

**St Nicholas Church,  
Shepperton**



**Parish Eucharist**  
**28th May 2023**  
**Pentecost Sunday**



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**28<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

*In the name of the Lord Jesus we welcome you to St Nicholas Shepperton today. It is wonderful that you have chosen to worship here today. For centuries, people have gathered on this site to support each other, to laugh and cry together, to sing and pray and to come before God and be nourished and sustained at the altar. It is our hope that you will leave here today having been given a glimpse of God's kingdom. **Please join in where indicated in bold.***

**Opening Hymn 118**

**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 our foes, give peace at home;  
Where thou art guide no ill can come.**

**Show us the Father and the Son,  
in thee, and with thee, ever One;  
Then through the ages all along  
This shall be our unending song.**

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

In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*Words of Welcome and Introduction*

Jesus Christ, whom we worship, is our crucified, risen and ascended Lord and we have walked with him through his journey of love. We have faced the agony of his suffering and death on a cross. We have rejoiced at his bursting free from the bonds of death. We have enjoyed his risen presence with us and his revelation of himself through the breaking of bread. We have seen his return to the throne before which every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that this Jesus is Lord. And now, with the followers of his own time, we await the coming of the promised Holy Spirit, his gift to his people, through whom we make Christ known to the world.

As we wait in silence,  
**make us ready for your coming Spirit.**  
As we listen to your word,  
**make us ready for your coming Spirit.**  
As we worship you in majesty,  
**make us ready for your coming Spirit.**  
As we long for your refreshing,  
**make us ready for your coming Spirit.**  
As we long for your renewing,  
**make us ready for your coming Spirit.**  
As we long for your equipping,  
**make us ready for your coming Spirit.**  
As we long for your empowering,  
**make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

## **Invitation to confession**

The Spirit of the Lord fills the world and knows our every word and deed. Let us then open ourselves to the Lord and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

**Lord God, we have sinned against you; we have done evil in your sight. We are sorry and repent. Have mercy on us according to your love. Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin. Renew a right spirit within us and restore us to the joy of your salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May almighty God, who sent his Son into the world to save sinners, bring you his pardon and peace, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **Gloria**

**Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.**

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest,**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest,**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.**

**Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.**

## **The Collect**

*Let us pray:*

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. **Amen.**

## **First Reading** - Numbers 11: 24-30

So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, 'My lord Moses, stop them!' But Moses said to him, 'Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!' And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

This is the word of the Lord

## **Thanks be to God**

## **Second reading** - Acts 2 1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 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. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

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. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ‘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. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## **Hymn**

**We are one in the Spirit  
We are one in the Lord  
We are one in the Spirit  
We are one in the Lord  
And we pray that all unity  
May one day be restored**

*And they'll know we are Christians  
By our love, By our love  
Yes, they'll know we are Christians  
By our love*

**We will walk with each other  
We will walk hand in hand  
We will walk with each other  
We will walk hand in hand  
And together we'll spread the news  
That God is in our land**

**We will work with each other  
We will work side by side  
We will work with each other  
We will work side by side  
And we'll guard each man's dignity  
And save each man's pride**

**All praise to the Father  
From whom all things come  
And all praise to Christ Jesus His only son  
And all praise to the Spirit  
Who makes us one**

## **Gospel Reading**

Alleluia, alleluia.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people and kindle in them the fire of your love.

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**



The Lord be with you  
**And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 20 19-23

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.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**The Creed**

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have**

no end. **We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

Lord hear us

We pray with and for the People of God in every place.

**Lord Graciously hear us**

*At the end of our prayers*

Merciful Father,

**Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### **The Peace**

God has made us one in Christ.

He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come, has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

*Let us offer one another a sign of peace.*

### **Offertory Hymn 114**

**Come down, O love divine,**

**Seek thou this soul of mine,**

**And visit it with thine own ardour glowing;**

**O Comforter, draw near,**

**Within my heart appear,**

**And kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.**

**O let it freely burn,  
Till earthly passions turn  
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming;  
And let thy glorious light  
Shine ever on my sight,  
And clothe me round, the while my path illuming**

**Let holy charity  
mine outward vesture be,  
And lowliness become mine inner clothing;  
True lowliness of heart,  
Which takes the humbler part,  
And o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.**

**And so the yearning strong  
With which the soul will long,  
Shall far outpass the power of human telling;  
Nor can we guess its grace,  
Till we become the place  
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.**

*The altar is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.*

Blessed be God,  
who feeds the hungry,  
who raises the poor,  
who fills our praise.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

### **The Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*The priest prays the Eucharistic prayer and we join together to sing ..*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

*Please sit or kneel*

*The priest recalls the Last Supper....*

Great is the mystery of faith  
**Christ has died  
Christ is Risen  
Christ will come again**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Looking for the coming of his kingdom, as our Saviour has taught us let us pray:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

### **Breaking of the Bread**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

## **Agnus Dei**

*We all join together to sing:*

**Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world**

**Have mercy on us**

**Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world**

**Have mercy on us**

**Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world**

**Grant us peace**

## **Giving of Communion**

This is the Risen Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are we who are called to his supper.

**Lord I am not worthy to receive you but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*The president and people receive communion.*

*Authorized words of distribution are used and the communicant replies* **Amen.**

## **Anthem by Choir**

### **Hymn 84**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,**

**Fill me with life anew,**

**That I may love what thou dost love,**

**And do what thou wouldst do.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,**

**Until my heart is pure;**

**Until with thee I will one will,**

**To do and to endure.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,**

**Till I am wholly thine;**

**Until this earthly part of me**

**Glows with thy fire divine.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,**

**So shall I never die,**

**But live with thee the perfect life**

**Of thine eternity.**

## **Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept.*

*We join together to say*

**Faithful God,  
who fulfilled the promises of Easter  
by sending us your Holy Spirit  
and opening to every race and nation  
the way of life eternal:  
open our lips by your Spirit,  
that every tongue may tell of your glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **NOTICES**

*The minister goes to the Easter Paschal Candle and says*  
Blessed are you, sovereign God, overflowing in love.  
With Pentecost dawns the age of the Spirit.  
Now the flame of heaven rests on every believer.  
Strong and weak, women and men tell out your word;  
the young receive visions, the old receive dreams.  
With the new wine of the Spirit  
they proclaim your reign of love.  
Amid the birth pangs of the new creation  
the way of light is made known.  
Source of freedom, giver of life,  
blessed are you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*Each member of the congregation has a candle which is lit.*

## **Commission**

*When all the candles are lit the president says*

For fifty days we have celebrated the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ over the powers of sin and death. We have proclaimed God's mighty acts and we have prayed that the power that was at work when God raised Jesus from the dead might be at work in us. As part of God's Church here in Shepperton, I call upon you to live out what you proclaim.

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, will you dare to walk into God's future, trusting him to be your guide?

**By the Spirit's power, we will.**

Will you dare to embrace each other and grow together in love?

**We will.**

Will you dare to share your riches in common and minister to each other in need?

**We will.**

Will you dare to pray for each other until your hearts beat with the longings of God?

**We will.**

Will you dare to carry the light of Christ into the world's dark places?

**We will.**

*the Easter Paschal Candle is extinguished in silence.*

### **Final Hymn**

#### **Chorus**

***Spirit of God, unseen as the wind,  
gentle as is the dove:  
teach us the truth and help us believe,  
show us the Saviour's love!***

**You spoke to us - long, long ago  
gave us the written word;  
we read it still, needing its truth,  
through it God's voice is heard.**

#### **Chorus**

**Without your help we fail our Lord,  
we cannot live his way;  
we need your power, we need your strength,  
following Christ each day.**

#### **Chorus**

*Please remain standing for the final Blessing*

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Today we have remembered the coming of God's power on the disciples and we invite that same Spirit to drive us out into the wild places of the world.

May the Spirit, who hovered over the waters when the world was created, breathe into you the life he gives. **Amen.**

May the Spirit,  
who overshadowed the Virgin when the eternal Son  
came among us, make you joyful in the service of the Lord.  
**Amen.**

May the Spirit, who set the Church on fire upon the Day of Pentecost, bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ  
**Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### **Dismissal**

Filled with the Spirit's power,  
Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**Please do take this service sheet away with you  
so you can reflect on the readings  
and prayers in the coming days...**

**You are invited to join us for coffee in the Parish  
Centre after this service.**