit of your Holy Spirit.

We ask you to reveal in our lives the love of Jesus.

Father in the name of Jesus.

Send the Holy 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.

Father in the name of Jesus.

Send the Holy Spirit.

Generous God, you poured out your Holy Spirit on your beloved Son at the river Jordan, and upon the disciples at Pentecost: in your mercy fill us with your Spirit, hear our prayer, and make us one in heart and mind to serve you with joy for ever. **Amen**

Hymn: Jesus Christ is waiting

Jesus Christ is waiting,
Waiting in the streets;
No one is his neighbour,
All alone he eats.
Listen, Lord Jesus,
I am lonely too.
Make me, friend or stranger,
Fit to wait on you

Jesus Christ is raging,
Raging in the streets,
Where injustice spirals
And real hope retreats.
Listen, Lord Jesus,
I am angry too.

In the Kingdom's causes
Let me rage with you.

Jesus Christ is healing,
Healing in the streets;
Curing those who suffer,
Touching those he greets.
Listen, Lord Jesus,
I have pity too.
Let my care be active,
Healing just like you.

Jesus Christ is dancing,
Dancing in the streets,
Where each sign of hatred
He, with love, defeats.
Listen, Lord Jesus,
I should triumph too.
On suspicion's graveyard
Let me dance with you.

Jesus Christ is calling,
Calling in the streets,
"Who will join my journey?
I will guide their feet."
Listen, Lord Jesus,
Let my fears be few.
Walk one step before me;
I will follow you.

John Bell & Graham Maule Singing the Faith 251

Blessing

Holy Spirit, send us out.

Gentle Spirit, calm our fears.

Spirit of truth, lead us to a broader vision of your work.

Spirit of strength, in our weakness, make us strong.

Spirit of power, show us how and when to act for you.

Holy Spirit, send us out. Amen.

Closing Music Filled with the spirit's power

Responses led by Bridget Mitchell

Opening music from

<https://www.smallchurchmusic.com/Snippet/S-BreatheOnMe-Carlisle-PipeLC-48-CAM.mp3>

Closing music from

https://www.smallchurchmusic.com/Snippet/CAM_S-FilledWithTheSpirit-Pipe01C-48-CAM_1176111118.mp3

Hymns: [STF 398 - There's A Spirit In The Air](#) part of [Singing The Faith; Contributed by Paul Wood & Ian Worsfold | The Worship](#)

[Jesus Christ is waiting Ruth and Joy Everingham](#) by permission

PPT images from [Thy Kingdom Come](#)

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