

## **Pentecost Sunday & Communion - Selkirk & Ashkirk - 5/6/22**

### **Welcome**

**Call to Worship** - 'Give thanks to the Lord, proclaim His greatness;  
tell the nations what He has done. Sing praise to the Lord.  
Tell of the wonderful things He has done.  
Be glad that we belong to Him.  
Let all who worship Him rejoice!' - *Psalm 105 v 1-3*

### **Hymn 111 - Holy, Holy, Holy**

Holy holy holy Lord God Almighty  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee  
Holy holy holy merciful and mighty  
God in Three Persons blessed Trinity

Holy holy holy all the saints adore Thee  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee  
Which wert and art and evermore shalt be

Holy holy holy though the darkness hide Thee  
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see  
Only Thou art holy there is none beside Thee  
Perfect in power in love and purity

Holy holy holy Lord God Almighty  
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea  
Holy holy holy merciful and mighty  
God in Three Person blessed Trinity  
Reginald Heber (1783 – 1826)

### **Prayer and Lord's Prayer (debts)**

O Lord our God, we worship & praise You.  
We cry out to You in thanksgiving and appreciation  
For You are the One True God.  
There is no-one else like You.  
No-one can ever take Your place.

It is our great privilege to bring our praise to You this day.  
We are honoured to be here in Your presence  
And to glorify Your Name.

Lord God, on this day of Pentecost we draw near to You.  
We are like those 120 believers gathered together in Jerusalem.  
We are waiting upon You. Waiting for You to fill us with Your Holy Spirit.  
Waiting on Your Spirit to encourage us to go out into our communities  
and tell of all the wonderful things You have done for us.

Lord, fill us with Your power, give us boldness to speak out,  
Give us the words to say to others, help us to make them curious.

Help us to make them ask questions, about You,  
about Your Son and about Your Holy Spirit.

Lord, we thank You for enabling Your people to speak  
to all those gathered in Jerusalem on that great Day.  
We thank You that each person heard about You and about  
the great things You have done, in their own languages.

Enable each one of us to do the same Lord  
To speak to others in a language they will understand.  
So that they will come to see just how wonderful You are  
And become part of Your family  
Our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Receive now our offerings, with our thanks  
Use them for Your glory and for the building up of Your church.

And hear us as we pray together  
in the words which Your Son has taught us:

Our Father who art in Heaven,  
Hallowed be Thy Name  
Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done  
On Earth as it is in Heaven  
Give us this day our daily bread  
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil  
For Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory  
For ever.

Amen.

**Old Testament Reading - 1st Chronicles 16 v 23-36 (GNB) - A Song of Praise**  
*(Linda White)*

<sup>23</sup> Sing to the Lord, all the world!  
Proclaim every day the good news that he has saved us.  
<sup>24</sup> Proclaim his glory to the nations,  
his mighty deeds to all peoples.  
<sup>25</sup> The Lord is great and is to be highly praised;  
he is to be honored more than all the gods.  
<sup>26</sup> The gods of all other nations are only idols,  
but the Lord created the heavens.  
<sup>27</sup> Glory and majesty surround him,  
power and joy fill his Temple.  
<sup>28</sup> Praise the Lord, all people on earth,  
praise his glory and might.  
<sup>29</sup> Praise the Lord's glorious name;  
bring an offering and come into his Temple.  
Bow down before the Holy One when he appears  
<sup>30</sup> tremble before him, all the earth!  
The earth is set firmly in place and cannot be moved.

- <sup>31</sup> Be glad, earth and sky!  
Tell the nations that the Lord is king.
- <sup>32</sup> Roar, sea, and every creature in you;  
be glad, fields, and everything in you!
- <sup>33</sup> The trees in the woods will shout for joy  
when the Lord comes to rule the earth.
- <sup>34</sup> Give thanks to the Lord, because he is good;  
his love is eternal.
- <sup>35</sup> Say to him, "Save us, O God our Savior;  
gather us together; rescue us from the nations,  
so that we may be thankful  
and praise your holy name."
- <sup>36</sup> Praise the Lord, the God of Israel!  
Praise him now and forever

### **Mission Praise 241 - Holy Spirit we welcome You**

1. Holy Spirit, we welcome You  
Holy Spirit, we welcome You  
Move among us with holy fire  
As we lay aside all earthly desire  
Hands reach out and our hearts aspire  
Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit,  
Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit, we welcome you!
2. Holy Spirit, we welcome You  
Holy Spirit, we welcome You  
Let the breeze of Your presence blow  
How to move in the Spirit's flow.  
Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit,  
Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit, we welcome you!
3. Holy Spirit, we welcome You  
Holy Spirit, we welcome You  
Please accomplish in us today  
Some new work of loving grace, we pray-  
Unreservedly – have Your way  
Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit,  
Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit, we welcome you

### **Prayer - (*Fan Heafield*)**

Lord, as we worship today on Pentecost Sunday. move us by your Holy Spirit  
and bring your good news to us all.  
Bring freedom, health and peace to all the broken people all over the world,  
Open our eyes to see you as you are and open our hearts to praise you.  
Give us a vision that will support us to move out of our comfort zones  
And lead us into new ways of serving you.  
Help us to be agents of your love to all people  
In a world where there is so much division and hate.

Helps us to be beacons of hope  
In a world that is sinking deeper into despair.  
Help us to be agents of your peace  
In a world that is torn apart by conflict and wars.  
We continue to pray with all our heart for people in the midst of conflict.  
For those in the Ukraine, in Sri Lanka, in Rwanda,  
where the militia continue to suppress their people and in many other places.  
May Governments seek to support justice and truth as God wishes us to do.

Grant us the grace to respect this world –  
so that we in faith may see it through your eyes  
And help us to challenge poverty, injustice, inequality, and climate change.  
This Pentecost we pray for all unreached peoples and nations  
We pray that our faith will be good news to them and help them  
to feel your love and presence, to support them  
through the difficulties they are facing.  
We pray for refugees and displaced people, for  
those who are worshipping secretly, and for those who are seeking you – may  
they meet the living God wherever they are.  
King of glory, whose ascended Son carries the wounds of his suffering  
into heaven's bright sanctuary  
and for ever intercedes for our world in your radiant presence.  
We give thanks for the dedicated witness of your servant, Elizabeth our Queen  
in times of joy and in seasons of affliction.  
In your unfailing mercy, strengthen and uphold her  
that she may diligently honour your gracious purposes  
and inspire your people to work together for the coming of your kingdom.  
May you guide and support all those in our own Government,  
Both locally and nationally, helping them to follow your path.

We pray also for our families and friends  
at a time when we seem so beset with problems.  
Support us through each of our own challenges and  
help us to keep in mind those who are in a worse situation.  
God of Healing, we pray for those who are in particular need,  
the sick and sorrowing, the lonely and the distraught,  
those tormented in body or mind and all those dedicated to helping them.  
May we always be willing to do what we can,  
wherever we can, for those in need whose lives touch ours.  
We pray for those who mourn and  
we remember with gratitude the lives of those who have passed on.  
Comfort the bereaved whether their loss be recent or in the past  
and particularly for those marking an anniversary at this time.

We pray loving God, that this Pentecost your Holy  
Spirit may find entrance to many minds that are  
darkened and closed by fear.  
Bring clarity of vision and calmness of mind,  
Lord, our hearts are free to follow you, so may we go out this week with renewed faith that others  
may see the joy of Christ in our lives.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers

for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

**Bible Teaching - Acts 2 v 1-12 (GNB) -The Day of Pentecost.  
'We must tell others what God has done!'**

We have just celebrated a great occasion - the Platinum Jubilee of our Queen.  
And I'm sure you will all agree that it has been good to have something positive to celebrate after all that we have come through in the last few years.

It was wonderful to see everyone join together to commemorate a great event - seventy years of her Majesty as our monarch.

The Jewish people have three great times of celebration each year -

The Feast of Passover,  
The Feast of Tabernacles (or Shelters)  
And the Feast of Pentecost, which we will be looking at today on this Pentecost Sunday.

Pentecost takes place on the 50th day after Passover, when seven weeks of barley had been gathered in and the wheat harvesting had begun.

The name is derived from the Greek word for fiftieth (pentecostos).  
The Jewish people know it as 'Shavuot' or 'The Feast of Weeks'

It also celebrates the anniversary of Moses receiving the Ten Commandments from God on Mount Sinai.

All in all, a great day of celebration.  
And it is on that very day that we take up our reading from the New Testament -

**ACTS 2 v 1-12 (GNB)**

The Coming of the Holy Spirit

2 When the day of Pentecost came, all the believers were gathered together in one place. 2 Suddenly there was a noise from the sky which sounded like a strong wind blowing, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 Then they saw what looked like tongues of fire which spread out and touched each person there. 4 They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to talk in other languages, as the Spirit enabled them to speak. 5 There were Jews living in Jerusalem, religious people who had come from every country in the world. 6 When they heard this noise, a large crowd gathered. They were all excited, because all of them heard the believers talking in their own languages. 7 In amazement and wonder they exclaimed, "These people who are talking like this are Galileans! 8 How is it, then, that all of us hear them speaking in our own native languages? 9 We are from Parthia, Media, and Elam; from Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia; from Pontus and Asia, 10 from Phrygia and Pamphylia, from Egypt and the regions of Libya near Cyrene. Some of us are from Rome, 11 both Jews and Gentiles converted to Judaism, and some of us are from Crete and Arabia—yet all of us hear them speaking in our own languages about the great things that God has done!" 12 Amazed and confused, they kept asking each other, "What does this mean?"

The Jewish people had gathered in their thousands to celebrate this occasion.

Native Jews & Jewish converts from all over - from Mesopotamia, from Arabia, from North Africa, from Crete, from Rome and many other lands.

120 Christian believers were huddled together in the one place, when, as someone has colourfully put it -

**'ALL HEAVEN BROKE LOOSE!'**

Suddenly a noise like a tornado blows through the room. A roaring fire appears from out of nowhere and separates into individual flames which touches each one of them.

What on Earth is going on?

What's happening is that God Himself  
**IS FILLING EACH ONE OF THEM WITH HIS HOLY SPIRIT!**

And the Spirit gives each one of them the ability to speak in other languages - languages which they had never learned!

They rush out into the street and start to proclaim "the great things that God has done!"

And the people are gobsmacked!

"He's speaking my language" says a man from Mesopotamia.

"How do they know the dialect I speak"

exclaims a Jewish convert from Egypt.

"This is unbelievable" utters someone from Arabia - these people are all from Galilee and yet they are speaking to us in **OUR LANGUAGE!**

"How can this be?" says a native of Rome

"They're telling each one of us, in our own languages, all about the great and wonderful things that God has done -

I must be dreaming!"

But they weren't and neither was anyone else! It was real! It was happening!

But is it still happening today?

That's what we have to ask ourselves!

We all need to think about it.

When was the last time any of US spoke to someone about 'the great things that God has done in **OUR lives?'**

That's what those 120 believers did on the Day of Pentecost - each single one of them.

They were **FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT** and they told everyone around them about all that God had done for them!

If someone has done something wonderful for you, what do you do?

Keep quiet about it, or tell others about what they have done for you?

If someone dives in and rescues you from drowning in the sea - do you keep quiet about it?

If someone goes into a burning building and carries you out - do you say nothing about it?

No you don't! You thank that person  
AND you tell others about their bravery and how they saved you from death!

You talk them up. You praise them.  
You tell everyone how wonderful they are.  
They have rescued you!

Well, has GOD not rescued US?  
Has He not saved us from eternal death  
by sending us His Son?

JESUS has rescued us by dying in our place on the cross, paying the price of all our sins and rising from the dead!

As the hymn writer puts it:

'He rescued me from the darkest night  
And brought me in to His glorious light  
To know His presence is my delight  
Hallelujah! He rescued me!

Hallelujah! He rescued me!

Earlier in our service, Anne read from  
1st Chronicles 16:

'Proclaim every day  
the Good News that He has saved us.  
Proclaim His glory to the nations,

Tell everyone about His miracles  
For the Lord is great and should be

### **Hymn - Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God (Getty/Townend)**

Holy Spirit, living breath of God,  
Breathe new life into my willing soul.  
Let the presence of the risen Lord,  
Come 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.  
Let 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.

## **The Lord's Supper**

### **Hymn 112 - God, whose Almighty Word**

1. God, whose almighty word  
chaos and darkness heard,  
and took their flight;  
hear us, we humbly pray,  
and, where the gospel-day  
sheds not its glorious ray,  
let there be light.
2. Saviour, who came to bring,  
on your redeeming wing,  
healing and sight,  
health to the sick in mind,  
sight to the inly blind,  
now to all humankind  
let there be light.
3. Spirit of truth and love,  
life-giving, holy dove,  
speed forth your flight;  
move o'er the waters' face,  
bearing the lamp of grace,  
and in earth's darkest place  
let there be light.
4. Blessèd and holy Three,  
glorious Trinity,  
Wisdom, Love, Might,  
boundless as ocean's tide  
rolling in fullest pride,  
through the world far and wide  
let there be light.

John Marriott (1780–1825) (*alt.*) and Thomas Raffles (1788–1863)

Benediction - 'And now may  
the Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Love of God  
and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit,

be with you all, now and forevermore.'

(3 fold Amen)