



BELFAST
CATHEDRAL

**MORNING PRAYER:
A SERVICE OF THE WORD
Sunday 23rd May 2021
The Day of Pentecost: Whit Sunday**



Depiction of Pentecost in the East Window in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit, Belfast Cathedral

Welcome to the Cathedral Church of St Anne, Belfast. Please follow the instructions from the Churchwardens. We ask you to wear a face covering throughout your visit. Under government guidance for the purposes of keeping Contact Tracing Records it is essential that you complete the following information. Please leave this service sheet ON YOUR SEAT when you leave at the end of the service. These will be retained for 21 days, after which they will be destroyed. Thank you.

Name(s): _____

Telephone contact: _____

*In due course we hope to resume congregational singing.
However, unfortunately, due to ongoing Public Health concerns,
we ask members of the congregation
not to sing the hymns during this morning's service.*

Organ Prelude: Free Improvisation on 'Veni Creator'

Please stand for the **OPENING HYMN: ICH 294**

Come down, O Love divine,
Seek thou this soul of mine,
And visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
Within my heart appear,
And kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
Till earthly passions turn
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
And let thy glorious light
Shine ever on my sight,
And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity
Mine outward vesture be,
And lowliness become mine inner clothing;
True lowliness of heart,
Which takes the humbler part,
And o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong,
With which the soul will long,
Shall far outpass the power of human telling;
For none can guess its grace,
Till he become the place
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

Words: Bianco da Siena (d. 1434), tr. R.F. Littledale (1833-90)

Tune: DOWN AMPNEY R. Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Please sit

The congregation is welcomed

Please stand

PENTECOST ACCLAMATION

The Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. *Romans 5:5*

Jesus Christ, whom we worship, is our crucified, risen and ascended Lord and we have walked with him through his journey of love. We have faced the agony of his suffering and death on a cross. We have rejoiced at his bursting free from the bonds of death. We have enjoyed his risen presence with us and his revelation of himself through the breaking of bread. We have seen his return to the throne before which every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that this Jesus is Lord. And now, with the followers of his own time, we await the coming of the promised Holy Spirit, his gift to his people, through whom we make Christ known to the world.

What God has prepared for those who love him, he has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything. Therefore, let us in penitence open our hearts to the Lord, who has prepared good things for those who love him. *1 Corinthians 2.9,10*

Silence is kept

Heavenly Father, **we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault; by what we have done and by what we have failed to do. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand

PROCLAIMING AND RECEIVING THE WORD

○ Lord, open our lips

and our mouth will proclaim your praise.

God, make speed to save us.

○ Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.

Praise the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

Please remain standing to say the **PSALM: 104:26-36, 37b**

○ Lord, how manifold are your works! ♦

In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

There is the sea, spread far and wide, ♦

and there move creatures beyond number, both small and great.

There go the ships, and there is that Leviathan ♦

which you have made to play in the deep.

All of these look to you ♦

to give them their food in due season.

When you give it them, they gather it; ♦

you open your hand and they are filled with good.

When you hide your face they are troubled; ♦

when you take away their breath, they die and return again to the dust.

When you send forth your spirit, they are created, ♦

and you renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the Lord endure for ever; ♦

may the Lord rejoice in his works;

He looks on the earth and it trembles; ♦

he touches the mountains and they smoke.

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; ♦

I will make music to my God while I have my being.

So shall my song please him ♦

while I rejoice in the Lord.

Bless the Lord, ○ my soul.

Alleluia.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son;

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now,

and shall be for ever. Amen.

Please sit for the **FIRST READING:** Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.'

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

"In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.

Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.

And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,

before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Please stand to say the **CANTICLE:** Te Deum Laudamus Part I*

We praise you, O God, **we acclaim you as the Lord;**

all creation worships you, the Father everlasting.

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven, the cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

The glorious company of apostles praise you;

the noble fellowship of prophets praise you.

The white-robed army of martyrs praise you;

throughout the world, the holy Church acclaim you:

Father, of majesty unbounded, your true and only Son, worthy of all praise,

the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

*Please sit for the **SECOND READING:** John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15*

Jesus said to the eleven: 'When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

'I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, "Where are you going?" But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgement: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgement, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

'I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.'

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON by the Reverend Janice Elsdon

ANTHEM:

In the hour of my distress,
When temptations me oppress,
And when I my sins confess,
Sweet Spirit, comfort me!

When I lie within my bed,
Sick in heart and sick in head,
And with doubts discomfited,
Sweet Spirit, comfort me!

When the house doth sigh and weep,
And the world is drowned with sleep,
Yet mine eyes the watch do keep,
Sweet Spirit, comfort me!

Litany to the Holy Spirit
Words: Robert Herrick (1591-1674)
Music: Peter Hurford (1930-2019)

Please stand to say the **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 again 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Let us pray.

Please kneel or sit

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

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, and the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Show us your mercy, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen
and grant her government wisdom.

Let your ministers be clothed with righteousness
and let your servants shout for joy.

O Lord, save your people
and bless those whom you have chosen.

Give peace in our time, O Lord,
and let your glory be over all the earth.

O God, make clean our hearts within us
and renew us by your Holy Spirit.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, who on the day of Pentecost sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame, filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel: By the power of the same Spirit strengthen us to witness to your truth and to draw everyone to the fire of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COLLECTS AT MORNING PRAYER

Go before us, Lord, in all our doings, with your most gracious favour, and further us with your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name, and finally by your mercy attain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray that your Holy Spirit may so guide and govern us that in all the cares and occupations of our daily life, we may never forget your presence but may remember that we are always walking in your sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray for God to fill us with the Holy Spirit:

Generous God, we thank you for the power of your Holy Spirit. We ask that we may be strengthened to serve you better.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you for the wisdom of your Holy Spirit. We ask you to make us wise to understand your will.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you for the peace of your Holy Spirit. We ask you to keep us confident of your love wherever you call us.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you for the healing of your Holy Spirit. We ask you to bring reconciliation and wholeness where there is division, sickness and sorrow.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you for the gifts of your Holy Spirit. We ask you to equip us for the work which you have given us.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you for the fruit of your Holy Spirit. We ask you to reveal in our lives the love of Jesus.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you for the breath of your Holy Spirit, given us by the risen Lord. We ask you to keep the whole Church, living and departed, in the joy of eternal life.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Generous God, you sent your Holy Spirit upon your Messiah at the river Jordan, and upon the disciples in the upper room: in your mercy fill us with your Spirit and make us one in heart and mind to serve you with joy for ever.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Father, **accept these our prayers the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

A PRAYER DURING THIS TIME OF CORONAVIRUS

O Heavenly Father, who by your Son Jesus Christ has taught us the glory of self-sacrifice and service: bless all who care for the sick, and those suffering from or recovering from Coronavirus in this country and across the world. Stand with those who grieve. Give your strength to all who work in hospitals and nursing homes, and those who give care in the community. Guide scientists tracking the new variants of the infection, and those who administer the vaccines in every country. Give wisdom to those who have responsibility in church, politics and society for leading us out of Lockdown. This we ask in the name of the one who spent himself in service of others with no thought for himself, even our Lord, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Please stand for the **CLOSING HYMN: ICH 293**

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure;
until with thee I will one will,
to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
till I am wholly thine;
until this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God:
so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.

*Words: Edwin Hatch (1835-89) based on Job 33:4
Tune: SPIRITUS DEI Frederick Ellis (1896)*

Please remain standing

THE PENTECOST BLESSING

The Spirit of truth lead you into all truth, give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, and to proclaim the words and works of God: and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE PENTECOST DISMISSAL

Filled with the Spirit's power, go in the light and peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Organ Voluntary: Festival Toccata *Percy Fletcher (1879-1932)*

Organist: Jack Wilson

Soloist: Caolan Keaveney

*Please remain in your place until the Churchwardens direct you to move.
We ask that members of the congregation exit the cathedral via the Treasury Door,
down the stairs or lift, and through the Cathedral Hall.*

Thank you.



NOTICES



Sunday 30th May 2021: Trinity Sunday

11.00am Morning Prayer: A Service of the Word

Preacher: The Dean

This service will be held in the Quire of the Cathedral. Please enter via the Cathedral Office Entrance and not the West Doors.

We encourage you to join us in person for this service in the cathedral.

For those who cannot do so, there will be a livestream

on the Belfast Cathedral Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/BelfastCathedral/>

If you have a donation for Christian Aid, please place your red envelope in the collection basket on your way out of the cathedral at the table near the Stairs.

Please remember that you can continue to make your FWO contribution to the Cathedral via On-line Banking:

Bank Details to make an on-line Banking Transfer are as follows:

Cathedral Bank Branch: **Bank of Ireland, City Centre Branch,
1 Donegall Square South, Belfast, BT1 5LR.**

Name of Account: **Parochial No 1 Current Account**

Sort Code: **90-21-27** Account Number: **10006051**

Please give your own name (and FWO number) as the Payment Reference.

Thank you for your continuing financial support for Belfast Cathedral

Today, Pentecost Sunday marks the conclusion of
Corrymeela's #CouragePentecost programme.

You are invited to join the on-line "Courage Pentecost" Service, organised by Corrymeela, from St John's Parish, Falls Road, starting at 3.30pm.

To follow the service please connect with Corrymeela's Courage Pentecost Website at

<https://www.couragepentecost.com/actions>