

Intro

The Lord is here.

All **His Spirit is with us.**

Good morning and a very warm welcome to St Swithin's Pentecost service. A particular welcome to those who are visiting us via the website, it's great to have you with us.

Beauty and chaos, the two exist in the world at the same time. It's been a magnificent week of weather here in Bath and if you're a lover of the outdoors, everything is bright and blossoming in the glorious summer sunshine (even the sight of pale English legs in shorts), but you only need to go down to the RUH to know that there are many other people who are struggling, literally fighting for their lives.

Pentecost is a great celebration, of the life, work and person of the Holy Spirit. In the Bible there are different pictures of the spirit, some are gentle like the dove or oil, but some are powerful like fire and wind. Fire and wind have power to change. Before the first Pentecost Jesus' followers were confused, frightened and fearful. After Pentecost his followers were faith filled, bold and loving sharing Jesus with others. The experience of the Holy Spirit transformed their lives and gave them the power to live, to shine brightly in the world.

I don't know about you, but Its easy to become so accustomed to living in the shallow waters of Christianity that we've forgotten the depth of that transforming power we read of in Acts, and the depth of the transforming love that Pentecost celebrates.

Today I'm delighted that **Nigel Scotland** has joined us again to preach. Nigel is an author, teacher, pastor and lecturer and brings his wealth of Christian experience to challenge us about whether we really want God's powerful loving presence in our lives? that's what's on offer today. *There is a little bit of Disturbance on the video – be patient it clears up after a couple of minutes*

Let's pray as we begin our worship together

Father God. Thank You that you don't leave us alone, Thank you that you keep your promises and continue to pour out your life giving Spirit upon us

Come Holy Spirit

Come Holy Spirit

Come Holy Spirit

AMEN