

Intro 23rd May 2021 –Pentecost–Acts 2. 1-10

Good morning, great to see you today. Thank you for taking time to connect with us.

Today we celebrate Pentecost, it's the day when Christians around the world gather together to celebrate what is called the birthday of the church. The day when the Spirit of God came on the disciples by a great wind and with tongues of fire and enabled them to praise God in lots of different languages and equip them to share the good news of Jesus across the known world.

Those of us meeting live today are worshipping in our gardens. It's a wonderful opportunity to sing (out loud!) in our gardens, to declare our praise and worship. Having had to be silent for so long when we've gathered together, we can sing our praise to God and over the city!

This Summer we're looking at the theme of 'Good News' and we're going to be discovering today how Pentecost is good news for us. The disciples had been on a rollercoaster journey, walking through the desolation of His death on Good Friday, the wonder of His glorious resurrection on Easter Sunday, and seeing Jesus return to His Father at the Ascension. The disciples were confused, fearful and uncertain, yet expectant of God to move.

Much of the last year has been a struggle for so many of us. Maybe in our own uncertainty, anxiety and weariness we can come again with an expectancy of wanting to be filled with the power and love of God today!

As we begin our worship together let's stand together (respond in bold).

Let's pray

As we wait in silence,	All	fill us with your Spirit.
As we listen to your word,	All	fill us with your Spirit.
As we worship you in majesty,	All	fill us with your Spirit.
As we long for your refreshing,	All	fill us with your Spirit.
As we long for your renewing,	All	fill us with your Spirit.
As we long for your equipping,	All	fill us with your Spirit.
As we long for your empowering,	All	fill us with your Spirit.

Loving Heavenly Father, breathe on us afresh this day, by your Spirit. Awaken us to the wonder, splendour and majesty of the gospel. Fill us with your power and love. In Jesus' name. Amen