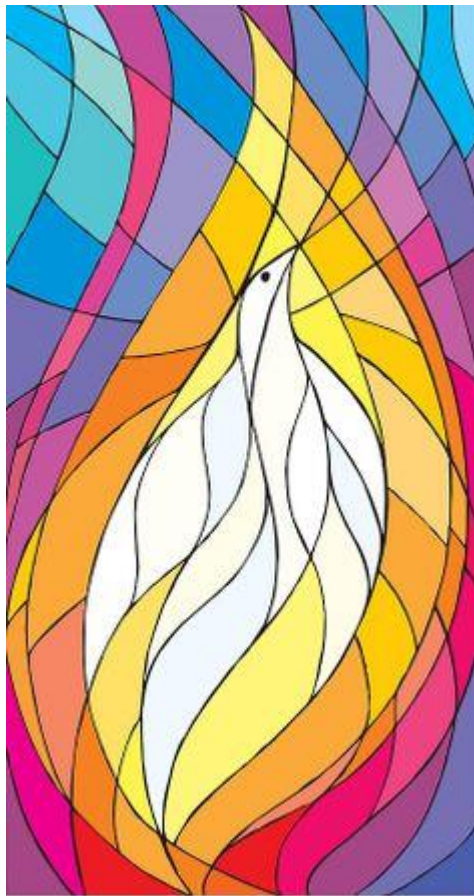


Pentecost



Holy Trinity Church, Long Melford

www.longmelfordchurch.com

The Feast of Pentecost

Pentecost is the crown of the Easter Season. The name of the festival means “fiftieth” as Pentecost is the fiftieth day of the Easter Season.

This period closely parallels the relationship between two Hebrew pilgrim festivals. The first is Pesach (Passover), where Jesus died and rose, and at which the first fruits of the barley harvest were offered. The second is Shavuot (Pentecost/Weeks), traditionally the celebration of Moses receiving the Torah (law/teaching) and the festival of the first fruits of the wheat harvest. Christians pick up on the Hebrew roots of this festival when they mention “the first fruits of the Spirit”; the first of a crop offered back to God, indicating there is more to come. Our experience of God’s Spirit is therefore just the beginning of what he will do in and through his people. We find a parallel with the Giving of the Torah in the disciples’ ability to proclaim God’s teaching in many languages on the day of Pentecost, enabling the message of the resurrection and teaching of Jesus to be spread across the world.

In the gospels we read that for the first forty of these days, the risen Jesus appeared among his disciples and they rejoiced in his resurrection. After forty days, he commissioned his disciples to continue his work as he ascended into heaven, promising them the gift of the Holy Spirit. Ten days later, on the day of Pentecost, the Spirit came, empowering the disciples for mission, and about three thousand people were added to the church, many of them pilgrims who had come to Jerusalem for the celebration of the festival.

It is fitting, therefore, that we celebrate God’s mission today. Many have been praying for mission in the ten days between Ascension and Pentecost as part of the Thy Kingdom Come Initiative.

When the choir enter please stand

The Greeting

Rector The Lord be with you

All **And also with you**

Rector The Lord says: I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. *(Ezekiel 36.25-26)*

All **Amen**

Rector's Welcome

Hymn

During which the children may go to their group(s)

Prayers of Penitence

We confess to you our selfishness and lack of love.
Fill us with your Spirit.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

We confess to you our fear and failure in sharing our faith.
Fill us with your Spirit.

Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

We confess to you our stubbornness and lack of trust.
Fill us with your Spirit.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

May the Father forgive *you* by the death of his Son and strengthen *you* to live in the power of the Spirit all *your* days.

All **Amen**

The Gloria

There are some parts of the order of service set to music. Most pick the tune up after a few services. If you read music you may ask for a copy when you arrive; alternatively feel free to simply reflect on the words.

All *Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.*

**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.**

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.

**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.**

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.

**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.**

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.

The Collect (prayer for the day)

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**

Gospel Reading

At the beginning the reader says:

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

All Glory to you, O Lord

At the end of the reading the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God

Hymn

New Testament Reading

At the end of the reading the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

Rector Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

All I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

Rector Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

All I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Rector Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

All I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers

These responses may be used:

All Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

And at the end:

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



The Peace

Rector 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. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you.

Hymn

*During the hymn the gifts of the people are gathered and presented; the table is
prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it; the president takes the bread
and wine.*



The Eucharistic Prayer

All are invited to receive from God. If you normally receive communion at your home church you are welcome to receive communion here. Alternatively, keep your hands together at the altar rail and we will pray God's blessing over you, or of course you are welcome to remain seated.

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 thanks and praise.

Rector 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 singing:

(sung) **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.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

The bell is rung

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
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.

The bell is rung

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

(sung) **Christ has died, Christ is risen: Christ will come again.**

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours,
O loving Father, for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Rector As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All **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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory
For ever and ever. Amen**

Rector We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei (*sung*)

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

Rector Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Communion Hymns

These are listed on the board on the right.

Please remain seated until invited to go forward.



Prayer after Communion

Rector 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**

Declaration

Rector 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
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.**

Blessing

Rector 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

Hymn

Dismissal

Rector Filled with the Spirit's power, go, live and serve in the peace of Christ.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

All Thanks be to God, Alleluia! Alleluia!

Please remain standing as the choir leave

Please stay for refreshments ...