

Pentecost Sunday (a)

Introduction

*leader: Greet the people and name the Sunday of the Year (see above)
Acknowledge visitors and welcome them.
Remind everyone that there will be refreshments ? ? ? ?
Announce the theme of the liturgy (see next)*

Theme – DISCIPLES EMPOWERED

*leader: This, the “fiftieth day,” concludes the season of Easter,
the continuous single festival of the risen Christ.
Pentecost, the Jewish feast of harvest,
which also commemorates the giving of the Law of Moses,
was the day when the Holy Spirit
came upon the apostles (see Acts 2:1ff.);
the event has been celebrated on this day
at least since the third century.
The joy of Pentecost is that the risen Christ
breathes upon the Church and says,
“Receive the Holy Spirit” (Cf. John 20:22).
(Announce the opening hymn:)*

Greeting

*presider: Ki te ingoa o te Matua, ✠ o te Tamaiti, o te Wairua Tapu:
The grace of our LORD Jesus Christ, whose table we share,
be with us:
all: **And with your spirit.***

Penitential Rite *Invitation to Repentance*

*leader: We gather to celebrate Pentecost.
In many of our modern gatherings,
the number of countries of origin of those gathered,
more than matches the diversity
represented by ‘the devout’ we will hear about
in the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles.
The feast of Pentecost celebrates our unity-in-diversity.
Our world can be transformed in the pattern of the Trinitarian GOD!
Pentecost is GOD’s promise of that to those whom GOD loves.
The day of Pentecost marks the giving
of a new living-Torah (or Law)
– the Law of GOD’s empowering love –
and marks the birth of the Christian community, or church:
leader: We sometimes forget we are a community
that claims to have received the Spirit.
Divisions, tiredness and lack of communication,*

*prevent our understanding our community's special claim and role:
to, 'hand on' the saving work of Jesus: - (pause) - LORD, have mercy:*

*all: **LORD, have mercy:***

*leader: The holy Spirit brings unity amid divisions.
Our tiredness and our lack of communication;
our social, educational, racial and economic differences,
make us less able to praise GOD: - (pause) - CHRIST, have mercy:*

*all: **CHRIST, have mercy.***

*leader: Sometimes, the people who make no claim
to be members of our community,
do better at valuing differences and working together;
than we, who claim to belong to the family of GOD:
- (pause) - LORD, have mercy:*

*all: **LORD, have mercy:***

*leader: May almighty GOD, cleanse us of our sins and through the celebration
of this Eucharist make us worthy to sit at the table of the kingdom.*

*all: **Amen***

GLORIA *invitation*

leader: With all the voices of heaven, let us sing praise, honour and glory to GOD.

Opening Prayer

*leader: (Kia inoi tatou: ... / let us pray, ...) Send down, O LORD GOD,
upon Your people the flame of Your Holy Spirit,
and fill with the abundance of Your sevenfold gift
the Church you brought forth from Your Son's pierced side.
May Your life-giving Spirit lend fire to our words
and strength to our witness. Send us forth to the nations of the world
to proclaim with boldness Your wondrous work of raising Christ
to Your right hand. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ, Your Son,
who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
GOD, now and always: all: **Amen.***

Introduction to the first reading: *(Acts 2 : 1 – 11)*

*leader: The Christian community, from its very beginning, claimed to have the
ability to reconcile the tensions between pluralism and equity and to be
empowered – a unity-in-diversity! The reading from Acts shows just such a
reconciliation of diversity.*

Response: Psalm 104 : 30

*all: **O GOD, send out Your Spirit
and renew the face of the Earth.***

Introduction to the second reading: *(1 Corinthians 12 : 3 – 7, 12 – 13)*

*leader: Paul points out that once the, 'power-for-life-giving-in-the-Spirit' has been
given, it remains with the Spirit-led person, in the form of a new direction
of heart and mind, to do deeds of witness!*

Sequence

*all: Holy Spirit, LORD of light, from Your clear celestial height
Your pure beaming radiance give. Come, O Father of the poor,
come with treasures which endure, come, O Light of all that live.
You, of all consolers best, You, the soul's delightful Guest,
do refreshing peace bestow. You in toil are comfort sweet,
pleasant coolness in the heat, solace in the midst of woe.
Light immortal, Light divine, visit You these hearts of Thine
and our inmost being fill. If You take Your grace away,
nothing pure in us will stay; all our good is turned to ill.
Heal our wounds; our strength renew; on our dryness pour Your dew;
wash the stains of guilt away. Bend the stubborn heart and will;
melt the frozen, warm the chill; guide the steps that go astray.
You, on those who evermore You confess and You adore,
in Your sevenfold gifts descend: give us comfort when we die,
give us life with You on high; give us joys that never end.*

Gospel Acclamation:

*all: Alleluia! Alleluia! Come, holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of Your Love. Alleluia!*

Introduction to the gospel reading: (*John 20 : 19 – 23*)

*leader: The gospel author stresses the continuity between the risen Jesus and the
emerging church.*

Homily Notes (*presider*)

- *The prophets had announced that the Messiah would bring such a peace, permanently. With the Messiah harmony would be established throughout the world. People would be at harmony with GOD. Jesus says it again: "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so am I sending you" (v.21).¹*
- *The disciples are 'sent' to become Jesus' presence and word in the world. GOD was present and active in Jesus' word - so the disciples are to be GOD's presence and action in the world in the new era. Jesus gives his spirit/Spirit to them for this purpose. The spirit/Spirit of Jesus, transforms them to become the life-giving 'word' in the world.²*

1 [v.21] By means of this sending, the Eleven were made apostles, that is, 'those sent' (Jn.17:18). A solemn mission or 'sending' is also the subject of the post-resurrection appearances to the Eleven in Mt.28:19; Lk.24:47; Mk.16:15.

2 'spirit/Spirit' - this expression indicates the intimate harmony between *the Spirit of GOD* and *the human spirit informed by GOD*. It applies to the empowering that results from Jesus' apprenticing, when he informs disciples with *his spirit* or *power-for-life*, as he is empowered by *GOD's Spirit*. His disciples assimilated his *spirit/Spirit* and they go on to accomplish in their practise (cf. Acts) the empowering for life which Jesus exhibited in his practise. For John the breathing of the Spirit on the disciples is the climax of the actions of the risen Jesus. The 'breathing' echoes *Genesis*. In the creation scene, "GOD shaped humanity ('adam) from the soil of the ground ('adamah) and blew the breath of life into what became living beings". John says that just as in the first creation, God breathed a living spirit/Spirit into humanity, so now in the moment of the new creation, Jesus breathes his own holy spirit/Spirit into the disciples, giving them eternal life. John's gospel opened with the theme of creation (Jn.1:1-5). The theme of creation returns now at the end of the gospel of John.

- *The disciples can forgive and hold peoples' sins because the risen Jesus has sent them (as the Father sent him). Jesus says that he came into the world for judgement; to enable some to see; to cause blindness for others.³ Deliberate blindness also implied that any willingness to open one's eyes results in being delivered from sin.*
- *Working through the disciples, the Holy Spirit (like Jesus in his public ministry) divides people into those who believe and receive the Spirit, and 'the world' which does not believe or recognise the Holy Spirit. The latter will be proved wrong. But the main emphasis of the giving of the Spirit in John's gospel, concerns the new world, the new creation that wipes out the Evil One.*
- *The Holy Spirit consecrates people and gives them the power to make others holy in turn. This power to isolate, repel, and negate evil and sin is given by God to Jesus. This same power is given in turn by Jesus through the Spirit to those whom he sends. John does not tell us how or who exercised this power in the community for whom he wrote. The fact that he mentions it show that it was exercised. The observance of Pentecost commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ, 50 days after Easter. We gather to honour this significant event in the life of the Church, marking the birth of the Christian Church and the beginning of the spread of the Gospel.*

Celebration of Confirmation

(Wellsford only: Invitation;
Laying on of Hands;
Anointing with Chrism.)

Creed

3 Jn.9:39ff

Intercessions – Pentecost Week [Sun 24th – Sat 30th May 2026]*invitation to pray:*

leader: Friends in Christ, united in one heart and mind, we remember Christ's promise to be with us always. Let's pray with confidence to GOD-with-us for our most basic need:

- 1: *For the Church: that we may faithfully confess Jesus and be guided by the Holy Spirit to continue the mission of Christ in our time:*
- (pause) - *Holy Spirit of GOD, hear us: all: **Holy Spirit of GOD, hear us.***
- 2: *For fuller use of the Gifts of the Spirit: that GOD will help us recognize and practise all the gifts which we have been given so that the Body of Christ may be strong in serving the realm of GOD: - (pause) - Holy Spirit of GOD, hear us:*
*all: **Holy Spirit of GOD, hear us.***
- 3: *For people of all Faiths – that we might have a greater awareness of GOD's presence in the universe and in the smallest of creatures. And that working together we might protect the natural world and all that has life:*
- (pause) - *Holy Spirit of GOD, hear us: all: **Holy Spirit of GOD, hear us.***
- 4: *For a new Pentecost: that GOD will pour out the Spirit in a new and abundant way to renew humanity and all of creation: - (pause) - Holy Spirit of GOD, hear us:*
*all: **Holy Spirit of GOD, hear us.***
- 5: *Healer of the sick, we pray for: (Mangawhai) Matteo Gray, Petronella Brom, Geraldine Choromanski, Veronica Grigg, Theresa & Barry McCarthy, Gina Benade (Aust), Rosilene Finnegan, Richard McGrane (SA) Nanette Matheson, Michael O'Neil, Noreen Anderson, Liz Saunders, Joseph Cuminsky, Michael Power, (Maungaturoto) Bill Lewis, Adolph Layec, Matthew Gould, Christine McHugh, Jenny McKinnon, (Wellsford) Margaret Pride, Dallas Colville, Alec Colville, Wilma Jansen, Gerard McCurran, Loris Pictor, Gerry Kok, Jill Grace, Caroline Milner, Lagi Sands, Teresa Graham, May they be blessed with courage and patience:*
- (pause) - *Holy Spirit of GOD, hear us: all: **Holy Spirit of GOD, hear us.***
- 6: *O GOD, whose mercy is never withheld from those who call upon you in hope, look kindly on Your servants who have died confessing Your name, including: **Chris Ohlson, & Gerard McCurran, . . .** And those whose anniversaries occur about now: . (see parish newsletter)
Number them among Your saints: - (pause) - Holy Spirit of GOD, hear us:
*all: **Holy Spirit of GOD, hear us.****

Concluding Prayer:

*leader: GOD of graciousness, give answers to our prayers in Your great kindness. We ask this through Jesus Christ: all: **Amen.***

(If no priest, the leader: introduces Lord's Prayer.)

Prayer over the Gifts

*presider: (Kia inoi tatou: ... / Let us pray, ...) Remember, O GOD,
the promise of Christ Your Son:
in Your mercy send the Holy Spirit
to reveal more completely the mystery of this sacrifice
and to disclose to our hearts the full light of truth.
We ask this through Jesus Christ: all: **Amen***

Preface (*from the preface for Pentecost*)

presider: GOD be with you.

*all: **And also with you.***

presider: Lift up your hearts.

*all: **We lift them up to the LORD.***

presider: Let us give thanks to our GOD.

*all: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

*presider: It is truly right and just,
our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal GOD.
It is right to give our thanks and praise;
to bring the paschal mystery to completion,
You bestowed the Holy Spirit this day
on those You made Your adopted children
by uniting them to Your only-begotten Son.
At the Church's beginning Your Spirit imparted to all peoples
the knowledge of the living GOD and gathered
the many languages of the Earth into one voice to profess a single faith.
Therefore, the universe resounds with Easter joy,
and the choirs of angels sing the endless hymn of Your glory:*

*all: **Holy holy holy!***

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER – II**Memorial Acclamation**

(the Eucharistic Prayer ends with the great 'AMEN')

Introduction to the Lord's Prayer

*presider: With trust in GOD, who nourishes us in the hour of need,
let us pray as Jesus taught us:*

*all: **Our Father, ...***

*presider: Deliver us, LORD, we pray, from every evil;
graciously grant peace in our days,
that by the help of Your mercy,
we may be always freed from sin
and safe from all distress,*

*as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.*

*all: **For the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours,
now and for ever. Amen.***

Sign of Peace

*presider: LORD Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles:
'Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you'.
Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church
and grant us the peace and unity of your Realm,
where you live, now and always:*

*all: **Amen.***

presider: The peace of the LORD be with you:

*all: **And with your spirit.***

presider: Let us offer each other a sign of peace:

Lamb of God

*all: **Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us (x2)
Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.***

*presider: Jesus Christ, Son of the living GOD,
who by the will of the Father
and the work of the Holy Spirit,
through your death gave life to the world;
free us by this your most holy Body and Blood
from all our sins and from every evil:
keep us always faithful to your commandments
and never let us be parted from you.*

*all: **Amen***

either

*presider: Behold the Lamb of GOD. Behold him who takes away the sins of
the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.*

or

*presider: This is the bread come down from heaven;
whoever eats this bread will never die.
This is the cup of eternal life;
whoever drinks of it will live forever:*

*all: **LORD, I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof,
but only say the WORD and my soul shall be healed.***

Holy Communion

*presider: Ko te Tinana o te Karaiti:
(Ko nga Toto o te Karaiti:)*

Prayer after Communion

*leader: (Kia inoi tatou: ... / Let us pray, ...) O GOD,
You bestow on Your Church gifts from heaven.
Preserve the grace You have given us,
that the breath of Pentecost may quicken our hearts
and that this meal, made holy by Your Spirit,
may advance the great work of redemption.
Grant this through Jesus Christ:*

*all: **Amen.***

(an opportunity for announcements/notices etc. . . .)

Dismissal

*leader: We are sent; in the name of GOD, the Creator;
we are sent in the name of Jesus, GOD in our history;
we are sent in the name of GOD, the Holy Spirit,
GOD in revelation today;
to live in GOD's Spirit and Truth,
until we gather again:*

*all: **Amen***

The Blessing

*presider: Kia whakapaingia koutou e te Atua kaha rawa,
e te Matua, e te Tamaiti ✠ e te Wairua Tapu:*

*all: **Amene***

or

presider: The Blessing of GOD, Father ✠ Son and Holy Spirit be with us all:

*all: **Amen.***

leader: The Mass has ended, go in peace to love and serve our GOD:

*all: **Thanks be to GOD.***