

**St John's Church
Selsdon**



The Holy Eucharist for All Ages

Pentecost

June 9th, 2019

Welcome to St John's this morning!

Whether you are here for the first time, or a more regular worshipper, we are delighted to have you with us, and we hope that you will enjoy the service. All that you need to follow the service from beginning to end is contained in this booklet, except for the hymns which we will sing from the hymn books you have been given. Apart from that, you can follow the service all the way through using this booklet.

Today is the **Day of Pentecost**, the fiftieth and last day of Eastertide, when the church celebrates the out-pouring of the Holy Spirit on the apostles, as recorded in the second chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, which we will read during the service. It is sometimes called "the church's birthday".

We remember today how God sent his Holy Spirit to empower the first Christians to carry out the mission which Jesus had entrusted to them, telling everyone they could the good news of Jesus Christ. The risen Lord is no longer present to the Church in the body of his flesh; the Church is now to be the new body of Christ, filled with his life through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

This makes the Day of Pentecost a very special day in the church's year, and to reflect this, we try and make our regular Sunday service as special as we can. This includes using incense. Incense is a symbol of prayer and holiness and we use it to mark out the importance of the altar (where bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ), of the Gospel Book (in which we read about the life of Jesus), and of ourselves – for we too are precious in God's eyes, and it is in one another that we can also encounter Jesus, a fact we symbolically remember as we share his peace with each other. If you'd like to know more about incense and why it is used in the Anglican church, please pick up a leaflet from the back of church.

Suggestions are given in this booklet for posture – when to sit, stand and kneel. These are suggestions only. Please adopt whatever position is most comfortable for you, and helps you to concentrate on your prayers. Since the Eucharistic Prayer is one complete prayer, it is best to adopt the same position from beginning to end – i.e. from "The Lord be with you" to the Lord's Prayer.

Please join in anything in bold type!

There are toilets and baby changing facilities in the hall opposite the church. Just ask a sidesperson for directions

If you are new, or a visitor, please do stay and say hello after the service!

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME AT ST JOHN'S

Please do not worry or feel embarrassed if your child makes a noise; your children may actually be happier at the front where they can see what's going on, so don't be shy!

We hope you enjoy using our Children's Area – a special part of the church where parents/carers and children can share the service together, perhaps using the toys, books and puzzle sheets provided. If you have any suggestions on how we can make it even better, or help you enjoy the service more with your child, please let Jenny know.

We want to look after everyone in church today! Parents and carers can help by supervising their children at all times.

Please help us to keep everyone safe in church! Small children running around can so easily trip or tip something over and hurt themselves or others. Please try to keep children out of the sanctuary area (where the altar is) during the service and out of reach of the candles!



Please stand for the Processional hymn

During this hymn the choir and clergy will process to their places.

A time to say 'hello' and draw together for worship

The president greets everyone

Let us worship God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The president welcomes everyone to today's service. Then we say together

We have come from different places today, a people seeking the Lord, a people of praise, a people of hope.

**Gather us in Lord,
and make us your family.**

Open our hearts to the power of your Spirit.

A time to say 'sorry' *(remain standing)*

The president introduces the confession

**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 do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

The president declares the forgiveness of our sins

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.**

A time to praise

Knowing that God will always love us, and assured of his forgiveness, we praise him in the words the angels sang when Jesus was born:

Glory to God! Our hearts to you we raise!
Joy and peace on earth, in highest heaven praise!
Songs of adoration, Lord, to you we bring,
praising your great goodness, Father heavenly King.
*Glory to God! Our hearts to you we raise!
Joy and peace on earth, in highest heaven praise!*

Son of the Father, bearing this world's sin,
Lamb of God, have mercy, grant us peace within.
You, O Christ, are holy, you alone are Lord,
with the Holy Spirit evermore adored.

*Glory to God! Our hearts to you we raise!
Joy and peace on earth, in highest heaven praise!*

Edwin Le Grice (1911-92)

The president introduces a brief period of silent prayer before saying the Opening Prayer on behalf of the congregation.

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father,
ignite in us your holy fire;
strengthen your children with the gift of faith,
revive your Church with the breath of love,
and renew the face of the earth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

A time to hear God's Word *(sit)*
We listen to two readings from the Bible

At the end of the first reading, the reader says:

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

*After the first reading, we sing the Gradual hymn together
Remain standing for the reading of the Gospel and turn to face the Gospel book so we
can meet Jesus in the story. Before the Gospel is read, the reader says:*

Alleluia, alleluia.
Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people
and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Alleluia.

The Lord be with you
and also with you

When the Gospel is announced all respond:

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end the reader says:

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

A time to respond to God's Word

This may include an address or talk, discussion or activities for different age groups

All sit for the address

After the address **all stand** to say the **Creed**

A time to declare our faith

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

A time to pray *(sit or kneel)*

All kneel for the Prayers of Intercession.

We join in the response:

Heavenly Father,
hear our prayer.

At the end of the prayers we say together:

**For yours is the majesty,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
yours is the kingdom
and the power and the glory,
now and for ever. Amen.**

A time to meet Jesus in each other

Please stand as we share the Peace of Christ with each other. The president says:

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Please shake hands with those around you as a sign of sharing God's peace with each other

A time to meet Jesus in bread and wine

Please stand to sing the **Offertory hymn**

During the hymn, bread and wine and any money gifts are collected and taken to the altar. The bread and wine are put on the altar and everything is prepared. If you'd like to help get things ready, please come to the altar.

After the hymn, the president prays over the gifts in the following words:

Father, by your Holy Spirit you keep the Church in unity and truth.
As we break bread together may we be one with Christ
in faith and hope and love, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The president begins the Eucharistic Prayer – the great prayer of thanksgiving over the bread and wine that recalls all that God has done for the world.

**Remain standing, or seated, or kneeling
throughout the 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 always right to give you thanks,
God our Creator, loving and faithful, holy and strong.
You made us and the whole universe,
and filled your world with life.
You sent your Son to live among us,
Jesus our Saviour, Mary's child.

He suffered on the cross;
he died to save us from our sins;
he rose in glory from the dead.
You send your Spirit to bring new life to the world,
and clothe us with power from on high.
And so we join the angels to celebrate and sing:

**Holy, holy, holy holy,
Holy, holy, Lord God almighty.
And we lift our hearts before you
As a token of our love.
Holy, holy, holy, holy.**

Father, on the night before he died,
Jesus shared a meal with his friends.
He took the bread, and thanked you.
He broke it, and gave it to them, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine.
He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you.
This is my blood, the new promise of God's unfailing love.
Do this to remember me.

Jesus Christ is Lord:
**Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

Father, as we bring this bread and wine,
and remember his death and resurrection,
send your Holy Spirit,
that we who share these gifts
may be fed by Christ's body and his blood.
Pour your Spirit on us that we may love one another,
work for the healing of the earth,
and share the good news of Jesus,
as we wait for his coming in glory.
For honour and praise belong to you, Father,
with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit:
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen, amen, alleluia! Amen, amen, alleluia!
And we lift our hearts before you
as we give you thanks and praise.
Amen, amen, alleluia!

*The president introduces **the Lord's Prayer***

Lord, send your Holy Spirit and teach us to pray:

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.

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.
God here among us, light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.

All kneel

Holy Jesus, holy Jesus,
Give us peace within our hearts, holy Jesus
And we lift our hearts before you
to receive the love you give
Holy Jesus, holy Jesus

The president invites everyone to receive communion

Come, not because you are strong but because you are weak,
come, not because you must but because you may,
come, not because any goodness of your own gives you a right to
come, but because you need mercy and help,
come, because you love the Lord a little
and would like to love him more,
come, because he loved you and gave himself for you.

Anyone who normally receives communion in any Christian church is most welcome to receive the bread and wine(communion) this morning. If you don't usually receive bread and wine in church please still come forward for a blessing.

Please ask one of the churchwardens or other helpers if you would like some help to come up to communion, or if you would like the clergy to bring communion to you in your place.

During the distribution of Communion the choir will sing an anthem and a hymn will be sung. Please join in singing the hymn if you would like to

A time to say 'thank you'

Please kneel for a special prayer celebrating God's gifts to us. The president prays:

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.**

Then we all pray together:

**We thank you, gracious Father,
for welcoming your children to feast in your kingdom;
by your love unite us
and with your Spirit send us,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Please sit while notices are given out about the life of the parish and community, after which **please stand** to sing the **Final hymn** during which our candles will be lit.

A time to go out and serve God

All remain standing as the president moves to the Easter Candle to commission the assembled members of the Body of Christ. **Please turn to face 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.

Dear Friends in Christ. 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 Selsdon, 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 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.

The Lord is here
His Spirit is with us.

Today we have remembered the coming of God's power on the disciples and we invite that same Spirit to drive us out into the wild places of the world. We go with God's blessing, taking the Good News of Jesus Christ to all those we meet:

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.**

Go in the peace of Christ, filled with the Spirit's power, Alleluia!

3 *Choir and Congregation*



Do stay after the service to enjoy refreshments which are served in the hall opposite the church.

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