

Order of service Sunday May 31st 2020 Pentecost

A celebration of the Holy Spirit inspiring faithful discipleship.



Today is the day the church celebrates Pentecost !

Let us begin our worship with a prayer for our Aboriginal sisters and brothers.

This Reconciliation Week, we pray for God's justice, healing and truth for our Aboriginal People, the traditional custodians of the land . Please acknowledge the deep feelings of attachment and relationship that Aboriginal people have with country and respect and value their past, present and on going spiritual and cultural connections with the land.

Please pray for truth, Dignity , Treaty and Healing to continue .

Pentacost is a day of celebration .

What are we celebrating during this time of our emergence from the Covid lockdown ? You might like to look at the collage from the church community.

Pentacost is the day according to Acts2: when the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles of Jesus and the women, including Mary mother of Jesus, who were gathered together in an upstairs room in Jerusalem.

The Holy Spirit came upon the men and women and sent them out to tell the good news of God's love for **all** people made known through Jesus Christ !

Pentacost is celebrated 50 days after easter : on the day of the Jewish festival called Whitsunday

Whitsunday is a harvest festival observed on the 50th day from Passover .

So from this we can see how Christian observances arose from Jewish (and pagan) celebrations.

The colours of red, orange, yellow – are associated with Pentacost flame , fire and wind .

Pentacost celebrates the birth of the church, as the apostles went out inflamed with the power of the Holy Spirit, to spread the good news of Gods love, compassion and forgiveness for all people, to all nations and in all languages.

Let us celebrate in Song

Song 1 Tis 414 There's a Spirit in the air

What do we know about the Holy Spirit ?

It is the Spirit of Jesus – the Spirit of God – It was there is the beginning of creation with God. The Holy Spirit is Gods helper, animator - Our wise counsellor, helper and comforter. The Holy Spirit is God's power - always loving, always gentle, always Kind, always patient, consistent, clear , uplifting .

It takes time to learn to listen to the Holy Spirit – but when we remember these qualities we can distinguish between the Holy Spirit and other voices in our lives.(fear , jealousy, greed , pride)

Jesus often prayed and it is often in silence and prayer (which can be a caring conversation) that we can hear the Holy Spirit more clearly.

What is the Holy Spirit prompting you towards in your life right now ?

The Holy Spirit calls us to learn more about “the ways” of Jesus.

One way is through Christian meditation

Another way is through reading our bible !

Hopefully bible study on Tuesday am and Centring prayer on Wed.am will resume soon.

Another way is through serving your community in whatever way the Holy Spirit is inspiring you to !

Song 2 Tis 655 O let the Son of God Enfold you Song

O let the Son of God enfold you, with his Spirit and his love;
 let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul;
 O, let him have the things that hold you and his Spirit,
 like a dove, will descend upon your life and make you whole.

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill our lives;

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill our lives.

O come and sing this song with gladness as your hearts are filled with joy;
 lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name;
 O, give him all your tears and sadness, give him all your years of pain, and
 you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill our lives;

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill our lives.

Bible reading : Acts 2 1-12 :

Reflection

Ten days after Jesus' ascension, came the Jewish festival called Pentecost. (Acts 1:9,2:1-4) The disciples were all gathered together, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus. Suddenly there was a noise from the sky . It sounded like a strong wind and it filled the house where they were sitting. Then it seemed as if tongues of flame spread out and touched each person there. Suddenly they knew they could do things they had never been able to do before: they had new strength to tell the whole world about Jesus, for Jesus was with them in this new way for always.

They went out into the streets of Jerusalem with a message for the people ; a message about God's love, compassion and forgiveness for all people. Jesus had made this known. Jesus gave us life in the Spirit. With the power of the Holy Spirit they spread the message to the furthest corners of the world.

How could they do this ?

What could this mean for you ?.

What could this mean for Lefevre Uniting Church ?

PLEASE SPEND A MINUTE IN MEDITATION .

You are invited to bring your awareness to your breathing .

When you notice your breath slowing , you might like to repeat a short phrase over and over .

Choose to say silently to yourself either “**Ma-ra -na-tha “** or “**Come Holy Spirit”** or “**Come Lord Jesus “** over and over with your breath,(or choose your own word or short phrase).

Maranatha means “ Come Lord Jesus”. (try this for approx..one minute)

Notice how you are feeling.

Meditation is designed to help us move from the head space (thinking) to the heart space (connecting) .

AMEN

Song 3 .Tis407 Breath on me breath of God

**Breathe on me, breath of God, fill me with life anew,
that I may love all that you love and do what you would do.**

**Breathe on me, breath of God, until my heart is pure,
until with you I will one will, to do and to endure.**

**Breathe on me, breath of God, and all my life refine,
until this earthly part of me , glows with your fire divine.**

**Breathe on me, breath of God; so shall I never die,
but live with you the enduring life of your eternity.**

Community prayer Please pray for our community as you feel led.

Lords Prayer

Peace be with you .

Song 4 PENTECOST PRAYER

AT 99

Chorus

***Make me warm when I am cold; Make me young when I am old;
Move me, touch me inside; Let your love burn in me now.***

When this earth was created,
It was God who spoke the word, and it was done;
Gave his warmth to the cold earth;
All was new and all was young,
Time had begun.

***Make me warm when I am cold; Make me young when I am old;
Move me, touch me inside; Let your love burn in me now.***

If I'm rough, make me gentle; If my words are hard and sharp,
Softens this heart.

If I'm weak, make me stronger, Let me look to you for strength
To make a new start.

Chorus

If I'm deaf, break the silence;
If I'm blinded by the dark, give me your light
If I'm lame and I stumble,
Let me take your hand again And hold it so tight.

Chorus

If you speak, let me hear you;
Help me recognize your voice everywhere.

If you pass, let me see you;
Help me know the face is yours, Help me to care.

Chorus

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Loving God , may the power of your Holy spirit blow through our midst this day, filling our lungs with energy, vitality and an eagerness to serve.

Jesus Christ , May the power of your Holy Spirit ignite a fire within us that knows no fear, giving us the courage to be your people .

Holy Spirit open our hearts and voices , so that we may proclaim your vision of love and justice for all people and all creation . Amen

Benediction May the grace of God , the love of Lord Jesus Christ and friendship of Holy Spirit be with you now and always . Amen