

## The Benefice of Silsoe, Pulloxhill and Flitton

*Growing as beacons of Christ's Light in our communities*

**Eucharist for Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2020  
PENTECOST**



**Our service today is led by Rev Julie Cox**

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

### **Collect for Purity**

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
and all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## Collect for today

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.**

## Reading: Acts Chapter 2, verses 1 – 21 – read by Jo Holt

*(New International Version)*

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

<sup>5</sup> Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. <sup>6</sup> When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. <sup>7</sup> Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans?" <sup>8</sup> Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? <sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome <sup>11</sup> (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" <sup>12</sup> Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup> Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."

<sup>14</sup> Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. <sup>15</sup> These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! <sup>16</sup> No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup> "'In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup> Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. <sup>19</sup> I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke.

<sup>20</sup> The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

This is the word of the Lord.

## Hymn: Breathe on me, breath of God

1. Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
fill me with life anew,  
that as you love, so may I love,  
and do what you would do.

3. Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
fulfil my heart's desire,  
until this earthly part of me  
glows with your heav'nly fire.

2. Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
until my heart is pure:  
until my will is one with yours  
to do and to endure.

4. Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
so shall I never die,  
but live with you the perfect life  
of your eternity.

*Edwin Hatch (1835 - 1889) alt.*

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## The Gospel according to John, Chapter 20 verses 19 to 23

*(New International Version)*

<sup>19</sup> On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." <sup>22</sup> And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you O Christ**

## Sermon

### Intercessions by Margaret Butt

Lord, in your mercy

All: **Hear our prayer**

### Prayers of Penitence

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this:

'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
with all your soul, with all your mind,  
and with all your strength.'

The second is this:

'Love your neighbour as yourself'.

There is no other commandment greater than these.

On these two sommandments hang all the law and the prophets.

**Amen, Lord have mercy.**

**Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
In your mercy forgive what we have been,  
help us to amend what we are,  
and direct what we shall be;  
that we may act justly, love mercy,  
and humbly walk with you our God.  
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 life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **The Ministry of the Sacrament**

Blessed are the peacemakers; they shall be called the children of God.  
We meet in the name of Christ and share His peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**And also with you.**

## **Hymn: Spirit of the living God**

**1.** Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Melt me, mould me, fill me, use me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**2.** Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us.  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us.  
Melt us, mould us, fill us, use us.  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us.

*Daniel Iverson (1890 -1972)*

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**Yours Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory,  
the splendour and the majesty;  
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.  
All things come from you and of your own do we give you.**

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

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.**

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 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  
'This is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you  
and for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

**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 that 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.**

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, give us your peace.**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

The body of Christ. **Amen**

The blood of Christ. **Amen**

**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**



## Hymn: Come down, O love divine

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.

3. 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.

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.

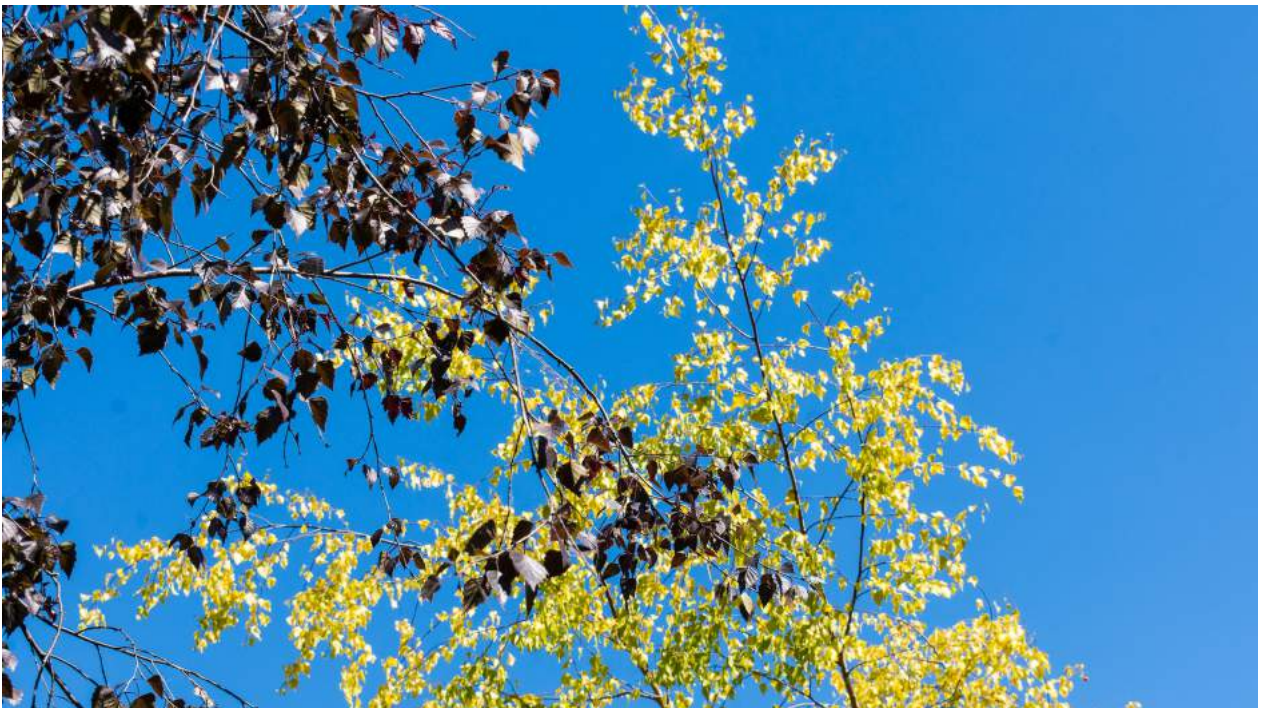
4. And so the yearning strong, with which the soul  
will long,  
shall far outpass the pow'r of human telling;  
nor can we guess its grace,  
till we become the place  
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

*Discendi, amor santo by Bianco da Siena (d. 1434). Trans. Richard F Littledale (1833 - 1890) alt.*

## Blessing

May the road rise up to meet you.  
May the wind be always at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face;  
may the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again,  
may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

**Amen**



*Introductory music: Lost in Prayer - Doug Maxwell*

*Hymn music courtesy of Kevin Mayhew Ltd*

*Final music: Bach Sinfonia from Wirdank, transcribed by Simon Stranks*

*Service based on material from: Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England (2000)*