

**A BIBLE WORD PRAISE CELEBRATION
PENTECOST – HOLY SPIRIT POWER**

The service is conducted on or soon after Pentecost Sunday, in contemporary or traditional form. The minister/pastor/priest/worship leader does the narration of each reading as set out, the readings are best done by representatives of the congregation. Songs should be chosen appropriately so as not to clash with other Pentecost/Trinity services, and also to fit with the readings they follow after. The service can be used with contemporary music/band group or traditional choir-based format, with Contemporary and Traditional Service Orders provided at the end. God's people need to hear our relationship with the Bible in Pentecost worship, or lose faith balance. Items for soloists, music/band group/choirs should number between 2 to 4 of the song/hymn items for good quality gifted ministry input. Any non-expanded good Bible version can be used for the readings. It is recommended that readers from Children's Church be included for all ages ministry.

The service begins with the Bible being processed into the Church, the welcome given, and the call to worship from Psalm 51.10-12 (or like psalm) being given.

**“Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit to sustain me”**

Pentecost Songs/Hymn:

Introduction

**God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and in truth.
We worship one God, who meets us in the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.**

Opening Prayer: Let us pray: Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
In the fullness of time your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility,
Anointed by the Spirit, he gave his life to take our sinful life to death,
and was resurrected to fill us with the new resurrected life of the Spirit.
Give us grace to put off the sinful nature and live in accordance with the Spirit
as we take up our salvation in the victory of Jesus' resurrection.
Then on the last day, when Jesus shall come again in glorious
majesty to judge the living and the dead, we shall rise to life everlasting,
through him who was dead, is alive, and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.
Eternal God, we are in your holy presence. We acknowledge our sins
and the sins of the whole world from which your Son came to redeem us.
We pray in his name for your gracious forgiveness.
Holy Spirit, we can hide no secrets from you, you know our innermost thoughts.
Please cleanse us in our Lord Jesus Christ,
so that we may love you fully and live to bring Jesus glory.
Give us your peace and empowering in this world,
and grant us eternal life in the world to come.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Let us hear from Genesis Chapter One how the Spirit of God hovered over the dark empty deep at creation. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. *(Gen 1.1-2)*

In the time of Moses, God revealed himself in his mighty acts to free his people from slavery at Exodus. This is how God’s Spirit dwelt with the people... By day the Lord went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night. Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of fire by night left its place in front of the people. ... The pillar of cloud moved between the armies of Egypt and Israel. Throughout the night the cloud brought darkness to the one side and light to the other side; so neither went near the other all night long. ... During the last watch of the night the Lord looked down from the pillar of fire and cloud at the Egyptian army and threw it into confusion. *(Exodus 13.21f; 14.19f/24)*

Ezekiel was given a word and mind picture of the time of fulfilment when God’s Spirit would flow from the temple like a life-giving river to give life to creation and all peoples. It is the river of life of Resurrection Day in Revelation 22. Jesus, the baptiser in the Holy Spirit, fulfilled this promise: Jesus said “... whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed the water I give him will become in him a spring of living water welling up to eternal life.” ... “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.” *(John 4.13-14/7.37-39)*

Songs/Hymn:

Let us hear from the prophet Isaiah of the same time of fulfilment when God’s Spirit would anoint the messiah, a prophecy which Jesus Christ said was fulfilled in himself. The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour. *(Isaiah 61.1-2a; Luke 4.18-19)*

Jesus spoke of the Paraclete or Comforter or Counsellor, the Spirit who will come in a special way from the Father through Jesus to dwell in us. Jesus said “Unless I go away, the Counsellor will not come to you. When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.” *(John 16.7-11 adap)*

Song/s/Hymn:

Let us join with God and bring our offerings as God continues to overflow his Spirit into the world. Your tithes and offerings will now be received.
The offerings are brought forward by the office-bearers, who remain standing before the table for the prayers following.

Offering Song:
Offering Prayer

Now we must look at how Jesus, the baptiser in the Holy Spirit, does his work. For the time of fulfilment has come when the Holy Spirit overflows in peoples' lives around the world, bringing life and healing from sin and confusion, and empowerment for life success in Jesus .

Acts 2.1-4 tells us how the promise of the Father was given to inaugurate God's Church and let God's dwelling be with each believer, as Jesus baptised us into his Church and we became God's temple individually and together in his Spirit. When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. *(Acts 2.1-4)*

The presence of the Holy Spirit with us does not turn our world into a cotton wool world. The cycles of sin and evil, vice and crime, poverty and decay continue - but with the Spirit dwelling in us, new life cannot be held back. We hear the effect of the fruit of the Spirit in our lives. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. *(Galatians 5:22-25)*

Song/s/Hymn:

When the cycles of sin and evil, vice and crime, poverty and decay crush in upon us, the Spirit also gets us through. The apostle Paul tells us In the same way the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will. *(Romans 8.26-27)*

And the Spirit brings out Resurrection Day of the end for us: Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations... The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price. *(Rev 22:1-2, 17)*
(A song/hymn may be sung.)

Ministry Prayer:

Let us pray together. Holy Spirit of Jesus, Sovereign Lord,
 You made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them.
 You acted in your holy power to deliver your people,
 and You spoke by the mouths of your servants the prophets.
You anointed your holy servant Jesus; evil rulers conspired for his death,
 but you raised Jesus to life and exalted Him in the mystery of Trinity.
 If the same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead dwells in us,
 then he who raised Jesus to life will also give life to our mortal bodies.

Cycles of sin and evil, vice and crime, poverty and decay may crush in upon us,
but we have a Comforter, the Holy Spirit of Jesus Christ.
You develop God's word in us, enable the gifts of the Spirit in us,
and let us grow in the fruit of the Spirit – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness,
goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.
Please pour into our lives to heal and perform God's acts for salvation
in the name of Jesus. *[Altar/Ministry Call here]*

[Alternative Traditional Prayer Heavenly Father

By your Spirit You created the heavens and the earth,
and all that is in them, and breathed life into Adam and Eve.
By your Spirit You called and redeemed a people for yourself, and
moved the prophets who spoke of your coming time of promise.
You anointed Jesus with your Holy Spirit, and gave the new life of his resurrection
and of our salvation which has come, the good news of the everlasting gospel.
And at Pentecost you poured out the promise of the Father
through Jesus Christ your Son, the baptiser in the Holy Spirit.
The promise is for us and our children and for all who are far off, all whom You call.

So with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven
we worship you and declare the greatness of your glory now and forever saying:
**Holy, holy, holy Lord; God of power and might;
Heaven and earth are full of your glory;
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Almighty God, our hearts overflow with joy as we celebrate the resurrection victory
of your Son Jesus Christ, and his baptising with the Holy Spirit.
Give to us belief beyond doubt as we joyfully receive him as our redeemer,
give us the power of love overflowing by the river of life in us, and
give us sure confidence to behold Jesus when he shall come to be our judge.
He is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God now and forever. Amen]

Closing Song/Hymn:

Blessing and Blessing Song

Live by the Spirit and you will not gratify the sinful nature. The fruit of the Spirit is
love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-
control. May the Spirit of Christ be with you all. Amen.

A BIBLE WORD PRAISE CELEBRATION
PENTECOST POWER - CONTEMPORARY ORDER:
*(Songs are suggestions only. For user friendliness with children,
note grouping of readings and songs into blocks.*
Recommendations: Band/Music Group sings in place of two or more songs)

Entrance of the Word
Welcome and Notices
Call to Worship

Service Introduction

Opening Song/s **The Spirit lives to set us free**
 Give me oil in my lamp
 Let your living water

Opening Prayer

Reading 1: Genesis 1.1-2 - The Spirit hovers over creation
Reading 2: Exodus 13.21f; 14.19f/24 - The Spirit of Yahweh at Exodus
Reading 3: John 4.13-14/7.37-39 – Jesus pours out the the river of living water
Songs: **Cause me to come to Thy river**
 All who are thirsty

Reading 4: Isaiah 61.1-2a (*alt Luke 4.18-19*) - The Spirit of the Messiah
Reading 5: John 16.7-11 - The Spirit Paraclete of Jesus
Song/ Song Group: **God's Spirit is in my heart**

Offering: **Offering Song**

Reading 6: Acts 2.1-4 - Jesus' Spirit fulfils the mighty rushing wind
Reading 7: Galatians 5:22-25 - The Fruit of the Spirit in us
Songs/ Song Group: **Wind, wind, blow on me**
 Come just as you are to worship

Reading 8: Romans 8.26-27 - The Spirit Intercedes in our weakness
Reading 9: Revelation 22.1-2,17 - The Spirit overflows for Resurrection Day

Ministry Prayer

Closing Message/Narrative

Closing Song **Father of life draw me closer**
Blessing and **Blessing Song**

A BIBLE WORD PRAISE CELEBRATION
PENTECOST POWER
Traditional Order

Entrance of the Word
Welcome and Notices
Call to Worship

Service Introduction

Opening Hymn: **Stand up and Bless the Lord**
Opening Prayer

Reading 1: Genesis 1.1-2 - The Spirit hovers over creation
Reading 2: Exodus 13.21f; 14.19f/24 - The Spirit of Yahweh at Exodus
Reading 3: John 4.13-14/7.37-39 – Jesus pours out the river of living water
Hymn: **Guide me O thou great Jehovah**

Reading 4: Isaiah 61.1-2a (*alt Luke 4.18-19*) - The Spirit of the Messiah
Reading 5: John 16.7-11 - The Spirit Paraclete of Jesus
Choir: **(Choir performs selected item)**

Offering: **Offering Song**

Reading 6: Acts 2.1-4 - Jesus' Spirit fulfils the mighty rushing wind
Reading 7: Galatians 5:22-25 - The Fruit of the Spirit in us
Hymn: **Come down O Love Divine**

Reading 8: Romans 8.26-27 - The Spirit Intercedes in our weakness
Reading 9: Revelation 22:1-2,17 - The Spirit overflows for Resurrection Day
Choir: **(Choir performs selected item)**

Ministry Prayer

Closing Message/Narrative

Closing Hymn **Glorious things of thee are spoken**
Blessing and **Blessing Song**