

Pentecost

An Order of Service for
Holy Communion



The Parish of St Bartholomew
and St Christopher
Haslemere

The Day of Pentecost

Our Day of Pentecost remembers the time when God's Holy Spirit was sent, as Jesus had promised, to the disciples. Its meaning is 'fifty days', and so it falls ten days after Ascension Day, which itself is on the fortieth day after the resurrection of Easter Sunday.



Although we think of Pentecost as a Christians event, when the church was empowered, its origins date back a long time before that as a Jewish festival known as the Festival of Weeks. This festival was used to celebrate the wheat harvest, and also as an anniversary of the day that God gave the Law to Moses on Mount Sinai.

Although this anniversary of the giving of the Law is not mentioned specifically in the Bible, it is a tradition which sits well with the idea of a new outpouring from God – His Holy Spirit – and new phase of God's relationship with his people – the Church.

The Gathering

Please stand

We begin our preparation for communion as we come together before God to greet each other, to reflect on our lives, to ask, receive and celebrate God's forgiveness and to pray.

Hymn and Procession

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

The Welcome

God is Spirit

All Let us worship him in spirit and truth.

Prayers of Preparation

Jesus reassured his disciples, 'I am going to send you what my Father has promised; so now stay together here until you have been clothed with power from on high.'

Luke 24:49

Let us then prepare ourselves to receive the Lord's Spirit:

As we worship you in praise,

All fill us with your Holy Spirit.

As we listen to your word,

All fill us with your Holy Spirit.

As we wait in silence,

All fill us with your Holy Spirit.

A time of silence follows.

Lord as we wait upon you in silence and openness: so now pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, as you poured out your life to cleanse us. Refresh, renew, equip and empower us for the work of your church.

All Amen.

In Confession

Therefore, in readiness to walk in the way of the Lord, let us now confess our sins.

**Sit or
kneel**

Silence is kept for us to offer our sins to God.

**All Spirit of truth,
open our hearts and minds to know
that we have not always lived
as you would want, and as we should.
As we confess our selfish spirit,
empty us from all sin,
and fill us again, renewed,
to follow you,
all the days of our lives.
Amen**

We receive absolution and the assurance of sins forgiven.

May the Father of all mercies
cleanse you from our sins,
reclaim you by his Spirit
and restore you in his service
to the praise and glory of his name,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Gloria in Excelsis

Please Stand

*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...

*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...

*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.*

Glory to God...

OR *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.*

*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.*

*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.*

The Collect

Sit *The collect or other community prayers may be said.
After the prayer we all respond:*

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

*Two readings from Scripture precede the Gospel reading.
At the end of each the reader says:*

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Stand

Hymn

We turn to surround the gospel as it is brought amongst us.

The Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia.

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

All Alleluia.

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

Sit

The Creed

Stand

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

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.

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.

Our Prayers

You may wish to kneel as we pray for each other and our communities. The following responses may be used.

Lord, in your mercy (or) Lord, hear us.
All hear our prayer. **All** Lord, graciously hear us.

A time of silence may be kept, after which we respond:

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

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Sharing God's Peace

Stand

The fruits of the Spirit are love, joy and peace.
If we live in the Spirit, then let us live in peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All and also with you.

Let us share a sign of peace.

Hymn

The Holy Communion

Stand

The Lord is here

All his Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

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:

**All 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.

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.

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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**All Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love
and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

**All Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

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.

All Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

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

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

Or:

All Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, Grant us peace.

The Giving of Communion

All Most merciful Lord,
your love compels us to come in.
Our hands were unclean,
our hearts were unprepared;
we were not fit
even to eat the crumbs from under your table.
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,
and share your bread with sinners.
So cleanse and feed us
with the precious body and blood of your Son,
that he may live in us and we in him;
and that we, with the whole company of Christ,
may sit and eat in your kingdom.
Amen.

As they receive communion the communicant replies:

Amen.

The choir sings an anthem.

If you are a visitor, and receive communion in a church you usually attend, whether it is in the Church of England or not, please feel welcome to receive communion here today.

If you prefer, you may receive a blessing instead: please bow your head and keep your hands by your sides as you come forward.

The Prayer after Communion

The Post Communion prayer is said by the President

All 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.

Our Rededication

Stand

Blessed are you, sovereign God and eternal Father.
Daily your Spirit renews the face of the earth,
bringing strength out of weakness,
hope out of despair and life out of death.
By the power of your illuminating Spirit,
may your blessing rest upon those upon whom these lights shine.
Let it be for them a sign of your acceptance and adoption,
your equipping and empowering.
Form in them the likeness of Christ,
that they may be witnesses of your overflowing love,
and fill them afresh with life in all its fullness.

Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All Blessed be God for ever.

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 work in us. As part of God's Church here in Haslemere, 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.**

Do please remain with us after the service
for refreshments.

Hymn

The Blessing

Bless the Earth, heal the sick, let the oppressed go free,
and clothe your church with power from on high;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen



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