



Pentecost - Sunday June 8th , 2025

The Fig Tree Worship Resource

The color for today is red and the theme is the coming of the Holy Spirit : wind, fire, flame, tongues, talk, - see what you can do!

Prepare for the praying of the Lord's Prayer with different languages, and/or invite someone who can lead in their first language that is other than English.

Can you dramatise the reading from Acts? Have different voices calling out places where they are from.

Introit: Come O Holy Spirit / Wa wa wa Emimimo TiS 711

Call to worship & Lighting the Candle

From Acts 2:

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.

Light the candle - Christ is with us.

Sing it again! Come O Holy Spirit / Wa wa wa Emimimo TiS 711

Acknowledging



Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress

The Ancient of Days breathed life into this land and her peoples. From time beyond our reckoning the (*please name the people on whose land you gather*) People, the Traditional

Custodians, have blessed this place through their law and customs, their care and life. We pay respects to their Elders and leaders past and present, and pray for the future of their communities. May we walk gently and respectfully on this Land.

Singing - Come down, O love divine TiS 398

OR: God sends us the Spirit TiS 412



Prayer

A paraphrase of Psalm 104:24-34

O Creator God,
how diverse is all that you have made!
Flowing from your deep knowing:
 the earth, so full of life
 the sea, great and wide - filled
with countless creatures, minuscule and majestic.
We get about in ships
above the playful whales and sea dragons.

All your creatures know and seek your face.
They miss you when you are not visible.
They feed from your hand,
and grow within the cycle of life,
returning to the ground of all things.

May the earth always dance to your glory,
and may it bring you joy, God of all.
One look from you
and the earth trembles
One touch of your hand
and the mountains smoke.

I will join my voice to the song of the universe,
singing to you with my life and breath,
Hoping that this will bring you delight
as I delight in you.

We pause to remember
the delight we share
in the glory of God shining around us.
time of quiet



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We pause to remember
that as a church and as followers of Jesus
we have not always lived
with gratitude and grace
in this amazing gift of life.

time of quiet

We pause to ask forgiveness;
for the ways we have quenched
the work of the Spirit,

for the times we have walked carelessly
on the earth,

for continuing to take more than we need,
and failing to share your good gifts.

time of quiet

Creatures of love and life,
siblings in Christ,
receivers of the Holy Spirit, be assured;
You are loved and forgiven,
So live as if you believe it. Always.

And all the people say: **Amen.**

Passing the peace

May the Peace of God dwell with you:
and also with you.

Listening

Read: John 14:8-17, 25-27

Acts 2:1-21

For these words of faith and for Jesus the Word
Thanks be to God.

Reflecting - Rev. Moira Dodsworth

When it comes to Pentecost, we are inclined to take this festival on its own, the church's birthday, the coming of the Holy Spirit. But following the Easter season, with the readings from John, from the farewell discourse, I think we need to see it more holistically, through Jesus'

promises and encouragement to the disciples, particularly for them to be a loving community.

Jesus has told the disciples they will be known by their love; loving as Jesus loves them, as the Father loves him. He continues telling them to live in peace and hope as God's community and assuring them that they will be able to do this because the spirit, the Advocate, is with them (*John 14:15-17*).

The disciples do have a dramatic experience. God is making a point for all who are gathered. Something dramatic is happening. The disciples are experiencing a filling of the Spirit; they are discovering how great God is. They speak in tongues in spirit-language so that all may understand what they are saying.

We know that people from many countries were gathered for the festival of Pentecost and they all needed to hear the good news, all who call on the Lord may be saved. The church's mission must now begin.

This gift of the spirit is given to the whole community so they may be God's people. It is a concrete sign of God's faithfulness and promise to God's people that God cares and provides the gifts they need. This is not a once-off for these disciples or for any of God's people. The Spirit is present for all who believe, then, now and forever.

The outpouring of the Spirit gives the church a dynamic power to be, and to do. Those who are gathered come from many places and understand the disciples, they don't need the message translated, they can take what God says back to their own places.

Far too often the church we know has taken the gospel in their cultural understanding to different countries, their mission to make the church like home wherever they landed in the creation of empire. How much of our church today is cultural rather than Christian? We all



know the stories of missions in Australia and other parts of the world and even as we claim ignorance for our forefathers, what are we doing in our many denominations today? What can we learn from the Pentecost story, more than just a celebration?

But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. (John 14:26)

We learn that the Spirit is not private or personal. Yes, it connects us to God, but for a purpose; for understanding what God has done through Jesus and for sharing the message. It is the Spirit that helps our interpretation of what God says and guides us to what being followers of Christ really means; the outward-looking gospel, the centrality of God in our lives, our focus. In a world where the focus is always on 'achieving', reaching some goal, we need to have a focus on 'being'.

Being filled with the Spirit, we are God's people. In every moment being loved and loving, filled with peace and hope. We can't achieve this; God has, is and will be doing it for us.

May it be so, Amen.

Singing - She sits like a bird TiS 418

OR: The bright wind is blowing TiS 263

Offering

Bless these gifts we bring, Spirit of truth and life, may they bring blessing in unexpected ways.

Bless the work of our hands and hearts.
Let all we offer be acceptable
and connect with the glory of your presence
at all times and in all things,

And all the people say: **Amen**

Notices

Today is World Oceans Day (connected to our Psalm).

June 12 is World Day against Child Labour.

June 12 is also the anniversary of the 1988 Barunga Statement presented by Aboriginal Leaders. [The Barunga Statement | AIATSIS corporate website](https://www.aiatsis.gov.au/corporate/our-work/the-barunga-statement)

Prayers for World & Community

On this day of Pentecost we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, who comes with understanding for all people, regardless of borders, language, creed, cash or credentials.

So we pray for our world;

In those countries torn up with turmoil,
besieged by hate and harm,
where children and parents starve
and aid workers die trying:

**Spirit of truth,
your language is love
and your presence is promised.**

In those countries where power is abuse,
and diversity is dismissed,
where money shouts down sense
and people are commodified and vilified.

**Spirit of truth,
your language is love
and your presence is promised.**

In those countries sinking under rising tides,
paying the cost for the urban world's greed,
where homelands vanish
and ancestral ways are lost.

**Spirit of truth,
your language is love
and your presence is promised.**



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Here in our country,
with boundless plains, starry skies,
and a devastating settler history finally being told,
while her people encounter racism
and die too soon.

**Spirit of truth,
your language is love
and your presence is promised.**

Here in our church,
with diverse voices, visions and traditions,
divided by dogma,
busting to be real and relatable,
ageing, and still waging war on injustice.

**Spirit of truth,
your language is love
and your presence is promised.**

Here in our lives,
in the still of the night and the stark light of day,
in our longing to be strong for each other,
in our acceptance of frailty and fear,
in our coming together and moving apart.

**Spirit of truth,
your language is love
and your presence is promised.**

We pray together then as Jesus taught us, in the language of our hearts:

The Lord's Prayer

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, now and forever. Amen.

Singing - An upper room TiS 536

OR: Filled with the Spirit's power TiS 411

Blessing

People of God, go filled with the Spirit.
In every moment, know that you are loved
and be loving.

And may the God who comes to us
in the most surprising ways,
fill you with life and be your constant companion.
now and always.

And all the people say: **Amen!**

Blessing Song: Come O Holy Spirit / Wa wa wa Emimimo TiS 711

OR - For You Deep Stillness - you could sing this wonderful favourite by Julie Perrin & Robin Mann.
(with actions) Lyrics here - [FOR YOU – DEEP STILLNESS](#)

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