



CHESTER CATHEDRAL

Cathedral Eucharist

Pentecost Sunday
31st May, 2020 at 10.00am

President: Canon Jeremy Dussek
Preacher: The Ven Dr Mike Gilbertson
Archdeacon of Chester

WELCOME

We welcome you to this beautiful church in the heart of the city for a celebration of the Holy Eucharist. This cathedral is the seat of the Bishop of Chester and the core of a Christian community that has worshipped here and worked together for over 1100 years. It is a place where the mission of the church is central to proclaim God's love, and your welcome presence here for worship helps to strengthen this vital act of witness.

THE GATHERING

HYMN

- 1 **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.**

- 2 **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.**

- 3 **Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness becomes mine inner clothing;
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.**

- 4 **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.**

*Bianco da Siena (died 1434)
translated Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-90)*

DOWN AMPNEY
Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

GREETING

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

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.

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

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.

cf 1 Corinthians (2.9)

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

ABSOLUTION

May the God of love and power
forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit
and raise you to new life
in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA

**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 upon 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.**

COLLECT

Let us pray.

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. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE NEW TESTAMENT

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

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.

GRADUAL HYMN

- 1 **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.**

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

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

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

Edwin Hatch (1835-89)

HOLY GOSPEL

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. 20. 19-23
Glory to you, O Lord.

It was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped
and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father.

After each petition the following response may be used

Lord in your mercy
hear our prayer.

And at the end

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

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

PEACE

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.

cf 2 Corinthians (1.22)

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR

Blessed be God, who feeds the hungry,
who raises the poor, who fills our praise.
Blessed be God for ever.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

And now we give you thanks that,
after he had ascended far above all heavens,
and was seated at the right hand of your majesty,
he sent forth upon the universal Church your holy and life-giving Spirit;
that through his glorious power the joy of the everlasting gospel
might go forth into all the world.

And so with angels and archangels, with cherubim and seraphim,
we sing for ever of your glory:

**Holy, holy, holy
Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth
are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine may be to us
the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Being made one by the power of the Spirit.
as our Saviour taught, so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

BREAKING OF BREAD

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

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

GIVING OF COMMUNION

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.
**Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

AGNUS DEI

**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.**

ANTHEM

Litany to the Holy Spirit

Peter Hurford (1930-2019)

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

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. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

BLESSING

May the Spirit,
who hovered over the waters
when the world was created,
breathe into you the life he gives.

Amen.

May the Spirit,
who overshadowed the Virgin
when the eternal Son came among us,
make you joyful in the service of the Lord.

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.

Amen.

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

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia, Alleluia.

HYMN

- 1 We have heard the prophet speaking,
through the pages of the law,
calling us to celebration
in the service of the poor.
Amen, Amen! Amen, Amen!
Justice to the world restore!**

- 2 Now, with holy pow'r anointed,
we would set the captive free,
to the poor, good news proclaiming,
crying hope and liberty.
Amen, Amen! Amen, Amen!
Glory ev'ry eye shall see.**

- 3 Holy Spirit, here unite us,
our diversity embrace,
many members
joined in sacramental grace.
Amen, Amen! Amen, Amen!
Speaking peace to ev'ry race.**

Michael Forster (born 1946)
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