

Solemn Evensong and Benediction for Pentecost (8th June) 2025

O Queen of Heaven be joyful. Alleluia! Because He Whom thou so meekly bearest. Alleluia! As He promised hath arisen. Alleluia! Pray for us to the Father. Alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia! For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia!

Let us pray:

O God, Who through the Resurrection of Thy Son, hath brought joy to the whole world; grant us with the Blessed Virgin Mary to attain to the joys of life eternal; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

O Lord, open thou our lips.

And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.

The Lord's Name be praised.

Rejoice, the year upon its way Has brought again that blessed day When on the Church by Christ our Lord The Holy Spirit was outpoured.

From out the heavens a rushing noise Came like the tempest's sudden voice, And mingled with the Apostles' prayer, Proclaiming loud that God was there.

Like quivering tongues of light and flame, Upon each one the Spirit came: Tongues, that the earth might hear their call, And fire, that love might burn in all.

And so to all were spread abroad The wonders of the works of God; They knew the prophet's word fulfilled, And owned the gift which God had willed.

Look down, most gracious God, this day Upon Thy people as they pray; And Christ the Lord upon us pour The Spirit's gift for evermore.

REJOICE in the Lord, O ye righteous: for it becometh well the just to be thankful.

- 2 Praise the Lord with harp: sing praises unto him with the lute, and instrument of ten strings.
- 3 Sing unto the Lord a new song : sing praises lustily unto him with a good courage.
- 4 For the word of the Lord is true: and all his works are faithful.
- 5 He loveth righteousness and judgement : the earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.
- 6 By the word of the Lord were the heavens made: and all the hosts of them by the breath of his mouth.

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- 7 He gathereth the waters of the sea together, as it were upon an heap : and layeth up the deep, as in a treasure-house.
- 8 Let all the earth fear the Lord : stand in awe of him, all ye that dwell in the world.
- 9 For he spake, and it was done: he commanded, and it stood fast.
- 10 The Lord bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: and maketh the devices of the people to be of none effect, and casteth out the counsels of princes.
- 11 The counsel of the Lord shall endure for ever : and the thoughts of his heart from generation to generation.
- 12 Blessed are the people, whose God is the Lord Jehovah: and blessed are the folk, that he hath chosen to him to be his inheritance. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

A Reading from the Book of Wisdom.

With thee is wisdom, who knows thy works and was present when thou didst make the world, and who understand what is pleasing in thy sight and what is right according to thy commandments. Send her forth from the holy heavens, and from the throne of thy glory send her, that she may be with me and toil, and that I may learn what is pleasing to thee. For she knows and understands all things, and she will guide me wisely in my actions and guard me with her glory. Then my works will be acceptable, and I shall judge thy people justly, and shall be worthy of the throne of my father. For what man can learn the counsel of God? Or who can discern what the Lord wills? For the reasoning of mortals is worthless, and our designs are likely to fail, for a perishable body weighs down the soul, and this earthy tent burdens the thoughtful mind. We can hardly guess at what is on earth, and what is at hand we find with labour; but who has traced out what is in the heavens? Who has learned thy counsel, unless thou hast given wisdom and sent thy holy Spirit from on high?

Here endeth the first lesson.

The Holy Ghost the Comforter: Alleluia, alleluia! The Holy Ghost the Comforter: Alleluia, alleluia!

Shall teach you all things:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:

The Holy Ghost the Comforter: Alleluia, alleluia!

As the MAGNIFICAT is sung, the Presence of God (signified by the Altar) is honoured with incense.

Today, are fulfilled the days of Pentecost, alleluia: Today the Holy Spirit appeared in fire to the disciples and bestowed upon them His manifold graces, sending them into all the world to preach the Gospel and to testify: He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved. Alleluia!

MY soul doth magnify the Lord : and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his hand-maiden.

For behold, from henceforth: all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him: throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm: he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat : and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things: and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel: as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Today, are fulfilled the days of Pentecost, alleluia: Today the Holy Spirit appeared in fire to the disciples and bestowed upon them His manifold graces, sending them into all the world to preach the Gospel and to testify: He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved. Alleluia!

A Reading from the former Letter of Saint Paul to the Church in Corinth.

Among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glorification. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him," God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what person knows a man's thoughts except the spirit of the man which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is from God, that we might understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who possess the Spirit. The unspiritual man does not receive the gifts of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. The spiritual man judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

Here endeth the second lesson.

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace : according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen: thy salvation;

Which thou hast prepared: before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles : and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

I BELIEVE in God

the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Catholick Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins;

The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

OUR Father,

which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us;

And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the King.

And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.

And bless thine inheritance.

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Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God. O God, make clean our hearts within us.

And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

GOD, who as at this time didst teach the hearts of thy faithful people, by the sending to them the light of thy 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 liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, world without end.

Amen.

O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

May the souls of the departed, through the mercy and love of God, rest in peace.

Amen.

The Altar is prepared for Benediction during the hymn that precedes the Liturgy. A bell rings and the Sacrament is brought to the Altar.

Sing to Him in Whom creation Found its shape and origin; Spirit, moving on the waters, Troubled by the God within; Source of breath to all things breathing, Life in Whom all lives begin.

Sing to God, the close Companion Of our inmost thoughts and ways; Who, in showing us His wonders, Is Himself the power to gaze; And His will, to those who listen, By a still small voice conveys.

Holy men, both priest and prophet, Caught His accents, spoke His Word; His the truth behind the wisdoms Which as yet know not our Lord; He the love of God eternal, Which in Christ was seen and heard.

Tell of how the ascended Jesus Armed a people for His own; How a hundred men and women Turned the known world upside down, To its dark and furthest corners By the Wind of Whitsun blown.

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Pray we then, O Lord the Spirit, On the lives descend in might; Let Thy flame break out within us, Fire our hearts and clear our sight, Till, white-hot in Thy possession, We, too, set the world alight.

Praise, O praise, the Holy Spirit,
Praise the Father, praise the Word,
Source and Truth and Inspiration,
Trinity in deep accord:
Through Thy Voice, which speaks within us
We Thy creatures own Thee Lord.

Words: Michael Hewlett b1916 Music: Picardy French carol probably C17 Found in Tiersot's Melodies 1887

The Presence of Christ in the Sacrament is honoured with incense as the following hymn is sung:

O salutaris Hostia, Quae caeli pandis ostium: Bella premunt hostilia, Da robur, fer auxilium. O saving Victim, opening wide The gate of Heaven to man below, Our foes press hard on every side, Thine aid supply, Thy strength bestow.

Uni trinoque Domino Sit sempiterna gloria, Qui vitam sine termino Nobis donet in patria. Amen. All praise and thanks to Thee ascend For evermore, blest One in Three, And grant us life that shall not end, In our true native land with Thee. Amen.

A Period of silence follows.

Visita. Dómine. quæsumus, habitatiónem istam. et omnes insídias inimíci ah ea longe repélle: Angeli tui sancti hábitent in ea, qui nos in pace custódiant; et benedíctio tua sit super nos semper. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum.

Visit, we beseech Thee, O Lord, this dwelling and drive far from it all assaults of the enemy; let Your holy angels dwell herein that we may be kept in peace and Your blessing always rest upon us, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Amen.

Benedictus Deus.
Benedictum Nomen Sanctum eius
Benedictus Iesus Christus,
verus Deus et verus homo
Benedictum Nomen Iesu
Benedictus Iesus
in sanctissimo altaris Sacramento
Benedictus Sanctus Spiritus,
Paraclitus
Benedictus Deus in Angelis suis,
et in Sanctis suis

Blessed be God.
Blessed be His holy Name.
Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God
and true man.
Blessed be the Name of Jesus.
Blessed be Jesus in the most holy
Sacrament of the Altar.
Blessed be the Holy Ghost,
the Paraclete.
Blessed be God
in His angels and in His saints.

Sit Benedicatus laudatusque sanctificatusque et adoratus Jesus Christus in cathedram gloriae Suae.

Et in sanctissimo altaris Sacramento

Blessed, praised, hallowed and adored be Jesus Christ on His throne of glory.

And in the most holy Sacrament of the Altar.

The Presence of Christ is then honoured with incense again during the following hymn:

Tantum ergo Sacramentum Veneremur cernui: Et antiquum documentum Novo cedat ritui: Præstet fides supplementum Sensuum defectui.

Genitori, Genitoque Laus et Jubilatio, Salus, honor, virtus quoque Sit et benedictio: Procedenti ab utroque Compar sit laudatio. Amen Therefore, we before Him bending, This great Sacrament revere; Types and shadows have their ending, For the newer rite is here; Faith our outward sense befriending Makes the inward vision clear.

Glory let us give and blessing,
To the Father and the Son,
Honour, might and praise addressing
While eternal ages run;
Ever to His love confessing,
Who from Both with Both is One.
Amen.

Panem do caelo praestitisti eis. Alleluia, alleluia!

Omne delectamentum in se habentem. Alleluia, alleluia!

Oremus:

Deus, qui nobis sub Sacramento mirabili Passionis, mortisque et Resurrectionis gloriosae tuae memoriam reliquisti; tribue, ita nos Corporis et Sanguinis tui sacra mysteria venerari, ut redemptionis tuae fructum in nobis iugiter sentiamus: Qui vivis et regnas in saecula saeculorum.

Amen.

O God, Who under a wonderful Sacrament hast left unto us a of Thy wonderful memorial Passion and Death and glorious Resurrection; grant us so to venerate the Sacred Mysteries of Thy Body and Blood that evermore

Amen.

The priest goes to the Altar and gives Benediction, during which a bell rings three times.

As the Sacrament is returned to the Tabernacle, all sing:

Adoremus in aeternum sanctissimum Sacramentum.

Laudate Dominum omnes gentes: laudate eum omnes populi. Quoniam confirmata est super nos eius: misericordia veritas et Domini manet in aeternum. Gloria Patri et Filio: et Spiritui Sancto:

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper: et in saecula saeculorum. Amen

Adoremus &c

Let us adore for ever the most holy Sacrament.

perceive within ourselves the fruit

of Your Redemption: Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Thou gavest them Bread

Let us pray:

from Heaven. Alleluia, alleluia! Containing in Itself all sweetness.

Alleluia, alleluia!

O praise the Lord all ye nations, praise Him all ye peoples. Let us adore for ever the most holy Sacrament.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Let us adore for ever the most holy Sacrament.

Adoremus &c

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