

Pentecost Sunday 2008

Come Holy Spirit, Renew the Church

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

Call to Worship

People of God, listen to the word of the Psalmist:
O Lord, how wonderful are your works; the earth is full of your creatures.
When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their
breath, they die and return to the dust. But when you send forth the breath
of your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth.

Ps. 104.24, 29-30

Let us praise the God who sends forth his Spirit to make everything alive!

Song *Pentecost Prayer* by Robin Mann

Greeting and welcome

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of
the Holy Spirit be with you all

And also with you.

Prayer of Invocation

Hail to the Spirit Holy, messenger of God's Wisdom,
primal fire of creation and breath of life!
From the time of dreaming you made your home with holy souls,
making them friends of God and prophets.
You invite us to join with you in the circle dance of trinitarian love,
to die and be reborn in the whirling wheel of God.
Come to us, Spirit of Life! We invoke you!
Renew your people in the passion of the ancients:
make of us mystics and poets and prophets,
that the earth may be rekindled in love.

Blessed be God forever—Father, Son and Spirit Holy. Amen.

Doxology 716 *Father we adore you*

The peace

News of the community

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Scripture Acts 2.1-21
Psalm 104 – *sung from 65 in the hymnbook*
I Corinthians 12.3b-13
John 20.19-23

Choir anthem *Come Holy Ghost* by Orlando Gibbons

Homily

Nicene creed

***We believe in one God,
the Father, the 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 of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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,
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.**

Hymn *Spirit of Gentleness* by Jim Manley

Refrain: ***Spirit, Spirit of gentleness
blow through the wilderness,
calling and free.
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness
stir me from placidness,
wind, wind on the sea.***

1. You moved on the waters,
you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains
from the valleys of sleep;
and over the aeons you called to each thing:
wake up from your slumbers
and rise on your wings.
2. You swept through the desert,

you stung with the sand,
and you goaded your people
with a law and a land;
and when they were blinded
by their idols and lies
then you spoke through the prophets
to open their eyes.

3. You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,
then you whispered in silence
when the whole world was still;
and down in the city you called once again
when you blew through your people
on the rush of the wind.
4. You call from tomorrow,
you break ancient schemes,
from the bondage of sorrow
the captives dream dreams;
our women see visions,
our men clear their eyes,
with bold new decisions your people arise.

Prayers of the people

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Offertory hymn 418 *She sits like a bird*

During the hymn, the offerings of money, bread and wine are brought forward.

Offertory prayer

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.

It will become for us our spiritual drink.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this money to share,
an offering of love that your love might be shared more widely.

It will become, for this community, a sign of your care.

Invitation

This is the feast of the baptised, a foretaste of the joy we shall share together in the kingdom of our Lord. Christ welcomes everyone to this table, all who would follow him and be his disciple. So come to this table, but be careful how you come. Come not because you are strong, but because you are weak. Come not because of any goodness of your own, but because you seek mercy and help. Come because you love the Lord a little, and would like to love him more.

Prayer of confession

In a moment of quiet, let us confess our sin, our fear, our anxieties to the God who is love . . .

A time of silence is observed.

Father most loving,
You send your breath to make us alive. Forgive us, then, when we give in to the forces that make for death in the world.

Lord, have mercy: ***Lord, have mercy.***

Jesus our saviour, you breathed your Spirit on the disciples, and bid them to go and do all that you have done. Forgive us when we lose our faith that such things are indeed possible.

Christ, have mercy: ***Christ, have mercy.***

Holy Spirit, breath of life and holy fire, you distribute your gifts that we might give ourselves for others. Forgive us, then, when we cling to what we are given and forget to share with our brothers and sisters.

Lord, have mercy: ***Lord, have mercy.***

Listen, everyone, to the sermon of the Apostle Peter:
'In the last days,' says the Lord, 'I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh. Your sons and daughter will prophesy, your young men will see visions and your old men will dream dreams . . . Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

Acts 2.17, 21

Listen, then, for Christ's word of grace for everyone who hears God's voice and calls out to him for mercy and help: Your sins are forgiven. ***Thanks be to God!***

The peace

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

We are the body of Christ

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 our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God,
for you pour out your Spirit on all flesh
and amaze us with your deeds of power.

In your infinite wisdom, you created the earth
and made it pregnant with new life.
You raised living creatures from the dust,
by the power of your Word

and breathed into them the breath of your Spirit.

Your Son, Jesus, taught us your truth
and, before being given up to death,
he promised to send us the Holy Spirit
to support us in both strength and weakness
as we labour with you
to bring to birth the promised fulfilment
of our deepest hopes and yearnings.
In these last days you have poured out
the new wine of the Spirit,
intoxicating us with visions and dreams,
awakening within us your marvellous gifts
and firing our tongues with everlasting songs of joy.

Therefore with the whole realm of nature around us,
With the angels who envelop us,
with all the saints before us and beside us,
with our loved ones, separate from us now, who yet, in this mystery,
are close beside us:
We sing the hymn of unending praise.

Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of truth and love!
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!

We bless you for Christ's redeeming passion,
for in suffering in his own body
the woundedness of creation,
he embraced us in our brokenness
and incorporated us into his wholeness
so that each and every one of us

might know ourselves beloved
and serve with him as priests forever
in the cosmic liturgy of communion.

On the night when he was betrayed, Jesus had supper with his friends.
While they were talking, Jesus took a loaf of bread, broke it, then gave
it to them saying:

This is my body, broken for you.
Whenever you eat it, remember me.

In the same way, after they had finished eating, Jesus gave them a cup:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood.
Whenever you drink it, remember me.

So, as we eat this bread and drink this cup,
We proclaim anew the mystery of our faith:

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

Made one with him,
and thus one with each other,
we lay before you these gifts of bread and wine,
in token of our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
for here we offer and present to you ourselves,
our bodies, minds and spirits,
to be a holy and continuous sacrifice to you.

Come, Holy Spirit, come.
Brood over these bodily things,
this bread and this wine.

May they be for us the body and blood of Christ;
healing, renewing and making us whole.
Come and embrace us with your life-giving power
that as bread and wine are made one with us,
we may become one with you;
bone of your bone, flesh of your flesh.
Come and make of your gathered people
the real presence of Christ for the world,
living our prayer and praying our life
till earth and heaven are reconciled,
and all are free as Christ is free.

Let us prayer together the prayer that Jesus taught us:

***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 for ever. Amen.***

Breaking of the bread

Look, the body of Christ is given for the life of the world.
Look, the blood of Christ is spilled for the healing of the world.
Glory be to you, Jesus Christ.

Let us receive what we are.
Let us become what we receive.

The body of Christ.

Communion

Prayer after communion

SENDING OUT OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

Hymn 409 *O breath of life, come sweeping through us*

Blessing

Go out into the world,
and labour in the power of the Spirit to bring forth new life.
Dream the dreams of God, pursue the visions God gives you
and speak of God's love and goodness to all who will hear.

God will go with you now and bless you—the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Recessional