

**St George's, Tuffley
with St Margaret's, Whaddon**

**Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering
'Growing God's Kingdom'**



**Sunday worship and weekly news
31 May 2020**

Worshipping Together at Home

31 May 2020

Pentecost

Come afresh, Holy Spirit

Dearly loved worshipping community

Are you weary and fed up, or sad or lonely?

Then I pray this worship will be a tonic to you.

For we come consciously into the presence of the One who is the source of all life, and the giver of all good gifts.

So we can lift our eyes and open our hearts to the God of the Universe, confident in the promise of the life-changing Spirit who will refresh and renew us together, giving us all we need to fulfil his marvellous purpose for us.

Amen, bring it on Lord!

Bruce

"Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest". (Matthew 11:28)

"The spirit helps us in our weakness. For we don't know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans too deep for words" (Romans 8:26)

PENTECOST SERVICE SPECIAL: for the first time, you can also see the whole of **today's service in video online.** Thanks to the magnificent work of Hans and the team. Go to our website www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk, pick 'worship under lockdown', then 'Pentecost Video Service'; or follow this [link](#)

Join our **Pentecost Celebration this afternoon (Sunday)**- enjoy a 'chat' with old and new friends. Drop-in any time between 2 and 4pm (with some time for prayer from around 3.30pm). Go on – surprise yourself with who else is there! If you've not tried this way of connecting before, now's a great time to start. Hosted by Helen. Phone 0203 481 5237 and enter Meeting ID code 843 4113 6063 #. Or if you're on the internet, just click [here](#).

Order of Service



We light a candle...

Prayer for Today

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite in us your holy fire; strengthen your children with the gift of faith, revive your Church with the breath of love, and renew the face of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

This ancient Pentecost hymn has been used by the church since 9th century

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
and lighten with celestial fire.
Thou the anointing Spirit art,
who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.

Thy blessed unction from above
is comfort, life, and fire of love.
Enable with perpetual light
the dullness of our blinded sight.

Anoint and cheer our soiled face
with the abundance of thy grace.
Keep far from foes, give peace at home:
where thou art guide, no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,
and thee, of both, to be but One,
that through the ages all along,
this may be our endless song:

Praise to thy eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

ACTS 2 The Coming of the Holy Spirit

2 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ² 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.

³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵ Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶ And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷ Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes,

¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.”



¹² All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” ¹³ But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

Peter Addresses the Crowd

¹⁴ 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. ¹⁵ Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ ‘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.

¹⁸ Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹ And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

²⁰ The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.

²¹ Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Prayer: Lord, The Holy Spirit fell and proclaimed the powerful deeds of God. By that same Spirit Lord, help us to show how much God loves all those He created.

Amen

John 20 Jesus Appears to the Disciples

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”

²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As

the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”



Prayer: Prince of Peace, may we be as willing to receive as you are to give. Breathe on us afresh that we may share your generosity of spirit with others. Amen

Confession:

Take a moment to consider any ways you’ve failed to show love for God or others, and confess this to God.

Song:

Soften my heart, Lord
Soften my heart
From all indifference
Set me apart
To feel your compassion
To weep with your tears
Come soften my heart, O Lord
Soften my heart

Graham Kendrick Copyright © 1988 Make Way Music.



Reflection

This week the leaders of the Church in Tuffley recorded a conversation about their experiences and understanding of the Spirit at work today.

They know the Spirit as the One who ‘nudges’, persistently guiding our every step. The One who is very present with us ‘mingling’ with our own spirit. The One who gifts us with courage and self-discipline and boldness to be his witnesses.

The One who shapes our character, transforms our lives, enables us to be ‘aglow’ with love and joy and praise and prayer. The One who has healed us, physically and emotionally. The more we have yielded to his moving, the more his fruit of love and joy and peace, patience and kindness and goodness, gentleness faithfulness and self-control is growing in us; and the more our lives are full and fulfilled.

How to be filled the Spirit? The leaders’ advice was simply to pray. To pray earnestly, yearning for more; and yielding to his leading.

They ended with the prayer of Richard, Bishop of Chichester, c.1250: “May I see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, and follow thee more nearly, day by day”.

Lord of wonder and compassion, provider of all good gifts, we yearn for more power over ourselves, more courage to live for others and speak for you, and more faith to yield our lives to your love. For then we will bless with your blessings and bring your kingdom closer. Amen, let it be so dear Lord.

Intercessions from Rosie Clifford

Loving Father, we thank you for your promised gift of the Holy Spirit, the one who guides, defends, comforts and consoles us – and empowers us. We look today for your fresh anointing so we can be filled with your love and compassion for our precious world.



Come, Holy Spirit.

We thank you for the gifts your Spirit brings, for the common good. We pray for great wisdom for the leaders of our nations, as they take decisions for the welfare of their people, against a backdrop of much uncertainty, fear and conflicting priorities.

May they particularly remember the vulnerable, those living in refugee camps. Protect them from infection.

Come, Holy Spirit.

We thank you for the many, many people who continue to serve us day by day, caring for us, ensuring we have food to eat, providing transport and cleaning, protecting us, helping us in times of emergency. We are deeply grateful, remembering particularly those who put their own lives at risk on our behalf. We pray for heads of our schools, hospitals, businesses and shops. Grant them insight to know how to manage their responsibilities to their staff and users.

Come, Holy Spirit.

May your Spirit empower and envision the leaders of our churches, giving them courage to live and speak out for justice and integrity, in servant leadership.

Draw us as members of the Church in Tuffley ever closer in love and unity of purpose. Lead and inspire us as we come aside to pray specifically for your kingdom to come in our neighbourhood. Equip us for the days ahead.

Come, Holy Spirit.

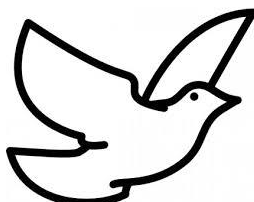
May we learn again to place our trust in you – not in money, or work, or in our own plans. Console and comfort us in this storm. May we know what it is to rely on your love and faithfulness.

Come, Holy Spirit.

We name before you those we know who are ill or troubled, lonely or fearful...

We pray for those mourning the loss of someone held dear, taken from them suddenly. Have mercy on their pain; comfort them in their grief and sadness.

Come, Holy Spirit. Come



A prayer shared by Georgina Wood:

Heavenly Father,

You hold this fragile world in Your loving hands. As we face a global recession, we ask for Your comfort and Your provision.

For those now out of work and facing few options for employment, show them the path You have forged out for them.

For those facing debts they cannot pay and savings that will soon be gone, may the church step forward in generosity and show the abundance of Your goodness and love.

For those fearful that they will not be able to provide meals for their children, be their strong Defender and Deliverer.

In this bleak time of upheaval and uncertainty, we praise You for being our Refuge and Fortress; the Rock on which we stand.

Amen

You can find this hymn [here](#)

Love divine, all loves excelling,

Joy of heaven to earth come down,

Fix in us thy humble dwelling,

All thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesu, thou art all compassion,

Pure, unbounded love thou art;

Visit us with thy salvation,

Enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit

Into every troubled breast,

Let us all in thee inherit,

Let us find that second rest.

Take away the love of sinning,

Alpha and Omega be;

End of faith, as its beginning,

Sets our hearts at liberty.

Come almighty to deliver,

Let us all thy life receive;

Suddenly return and never,

Never more thy temples leave.

Thee we would be always blessing,

Serve thee as thy hosts above,

Pray, and praise thee without ceasing,

Glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation,

Pure and spotless let us be;

Let us see thy great salvation,

Perfectly restored in thee;

Changed from glory into glory,

Till in heaven we take our place,

Till we cast our crowns before

thee,

Lost in wonder, love and Praise.



This Week's News

In memoriam:

Des Wilkins, Terry Raybould, Josephine Beard, Paul Mayne, Wilf Dautlich, Peter Minall (priest), Fannie Storr, Steve Dalley, Hugh Smith, Olga Ralphs RIP.

It is with regret that we report the death of Wilfried Dautlich, leader of Aphasia-Now who meet in St George's Centre on Monday mornings.

Anniversaries of death:

Michael Spiers, Janet Farr, Dave Mills, Bill Snell, Barbara Wilkinson, Bert Woodward, Marian Rackham, Audrey Bayliss, David Fox, Pam Blewitt, Herbert Alderton, Kathleen Ruskin, Nancy stamps, Bette Newport.

Birthdays & anniversaries:

Margaret Barber 1st, remembering Eva Sparey who would have been 104 on 1st, Mac 2nd, Katie Brown 3rd, Derek Kingscote 4th.

Our services are also available on DVD. and on USB memory stick; order one of these from the Office. You can play the USB stick on modern TV's, or buy a special radio; c.£22; contact Derek Kingscote for details.

How long O Lord? The Gloucester Diocese website coronavirus [hub](#) has a wealth of info and guidance, updated daily.



Give God a chance: sign up and Pray – for Tuffley, and for the world at this critical time. We've published a little '**Tuffley Prayer Resources**' booklet. Copies in vicarage porch. You can also find it [here](#). Do use it.

To book an hour to pray, see instructions in booklet. Or book direct by ringing Linda Medwell on 01452 302590.

WHAT TO DO for THIS WEEK:

- ❖ Join the **Pentecost Celebration** on Sunday afternoon (see page 1)
- ❖ **Show your gratitude** to someone who's caring for others or working for the community
- ❖ Keep bringing items for the **Foodbank** – the vicarage porch is a safe drop-off point.
- ❖ **Borrow a good book** (some are new) from Sarah's church library –in vicarage porch (we can deliver)
- ❖ Pick up a **June magazine** from the vicarage. See it online. And pass it on to a friend.
- ❖ Please return your yellow **Easter Season service book** for St George's to the office now.

Why not join our weekly **Morning Prayer** on Thursdays at 8.15am?. Contact Bruce for details.

Keep picking up the phone!



People are finding phone calls with friends invaluable to combat loneliness. Thank you everyone; please keep up the good work!

Know someone who:

- ❖ Is stuck at home without support?
- ❖ Can't make ends meet?
- ❖ Just wants to talk?

Then Contact **Gloucestershire Community Help Hub** on **01452 583519**

CONTACTING US:

Vicar: Revd Bruce Clifford 01452 520851
Email: vicar-bruce@outlook.com

Reader: Jonathan MacKechnie-Jarvis
01452 502174

Pioneer: Helen McGeoch 07729 615993
Email: tuffleypioneer@gmail.com

Administrator: Glenda Stevens 01452 307456
Email: stgeorgeschurch1@gmail.com

Website: www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk

Facebook:

St. George's, Tuffley and St Margaret's Whaddon

The office is closed until further notice. So please contact the Administrator by email or by phone and we'll get back to you.

We are part of the **Church in Tuffley**, working in partnership with English Martyrs (Roman Catholic), Grange (Baptist) and St Barnabas (Anglican)