



# Sunday, May 23, 2021

## Day of Pentecost

### Introduction

Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Crossing all boundaries that would separate us, the Spirit brings the wideness of God's mercy to places we least expect it—to a crowd of strangers of different lands and tongues, to dry bones, to our weak hearts. Jesus promises his disciples that they will be accompanied by the Holy Spirit, and that this Spirit reveals the truth. We celebrate that we too have been visited with this same Spirit. Guided by the truth, we join together in worship, and then disperse to share the fullness of Christ's love with the world.

### Gathering Hymn....."We Praise You"

Let praise be a weapon that silences the enemy  
Let praise be a weapon that conquers all anxiety  
Let it rise let praise arise

We sing Your name in the dark  
And it changes ev'rything  
We sing with all we are and we claim Your victory  
Let it rise let praise arise

**Chorus**  
**We'll see you break down ev'ry wall**  
**We'll watch the giants fall**  
**For fear cannot survive when we praise You**  
**The God of breakthrough's on our side**  
**Forever lift Him high**  
**With all creation cry God we praise You**

Oh we praise You oh

Let faith be the song  
That overcomes the raging sea  
Let faith be the song  
That calms the storm inside of me  
Let it rise let faith arise

**Chorus**

Oh we praise You oh we praise You  
Oh we praise You oh we praise You

This is what living looks like  
This is what freedom feels like  
This is what Heaven sounds like  
We praise You  
We praise You  
(REPEAT)

### **Chorus**

Oh we praise You oh we praise You  
Oh we praise You oh  
Give Him all your praise.

We Praise You

Brandon Lake | Brian Johnson | Matt Redman | Phil Wickham

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## **Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, <sup>+</sup> one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer.

**Amen.**

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Fountain of living water,  
**pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love.**

**Amen.**

Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are <sup>+</sup> forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus.

**Amen.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **First Reading: Acts 2:1-21**

*Originally Pentecost was a Jewish thanksgiving-type festival celebrated seven weeks after Passover. On this particular Pentecost, however, the Holy Spirit is poured out upon the entire community of believers just as Jesus had promised and the scriptures had prophesied. Empowered by the Spirit, the entire community bears witness to God's activity in multiple languages.*

When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] 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. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." But 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. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: '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. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'"

**HERE ENDS THE READING.**

## **Second Reading: Romans 8:22-27**

*By pouring the Holy Spirit into our hearts, God gives us the promised first fruit of eternal life so that we await God's future in hope. In the meantime, the Spirit also intercedes for us by carrying the prayers of our weak human hearts to God.*

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

**HERE ENDS THE READING.**

### **Gospel: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*While speaking to his disciples before his death, Jesus refers to the Holy Spirit as "the Helper" and describes the difference the Spirit will make in their lives and in the world.*

"When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. "I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. <sup>5</sup>But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because they do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup>about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you O Christ.**

### **Sermon**

## Sermon Hymn....."Way Maker"

You are here moving in our midst  
I worship You I worship You  
You are here working in this place  
I worship You I worship You

### **Chorus**

(You are) Way Maker Miracle Worker Promise Keeper  
Light in the darkness my God that is who You are

You are here touching ev'ry heart  
I worship You I worship You  
You are here healing ev'ry heart  
I worship You I worship You

You are here turning lives around  
I worship You I worship You  
You are here mending ev'ry heart  
I worship You yeah I worship You Lord

### **Chorus**

That is who You are  
That is who You are  
That is who You are  
That is who You are

Even when I don't see it You're working  
Even when I don't feel it You're working  
You never stop You never stop working  
You never stop You never stop working

### **Chorus**

Way Maker  
Osinachi Kalu Okoro Egbu

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## The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.

**Amen**

## Prayers of Intercession

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

*A brief silence.*

Gracious God, you give the Holy Spirit to your church, filling it with many and varied gifts. In the church throughout the world, strengthen us in our visioning and dreaming, that it may discover anew the Spirit's creative work. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

God of life, your mighty works are too numerous to count. The earth is full of your creatures, living things both great and small. Open your hand and give them the necessities of this life. Send your fresh Spirit over the face of the earth. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

God of the nations, at the sound of the rushing wind, people speaking different languages proclaimed and heard together your deeds of power. Fill the leaders of nations with your Holy Spirit, so that they exercise your gracious will in the lives of people. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

God of faithfulness, you tend to the needs of your people, even the sighs of our hearts. Hear those who cry out to you in distress. Restore to wholeness all who are in any need this day (*especially Lisle, Judi, Don, Vincent, Barbara, Victoria, Duke, Christi, Daniel, David, Kristina, Wally, Vicki, Margo, Joy, Lourdes, Michelle, LauraLee, Gloria, Sharon, Janis, Michael, JJ, Ellen, Iura, Cheryl, Ron, John & Christine, Darell, Rebecca, Richard, Ruth, James, Nancy, David and Lew*). Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

God of love, fill this congregation with gratitude for the gifts we have received from you. Renew our ministries, heal our divisions, and open us to the needs of our neighbors.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

God of hope, those who have died in you raise their eternal song of praise. We give you thanks for the many gifts of your people and rejoice in the witness of your saints. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **The Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **Offering**

### **Offering Prayer**

God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## **Thanksgiving at the Table**

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

## **The Lord's Prayer**

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, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

## **Invitation to the Table**

The risen Christ invites us to this table. Come, eat and be satisfied.

## **Distribution**

*At this time take the elements you have with you saying these words:*

**The Body of Christ given for you. The Blood of Christ shed for you.**

## **Post Communion Prayer**

Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Blessing**

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father, <sup>+</sup>Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Sending Song.....“Holy Spirit Rain Down”**

### **Chorus**

Holy Spirit rain down rain down  
O Comforter and Friend  
How we need Your touch again  
Holy Spirit rain down rain down  
Let Your power fall let Your voice be heard  
Come and change our hearts as we stand on Your Word  
Holy Spirit rain down

No eye has seen no ear has heard  
No mind can know what God has in store  
So open up heaven open it wide  
Over Your church and over our lives

### **Chorus**

Rain down rain down  
Rain down rain down  
Rain

Holy Spirit Rain Down  
Russell Fragar

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## **Dismissal**

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**