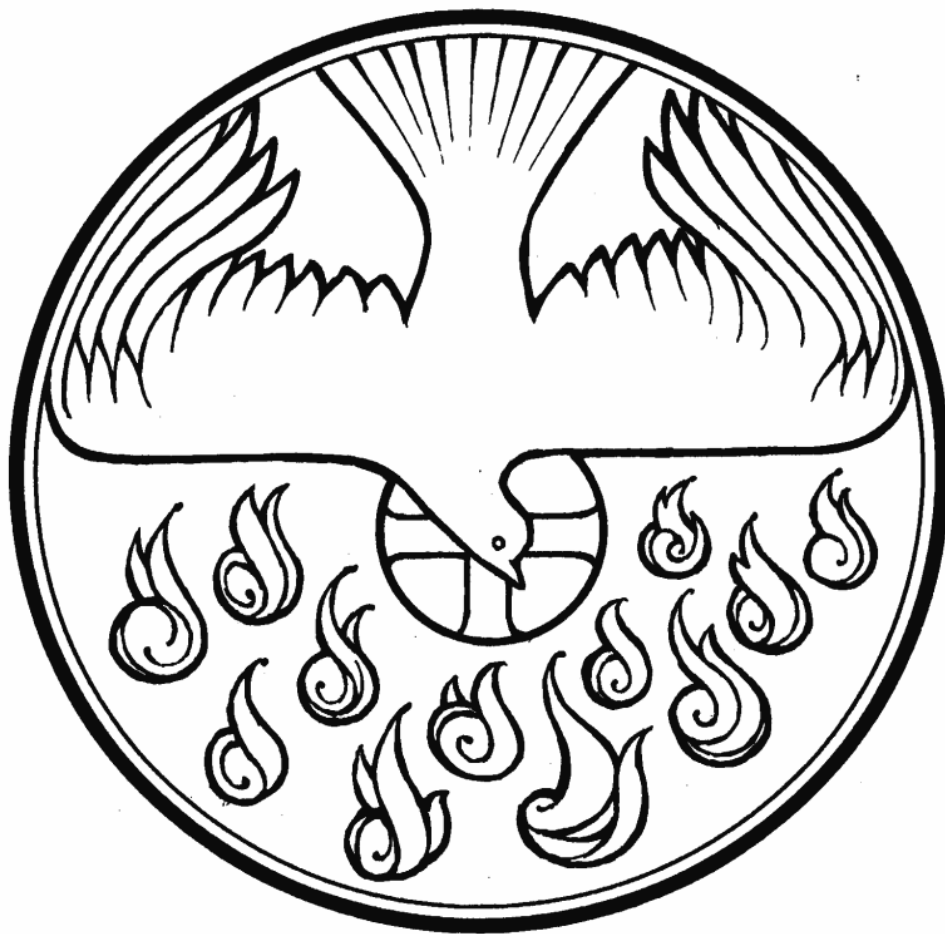


St Matthew's Church, Chichester Road, Croydon

19th May 2024

Pentecost





We welcome you to St Matthew's Church this morning and pray you are blessed as we worship the Lord together in the power of the Holy Spirit.

If you are with us for the first time please fill in one of our Welcome Cards.
Thank you.

Please join in the words in **bold print**.

Don't forget to silence your mobile!

¶ **The Gathering**

Please stand

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The fire of God is coming! Sing praises!

Sing praises to God!

The wind of God is blowing!

Sing praises!

Sing praises to God!

The joy of the Spirit is here!

Sing praises!

Sing praises to God!

Sing praises to God all the earth!

Sing praises!

Sing praises! Sing praises!

Sing praises!

♪ **Hymn (234)** ♪

All together in one place *Alleluia*,
friends of Jesus met to pray; *Alleluia*,
waiting as the Lord had said *Alleluia*,
for the Pentecostal day. *Alleluia!*

All together with one power
poured out when the Spirit came;
touching each and filling all,
rushing wind and burning flame.

All together with one voice,
praising God in every tongue:
languages they never learned,
telling what the Lord had done.

All together with one aim:
bearing witness to their Lord;
sharing faith by word and deed,
preaching Christ, the living Word.

All together still today,
though two thousand years have gone.
Still the Spirit's power is given,
still God's people meet as one.

One in mission, one in faith,
still responding to God's call:
one in telling all the world
Jesus Christ is Lord of all!

Brian Hoare (b.1935) © Brian Hoare/Jubilate Hymns Ltd

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

Silence

They were all together in one place,
praying and waiting, praying and waiting,
praying and waiting.

Silence

**Almighty God,
help us today to be open to
your Spirit, to hear you word,
proclaim your glory, and
celebrate the Good News of
Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Please be seated

The Confession and Absolution

Invitation to confession

Come, let us return to the Lord and
say:

We confess to you our selfishness and
lack of love: fill us with your Spirit.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

We confess to you our fear and failure
in sharing our faith:
fill us with your Spirit.
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

We confess to you our stubbornness
and lack of trust: fill us with your Spirit.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May the Father forgive us by the death
of his Son and strengthen us to live in
the power of the Spirit all our days.

Amen.

Please stand

Gloria in Excelsis

**Glory be to God in heaven,
peace to those who love him
well;
on the earth let all his people
speak his grace, his wonders
tell:
Lord, we praise you for your
glory,
mighty Father, heaven's king;
hear our joyful adoration
and accept the thanks we bring.**

**Only Son of God the Father,
Lamb who takes our sin away,
now with God in triumph
seated -**

**for your mercy, Lord, we pray:
Jesus Christ, most high and
holy,
Saviour, you are God alone
in the glory of the Father
with the Spirit: Three-in-One!**

*Michael Perry Words © 1982 The Jubilate Group
(admin. Hope Publishing Company)*

The Collect

A period of silent prayer

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.

Amen.

¶ The Liturgy of the Word

Let us prepare ourselves for the Word
of God as it comes to us in the reading
of Holy Scripture.

Our hearts and minds are open.

Please be seated

First Reading

Acts 2: 1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come,
they were all together in one place.
²And suddenly from heaven there came
a sound like the rush of a violent wind,
and it filled the entire house where they
were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire,
appeared among them, and a tongue
rested on each of them. ⁴All of them
were filled with the Holy Spirit and
began to speak in other languages, as
the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵Now there were devout Jews from
every nation under heaven living in
Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd

gathered and was bewildered, because
each one heard them speaking in the
native language of each. ⁷Amazed and
astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these
who are speaking Galileans? ⁸And how
is it that we hear, each of us, in our own
native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes,
Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia,
Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,
¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the
parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and
visitors from Rome, both Jews and
proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our
own languages we hear them speaking
about God's deeds of power.' ¹²All were
amazed and perplexed, saying to one
another, 'What does this mean?' ¹³But
others sneered and said, 'They are filled
with new wine.'

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven,
raised his voice and addressed them:
'Men of Judea and all who live in
Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and
listen to what I say. ¹⁵Indeed, these are
not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only
nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is
what was spoken through the prophet
Joel:

¹⁷'In the last days it will be, God
declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all
flesh,
and your sons and your daughters
shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream
dreams.

¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and
women,
in those days I will pour out my
Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹And I will show portents in the
heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord's
great and glorious day.

²¹Then everyone who calls on the name
of the Lord shall be saved."

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Romans 8: 22-27

We know that the whole creation has
been groaning in labour pains until now;
²³and not only the creation, but we
ourselves, who have the first fruits of
the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait
for adoption, the redemption of our
bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved.
Now hope that is seen is not hope. For
who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we
hope for what we do not see, we wait
for it with patience.

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our
weakness; for we do not know how to
pray as we ought, but that very Spirit
intercedes with sighs too deep for
words. ²⁷And God, who searches the
heart, knows what is the mind of the
Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for
the saints according to the will of God.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We stand to sing

♪ Hymn (388) ♪

Speak, O Lord, as we come to you
to receive the food of your holy word.
Take your truth, plant it deep in us;
shape and fashion us in your likeness,
that the light of Christ might be seen
today
in our acts of love and deeds of faith.
Speak. O Lord, and fulfil in us
all your purposes, for your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience,
holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
in the radiance of your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes
to see
your majestic love and authority.
Words of power that can never fail;
let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
help us grasp the heights of your plan
for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of
time
that will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on your
promises,
and by faith we'll walk as you walk with
us.

Speak, O Lord, till your church is built
and the earth is filled with your glory.

Keith Getty (b.1974) and Stuart Townend (b.1963)

The Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your
faithful people and kindle in them the
fire of your love.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 15: 26-27, 16: 4b-15

Jesus spoke to his disciples: ‘When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. ²⁷You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them.

‘I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, “Where are you going?” ⁶But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. ⁷Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸ And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgement: ⁹about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; ¹¹about judgement, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

¹²I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He

will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

Sermon

Let us stand to declare our faith in
God.

The Creed

**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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Holy Spirit, who teaches us all things,
we pray for your wisdom and
understanding in every situation that we
find difficult – in our world, in our
community and in our own lives.

Help us to watch and wait and work
for peace and healing in your world.

Lord, come to bless us

and fill us with your Spirit.

Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers for the
sake of your Son, our Saviour,
Jesus Christ. Amen.**

¶ **The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

Please stand

The Peace

God makes peace within us— let us
claim it.

God makes peace between us—let us
share it.

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a
sign of God's peace.

♪ **Hymn (258)** ♪

O Thou who camest from above,
the fire celestial to impart,
kindle a flame of sacred love
on the mean altar of my heart!

There let it for Thy glory burn
with inextinguishable blaze,
and trembling to its source return,
in humble prayer and fervent praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
to work, and speak, and think for Thee;
still let me guard the holy fire,
and still stir up the gift in me.

Ready for all Thy perfect will,
my acts of faith and love repeat;
till death Thy endless mercies seal,
and make the sacrifice complete.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788) based on Leviticus 6.13

**Yours, Lord, is the greatness,
the power, the glory, the
splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and
on earth is yours.**

**All things come from you,
and of your own do we give
you.**

Blessed be God,
who feeds the hungry, who raises the
poor, who fills us with his Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God for ever.

The Eucharistic Prayer (B)

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks
and praise.**

Father, we give you thanks and praise
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ,
your living Word,
through whom you have created all
things;
who was sent by you in your great
goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took
flesh;

as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,
he lived on earth and went about
among us;

he opened wide his arms for us on the
cross;

he put an end to death by dying for us;
and revealed the resurrection by rising
to new life;

so he fulfilled your will and won for you
a holy people.

And now we give you thanks
because by the Holy Spirit you lead us
into all truth, and give us power to
proclaim your gospel to the nations, and
to serve you as a royal priesthood.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious
name, for ever praising you and singing:

**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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of
all holiness;

grant that by the power of your Holy
Spirit, and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine may be to
us the body and blood of our Lord
Jesus Christ;

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.

Christ is the bread of life:

**When we eat this bread and
drink this cup, we proclaim
your death, Lord Jesus, until
you come in glory.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death
on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the
sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and
glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of
our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of
praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this
cup and we thank you for counting us
worthy to stand in your presence
and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one
cup, so that we, in the company of
St Matthew and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

**by whom, and with whom, and
in whom, in the unity of the
Holy Spirit, all honour and glory
be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Being made one by the power of the Spirit, 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 for ever. 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

**Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,
give us your peace.**

Giving of Communion

Alleluia. Christ our passover
is sacrificed for us.

**Therefore let us keep the feast.
Alleluia.**

Communicant members of any Christian Church are invited to receive Holy Communion. If you wish to receive a blessing please bow your head.

♪ **Anthem** ♪

♪ **Song (263)** ♪

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.

Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on us;
Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on us;
break us, melt us, mould us, fill us;
Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on us.

*Daniel Iverson (1890-1977) © 1963 Birdwing Music/
EMI Christian Music Publishing.*

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Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

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.
Amen.

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of
your Son Jesus Christ.**

**Through him we offer you our
souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.**

Notices

♪ Hymn (719) ♪

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!*

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.

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.

*Graham Kendrick (b. 1950) © 1987 Make Way
Music*

¶ Dismissal

The Blessing

May God's Holy Spirit be in your life
place hand on heart

May God's Holy Spirit be in our world
sweep hand out in front

May God's Holy Spirit be love between
us *lift hands towards each other*

and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you and
all those whom you love and all those
for whom you pray this Pentecost and
for evermore.

Amen.

With the power that raised Jesus from
the dead at work within you, go in the
peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia, alleluia.

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