



Welcome

The Feast of Pentecost

24 May



actorschurch



St. Paul's Covent Garden

Please switch off all mobile phones.

BEWARE: *We do occasionally suffer from theft: take care of your belongings.*

Accessibility

Large Print versions of the Order of Service are available.

Gluten free wafers are available.

Hearing loop installed; collect a receiver from the back of church.

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We stand as the Altar Party enters and sing the hymn

**When God of old came down from heaven,
In power and wrath he came;
Before his feet the clouds were riven,
Half darkness and half flame:**

**2. But, when he came the second time,
He came in power and love;
Softer than gale at morning prime
Hovered his Holy Dove.**

**3. The fires, that rushed on Sinai down
In sudden torrents dread,
Now gently light, a glorious crown,
On every sainted head.**

**4. And as on Israel's awe-struck ear
The voice exceeding loud,
The trump, that angels quake to hear,
Thrilled from the deep, dark cloud;**

**5. So, when the Spirit of our God
Came down his flock to find,
A voice from heaven was heard abroad,
A rushing, mighty wind.**

**6. It fills the church of God; it fills
The sinful world around;
Only in stubborn hearts and wills
No place for it is found.**

**7. Come Lord, come wisdom, love,
and power,
Open our ears to hear;
Let us not miss the accepted hour;
Save, Lord, by love or fear.**

The Priest goes to the Lectern and says:

Priest In the name of the Father,
 and of the Son and of the
 Holy Spirit.

All

Priest

All

Priest

All

Amen.

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

Alleluia, Christ is Risen

He is Risen indeed.

Alleluia.

The Priest introduces the service and leads the congregation in prayer

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
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.**

The Priest invites the congregation to seek God's mercy and grace. We say together:

**Almighty God, our 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.
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.**

*The Priest announces the **Absolution** to which all reply: **Amen**. We sing the **Gloria from the separate music sheet***

*The prayer of the day – the **Collect** – is sung.*

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

*We sit for the **first** and **second** readings.*

First Reading

Acts 2.1-21, read by Mark

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each.

⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?' ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs – in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' ¹³But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.'

¹⁴But 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.

¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷"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.

¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

At the end:

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

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 12.3b-13, read by Rob

³No one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body - whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free - and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

At the end:

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

*We stand to sing the **hymn** and turn towards the Gospel book*

**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.**

*All remain standing (if able) as the **Gospel** is read*

Priest The Lord be with you
All And also with you
Priest Hear the Gospel of our Lord
Jesus Christ according to John
(20.19-23)

All Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹It 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.' ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

At the end:

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

*We sit for the **Sermon**
We stand for the **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 of 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.**

*The **Prayers of Intercession** follow
At the end:*

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

*The Priest introduces the **Peace**:*

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with
 you always
All **And also with you**
Priest Let us offer one another a sign
 of peace

*We sing a **hymn** as the Altar is prepared for
the **Eucharistic Prayer**. A **collection** is taken
during the **hymn***

**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 become 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 they
become the place
Where-in the Holy Spirit finds a
dwelling.**

Priest Blessed are you Lord God of
 all creation. Through your
 goodness we have this bread
 to offer, which earth has
 given and human hands have
 made. It will become for us
 the bread of life.

All **Blessed be God for ever**
Priest Blessed are you Lord God of
 all creation. Through your
 goodness we have this wine
 to offer. Fruit of the vine and
 work of human hands, it will
 become our spiritual drink.

All **Blessed be God for ever**
Priest Pray my sisters and brothers
 that our sacrifice may be
 acceptable to God the
 Almighty Father

All **May the Lord accept the
sacrifice at your hand, for
the praise and glory of his
name, for our good and
the good of all his Church.**

*The Priest adds the prayer over the gifts to which we reply **Amen***

Priest The Lord be with you

All And also with you.

Priest Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord
our God.

**All It is right to give thanks
and praise...**

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues until the **Sanctus** and **Benedictus** which you will find on **the separate music sheet**.*

*The **Eucharistic Prayer** continues until...*

Priest: Great is the mystery of faith

All Christ has died

Christ is risen

Christ will come again

The Eucharistic Prayer continues until

Priest ...for ever and ever

All Amen

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

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

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

*We sing the **Agnus Dei** which you will find on
the separate **music sheet**.*

*The Priest will invite you to the Altar, using these
or other suitable words*

Priest Jesus is the Lamb of God who
takes away the sin of the
world, blessed are those who
are called to his supper.

To which we all reply

**All Lord, I am not worthy to
receive you,
but only say the word,
and I shall be healed.**

*The congregation approaches the Altar to receive
Communion.*

*All those who are in good standing with their
own Church are invited to receive Communion.*

*Those who prefer to ask for a Blessing are
invited to bow their heads at the Altar rail, or
bring this booklet as a sign to the Priest.*

*After Communion we remain seated to sing
the **hymn***

**Spirit of the Living God,
Fall afresh on me,
Spirit of the Living God,
Fall afresh on me.
Break me, melt me, mold me, fill
me.
Spirit of the Living God,
Fall afresh on me.**

Post Communion Prayers

*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

We say together:

**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.**

*Any Banns of marriage and notices are given.
and then the Priest says:*

Priest The Lord be with you
All And also with you

*The **Blessing** is given to which all reply: **Amen**
We sing the **hymn** and turn to face the West
End for the **dismissal***

**Father, Lord of all creation,
Ground of being, life and love;
Height and depth beyond
description,
Only life in you can prove:
You are mortal life's dependence:
Thought, speech, sight are ours by
grace;
Yours is every hour's existence,
Sovereign Lord of time and space.**

**2. Jesus Christ, the man for others
We, your people, make our prayer
Help us love, as sisters, brothers
All whose burdens we can share
Where your name binds us together
You, Lord Christ, will surely be
Where no selfishness can sever
There you love the world may see.**

**3. Holy Spirit, rushing, bringing
Wind and flame of Pentecost
Fire our hearts afresh with yearning
To regain what we have lost
May your love unite our action
Nevermore to speak alone
God, in us, abolish faction
God, through us, your love make
known.**

Priest. Go in peace to love and serve
the Lord, Alleluia, Alleluia

**All Thanks be to God,
Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Thus ends Eastertide

‘What’s On’ this week

Monday 25 May

Please note that this is a bank holiday and the church will be closed.

Tuesday 26 May

7.30pm Sandra**

Wednesday 27 May

1.10pm Holy Eucharist

1.45pm Tea and cake – *all welcome*

Thursday 28 May

10am Kilo Sale

Friday 29 May

11am Baby Gospel**

7pm In Harmony With Peace**

Sunday 31 May

11am Parish Sung Eucharist *for the Feast of the most Holy Trinity*
Followed by the **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

Notice - Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), 31st May

The APCM will be held on Sunday 31st May 2026 immediately after the morning service. Please do try your best to attend.

Notice - Trustee Nominations

If you are interested in nominating yourself to be a Trustee, please speak to the Priest/Churchwardens for a nomination form before the APCM on 31st May.

Notice - Tea and Cake in the Garden (in aid of Breast Cancer Now), Saturday 13th June

If you would like to donate any homemade bakes or to volunteer to help out on the day, please contact laura@actorschurch.org

***Tickets for all paid events can be booked at www.actorschurch.org*