Pentecost Sunday

also called Whitsunday

Conclusion of the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

Eucharist, 8.00am & Sung Eucharist, 9.30am.

19th May 2024



Welcome to Wangaratta West Parish on this fiftieth day of Easter. (The word Pentecost means "fiftieth day.")

Today we conclude the seven weeks of celebrating our redemption, shown forth in the resurrection and ascension of Jesus and in his sending of the Spirit of God to us. It is the presence of the Spirit in the church that makes God's action in the dying, rising, and glorification of Jesus of more than historical interest. It is the continued presence of the Holy Spirit that incorporates our lives into the risen life of Christ and makes us part of his Body.

This celebration of the Holy Spirit is, therefore, one of the four times in the year when Holy Baptism is particularly significant in the liturgy. (The other three times are the Baptism of Our Lord, Easter, and All Saints' Day.) It is in Baptism that we receive the Spirit and are made partakers in the resurrection life. In Baptism we are made new members of the company of the apostles, and we are sent forth in the power of the Spirit to proclaim the risen Christ to people of every race and tongue and nation.



We gather in the Eucharist as people reborn by water and the Holy Spirit in Baptism. Gifted with God's Spirit, we are sent to proclaim good news to every people and language and nation and to be built into a royal priesthood in Christ.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Opening hymn: AHB 309, tune Tallis' Ordinal

- Come, Holy Ghost, Creator, come from thy bright heavenly throne, come, take possession of our souls and make them all thy own.
- Thou who art called the Paraclete, best gift of God above, the living spring, the living fire, sweet unction and true love:
- thou who art sevenfold in thy grace, finger of God's right hand, his promise, teaching little ones to speak and understand:
- 4. O guide our minds with thy blest light, with love our hearts inflame, and with thy strength, which ne'er decays, confirm our mortal frame.
- 5. Far from us drive our deadly foe; true peace unto us bring; and through all perils lead us safe beneath thy sacred wing.
- 6. Through thee may we the Father know, through thee the eternal Son, and thee the Spirit of them both, thrice-blessed Three in One.
- 7. All glory to the Father be, with his co-equal Son: glory to thee, great Paraclete, while endless ages run.

Anon., Latin 9th cent. attrib. Rabanus Maurus c.776-856 tr. anon. alt.

The Lord is here. **His Spirit is with us.**

The Sentence

'A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you,' says the Lord God; 'I will put my spirit within you and you shall live.'

Ezekiel 36.26; 37.14

Let us pray.

Father of glory, holy and eternal, look upon us now in power and mercy. May your strength overcome our weakness, your radiance transform our blindness, and your Spirit draw us to that love shown and offered to us by your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Spirit of the Lord fills the world and knows our every word and deed.

Let us then open ourselves to the Lord and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

God our Father,
long-suffering, full of grace and truth,
you create us from nothing and give us life.
You give your faithful people new life
in the water of baptism.
You do not turn your face from us, nor cast us aside.
We confess that we have sinned
against you and our neighbour.
We have wounded your love
and marred your image in us.
Restore us for the sake of your Son,
and bring us to heavenly joy,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, forgive you your sins, open your eyes to God's truth, strengthen you to do God's will and give you the joy of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Hymn of Praise

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's 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

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love, joy, and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

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.' 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."

Hear the word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 104, 26-36

Lord, how various are your works:

in wisdom you have made them all, and the earth is full of your creatures.

There is the wide, immeasurable sea: there move living things without number, great and small;

There go the ships, to and fro: and there is that Leviathan whom you formed to sport in the deep.

These all look to you:

to give them their food in due season.

When you give it to them, they gather it: when you open your hand they are satisfied with good things.

When you hide your face, they are troubled: when you take away their breath, they die and return to their 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.

If he look upon the earth, it shall tremble: if he but touch the mountains, they shall smoke.

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live: I will praise my God while I have any being. May my meditation be pleasing to him: for my joy shall be in the Lord.

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans (8.22-27)

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Hear the word of the Lord. **THANKS BE TO GOD**

Gradual Hymn AHB 316 ii Melcombe

- Spirit of mercy, truth and love,
 O shed thine influence from above,
 and still from age to age convey
 the wonders of this sacred day.
- In every clime, by every tongue, be God's amazing glory sung; may all the listening earth be taught the acts our great Redeemer wrought.
- 3. Unfailing comfort, heavenly guide, still o'er thy holy church preside; still let mankind thy blessings prove, Spirit of mercy, truth and love.

Anon.

Foundling Hospital Collection 1774 alt.

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John [15. 26-27, 16. 4-15]

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

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. But I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them.

'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.

For the Gospel of the Lord, praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

May be followed by a short time of silence for reflection

Creed

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

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

Do you believe and trust in God's Son Jesus Christ?

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 from the dead; he ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

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.

Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all who have been baptized into your name.

Keep us faithful to our baptism, and so make us ready for that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

Holy Spirit, fulfil in us the work begun by Jesus. Invigorate our work, subdue our pride, raise us to wonder.

Come, Holy Spirit, shower your gifts upon your people:

gifts of wisdom and understanding; gifts of healing and practical help; gifts of speech and heartfelt tears; gifts of love which bind us together in peace.

God whose breath gives energy for struggle, set us free to grow as the children of God:

open our ears

that we may hear the weeping of the world; open our mouths

that we may be a voice for the voiceless; open our eyes that we may discern your ways; open our hearts that we may bring faith to life.

Spirit of God, among the wheels of industry,

renew the face of the earth.

Among the computers of commerce, renew the face of the earth.

Among crime-infested neighbourhoods, renew the face of the earth.

Among tired and broken families, renew the face of the earth.

Among the lonely and the sick, renew the face of the earth.

Among the drugged and disillusioned, renew the face of the earth.

Among . . .

renew the face of the earth.

Please stand

THE GREETING OF 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. Alleluia!

All may exchange a sign of peace

Offertory Hymn AHB 420, tune Wareham

- 1. Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts, thou fount of life, thou light of men, from the best bliss that earth imparts we turn unfilled to thee again.
- 2. Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood, thou savest those that on thee call, to them that seek thee thou art good, to them that find thee, all in all.
- 3. We taste thee, O thou living bread, and long to feast upon thee still, we drink of thee, the fountainhead, and thirst our souls from thee to fill.

- 4. Our restless spirits yearn for thee where'er our changeful lot is cast, glad when thy gracious smile we see, blest when our faith can hold thee fast.
- 5. O Jesus, ever with us stay, make all our moments calm and bright, chase the dark night of sin away, shed o'er the world thy holy light.

Attrib. Bernard of Clairvaux 1091–1153 tr. Ray Palmer 1808–87

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right,

it is our duty and our joy at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty, everlasting God,

through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord.

Who ascended to his heavenly throne at your right hand and through whom you pour out the Holy Spirit upon your people:

the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and true godliness and of the fear of the Lord.

We celebrate the mission of your Church when in many languages the Holy Spirit found one voice to proclaim one faith.

Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and singing:

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.

Hear us, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Through him accept our sacrifice of praise, and grant that, by the power of your Spirit, these gifts of bread and wine may be for us his body and his blood; № 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 from this, all of you; for 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. & Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, Father, remembering the saving death and resurrection of your Son we offer to you in thanksgiving this bread and this cup, your gifts to us, and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send your Holy Spirit upon all of us

who share this bread and this cup.
Strengthen our faith,
make us one and welcome us and all your people
into the glorious kingdom of your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord,
by whom, with whom, and in whom,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

Being made one by the power of the Spirit, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

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.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

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.

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

Invitation to Communion

now and for ever. Amen.

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us. Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Communion Reflection Hymn, AHB 428, tune Erin

Come, Holy Ghost, your influence shed, make real for us the sign; your life infuse into the bread, your power into the wine.

Effectual let the tokens prove and made, by heavenly art, fit channels to convey your love to every faithful heart..

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

After Communion prayer

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home.

Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Notices may be given at this point.

The Priest stands by the Easter Candle

Blessed are you, sovereign God, overflowing in love. With Pentecost dawns the age of the Spirit.

Now the flame of heaven rests on every believer.

Strong and weak, women and men tell out your word; the young receive visions, the old receive dreams.

With the new wine of the Spirit they proclaim your reign of love.

Amid the birth pangs of the new creation the way of light is made known.

Source of freedom, giver of life, blessed are you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God for ever.

Commission

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 be at work in us.

As part of God's Church here in Wangaratta, 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?

By the Spirit's power, we will.

Will you dare to embrace each other and grow together in love? **We will**.

Will you dare to share your riches in common and minister to each other in need?

We will.

Will you dare to pray for each other until your hearts beat with the longings of God?

We will.

Will you dare to carry the light of Christ into the world's dark places?

We will

Hymn AHB 86, tune Grosser Gott

- 1. Holy God, we praise thy name; Lord of all, we bow before thee; all on earth thy power proclaim; all in heaven above adore thee. boundless is thy vast domain; everlasting is thy reign.
- 2. Hark the loud celestial hymn angel choirs above are raising; cherubim and seraphim, in unceasing chorus praising, fill the heavens with sweet accord: Holy, holy, holy Lord.
- 3. Holy Father, Holy Son,
 Holy Spirit: three we name thee,
 while in essence only one;
 undivided God we claim thee,
 and adoring bend the knee
 while we own the mystery.

4. Spare thy people, Lord, we pray, by a thousand snares surrounded; keep us free from sin today. never let us be confounded: all my trust I place in thee. never, Lord, abandon me.

> Clarence Alphonsus Walworth 1820-1900 adapted by Anthony G Petti 1932—

The 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.

And the blessing of God almighty. the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

The Dismissal

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

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.





