

PENTECOST CELEBRATION with HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday 31st May

HYMNS

Come, Holy Spirit,

descend on us, descend on us,
we gather here in Jesus name.

Come, Breath of Heaven

Come, Word of Mercy

Come, Fire of Judgement

Come, Great Creator

Come to unite us

Come to disturb us

Come to inspire us

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;

To the throne your tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Evermore God's praises sing:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for His for grace and favour
To our fathers in distress;
Praise Him, still the same as ever,
slow to chide and swift to bless
Alleluia, alleluia
Glorious in His faithfulness.

Fatherlike, He tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame he knows;
In his hands He gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Widely yet God's mercy flows.

Angels help us to adore Him,
Ye behold Him face to face;
Sun and moon bow down before Him
Dwellers all in time and space
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace.

Henry F. Lyte

During Holy Communion

Purify my heart

Let me be as gold and precious silver.

Purify my heart,
Let me be as gold, pure gold.
*Refiner's fire,
My heart's one desire
Is to be holy;
Set apart for You, Lord.
I choose to be holy;
Set apart for You, my Master,
Ready to do Your will.*

Purify my heart,
Cleanse me from within
And make me holy.
Purify my heart,
Cleanse me from my sin, deep within.

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.

Holy Spirit, living Breath of God,

Breathe new life into my willing soul.
Bring the presence of the risen Lord
To renew my heart and make me whole.
Cause Your Word to come alive in me;
Give me faith for what I cannot see;
Give me passion for Your purity.
Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

Holy Spirit, come abide within;

May Your joy be seen in all I do-
Love enough to cover every sin
In each thought and deed and attitude,
Kindness to the greatest and the least,
Gentleness that sows the path of peace.
Turn my striving into works of grace.
Breath of God, show Christ in all I do.

Holy Spirit, from creation's birth,
Giving life to all that God has made,
Show your power once again on earth;
Cause Your church to hunger for Your ways.
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise.
Lead us on the road of sacrifice
That in unity the face of Christ
Will be clear for all the world to see.

O for a thousand tongues to sing

my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!

Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life, and health, and peace.

He breaks the power of cancelled sin,
he sets the prisoner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean;
his blood availed for me.

He speaks, and listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.

My gracious Master, and my God,
Assist me to proclaim;
and spread through all the earth abroad
the honours of Thy name.
Amen

Taiže Chants for TKC 7pm Sat 30th 2020

Taiže in the Garden

Come and pray in us, Holy Spirit,
Come and pray in us, come and visit us,
Holy Spirit, Spirit, come, Spirit come.

Read Psalm 46 (sing 'Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia' after each section)

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.

You alone. O Lord are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
Alleluia.

Sing praise and bless the Lord,
sing praise and bless the Lord.
Peoples! Nations! Alleluia

Scripture Reading (Ezekiel 37 v1-14)

Holy Spirit, loving Spirit,
Holy, loving Spirit, come!

Lord of all goodness, Son of the Father,
May your peace surround us.

Intercessions

In between each Prayer we sing:

O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,
when I call, answer me.
O Lord hear my prayer, o Lord, hear my prayer,
Come and listen to me.

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice.
Look to God, do not be afraid; lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

This Week's Reflection for Pentecost, Sunday 31st May 2020 by Michael Clarke,

John 20 v19-23

Our reading today from John's gospel reminds us of that life-changing moment for the disciples when Jesus appeared to them in the locked room and greeted them with words we echo at our gatherings, "Peace be with you." From being fearful for their lives, those words transformed them into men with a purpose and the confidence to achieve the task Jesus then gave them, "As the Father sent me, so I send you." And he blessed them with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Today, as we celebrate Pentecost, we recall the disciples gathering in Jerusalem at the peak of the Jewish Festival. For than new band of Christians, as they eventually became known, their celebration was 50 days after Christ's resurrection.

And then, amongst all the Jewish celebrations, that seismic and very public event when in front of the throng, the disciples received very public confirmation of the gift of the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the ability to carry Christ's message to the crowd in their own languages.

As believers, we too live with the gift of the Holy Spirit. He is given not to be carefully packed and protected, but to be used as we are able, in the echo of Jesus' words' "As the Father sent me, so I send you."

A daunting task for all and reflected on by that arch student of human nature, the French priest, Fr. Michel Quoist is one of his many prayer-poems from the volume 'Pathways of Prayer.'

From 'PATHWAYS OF PRAYER' by Michel Quoist

I believe, Lord, that I'd be capable of accomplishing some extraordinary feats . . . once in a while; something that would mobilise all my resources,

because I'd be upset by destitution,

because I'd be upset by injustice,

because one of my loved ones would be in danger

I even believe sometimes that I'd be capable of risking my life.

Why did you invent endurance, Lord;
and faithfulness in small things,
and love that is always demanding?

Always beginning again, always.

Lord, I can't,
and I know
and I'm afraid
that when I look at my life,

in your presence, in the light of your Spirit,
I'll discover that for the few moments I've given
there will be thousands that I have refused to give
and I won't have given my whole life but only a few little bits of it.

"It's true, my child," says the Lord,
"that circumstances allow some people to give all their light in a few scintillating flashes,
but many are asked to kindle a thousand small lights of love
in the deep night of their lives.
Don't have regrets about this; don't judge.
I don't ask you to succeed always, only to try always.
Above all, I ask you to accept your own limitations,
to acknowledge your poverty – and give it to me,
and even your sins,
and the bits of life you have waisted and withheld from those who are waiting.

I will complete what is lacking in you and restore your capacity for endurance; because in my hands the poverty you offer will become wealth, for eternity."

Revd David's Sermon, Reading John 17 v20-26
Sunday 24th May 2020 'Becoming the Church Jesus Prayed For'

The story is told be an elderly Hillbilly who lived in the mountains overlooking the Chicago. He lived off grid, never had electricity, took his water every day from the well, bred and grew pretty much all he needed to eat, had no new clothes since his wedding 60 years ago and witnessed, but with no pleasure, the growth of the great city beneath him. He never went to the city, had a beaten-up jeep which he used rarely for collecting provisions from the local store. Had not tv, radio, never read a newspaper and his nearest neighbour was 3 miles down the track.

His Son however, after leaving school and going off to University in the City, never returned home and became a successful banker with an office on the 34th floor of one of the skyscrapers his father despised. Despite many attempts, his father had never accepted an invitation to visit his son's apartment or office. He hated change, resented modernisation and progress for him was finding a button for his trousers which he lost 3 years ago.

One day, he surprised his son but agreeing to visit his office, which he could see from the family shack in the hills in which he was born, became his family home when he married and had his son. As agreed, his son arrived on a very hot afternoon to take him to the city in his new BMW with the roof down. His father began to grumble before he got into the car. He grumbled about having to change his morning routine which hadn't changed for years, he grumbled at having to change the way he dressed, he grumbled changing the day he took a bath. He saw the BMW and grumbled about cost, didn't like the colour and couldn't see the point of an electric roof,

electric windows, he grumbled about the air conditioning, he didn't like the leather seats and complained about the route the SAT NAV took them as it was a route he would not have taken.

So, eventually, having grumble his way into the car, complained about the unnecessary technology and criticised all the changes he saw in the city which bore no resemblance to the city he used to visit in his cart with his Father as a child. Well, you can imagine his son's apprehension as he park the car and walked towards the office. Rounding the corner with the entrance to the office ahead of him, the father stops – and is instantly fascinated by the revolving door. He stood for a moment and watched people go in and come out. Puzzled at what he was seeing, he remained watching as people disappeared and appeared through this strangest of doors – the likes of which he had never seen. As expected, he grumbled about the need for such a fancy door, arguing that, in his view, a wooden door with a couple of hinges had always been sufficient for him! **And then he watched an elderly woman approach the door** – and he was curious about how she would manage such an unnecessary and dangerous invention! As she approached, she placed her hand on the rail, gave it a push and disappeared. No sooner had she disappeared did a young, beautiful woman walk out of the revolving door. Amazed at the apparent and instant transformation this older woman had undergone upon entering the revolving door – in seeing this beautiful young woman, he says to his son, go and get that new car of yours – we're going home to get your mother!

It seems to me that we all like things just the way they are and can resist change, no matter how urgent and necessary the proposed changes are. The truth is, that most of us like things just the way they are and are sceptical, critical and even vocal about any proposed changes to what is familiar and comfortable unless that is, rather like the elderly hillbilly, we see an advantage for ourselves. It is true isn't it, that change is usually welcome when there is something in it for us but resisted when there isn't!

Last Thursday was Ascension Day, and as we remembered Christ's 'return home' (his ascension) to the right hand of his Father – a couple of Sunday's ago we reflected on the stoning of Stephen, who at the moment of his death, Luke tells us in Acts 7 – full of the Holy Spirit, Stephen looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.

And here in the Upper Room, Jesus prays (v22) I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one. As you think of your own Parish Church and together, as we think about the Benefice, let me ask you, are we 'glorious'? I have heard folk describe our church buildings as 'simply glorious' and messages left by visitors reflect the same conclusion that the church they have visited is glorious! However, this is a much lesser glory than Jesus had in mind when he says 'I have given them my glory' - in effect – 'I have made them glorious' – *'They are and will be a glory to behold'*–

Our church buildings, churchyards, history, architecture, church programmes, mission initiatives, technology, websites, live streaming, even our mission action plans, along with the affection we

share for our communities, – as glorious as these things may be – are all nothing compared to the glory of which Jesus prays for here in v22.

The glory he speaks of is the glory that is anticipated by John earlier in the first chapter of his Gospel narrative (Jn 1 v12) He [Christ] was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world cannot recognise him. 'He came to his own, but his own did not receive him – yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become Children of God.'

We could all spend time discussing what changes we need to make post this lockdown period. But let's listen to Jesus first - who prays for our unity. Let's look for a moment at those who were in that Upper Room with Jesus, listening to him pray for their [our] UNITY. There was a Tax Collector, a handful of fishermen, a prostitute who was once possessed by seven demons. Some were poor, some were wealthy. Some were energetic, others were not so. Some like Peter had explosive personalities whilst others like James were more logical and reasoned. Jesus believes that unity amongst such disparate and desperate disciples was not only possible but necessary!

So, Jesus prays no less than seven times in this 17th Chapter of John that they [we] may be ONE and that our life together would be characterised by such a glorious unity that blesses the very heart of God, brings passion and purpose to his people and builds his church.

We must notice that the 'unity' for which Jesus prays is without doubt, not organisational or administrative but missional. Jesus prays that our unity (notice in v20 as he prays for those who will believe, and that's us) be the vehicle God will use to bind us together as one and bless our communities and build his church. And what makes the Church glorious is that we are (1) one in our personal faith in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour, (2) that we are one in our purpose to point others to the glory of Christ and (3) are unified in our determination to live and speak of Christ in our communities in such a way as others are not drawn to the supposed glory of our church buildings – but to the certain glory of the Jesus Christ, for which and whom they were built!

So, what do you imagine the church be like after this period of lockdown? My prayer, with Jesus is that it will be glorious and unified. Drawn once again to the things that matter the most – and what mattered the most to Jesus in that upper room was that we remained one and any changes we accept or resist will not be for our own personal benefit or comfort but for the enduring glory of his name and the eternal blessing of others.

Amen.