



Pentecost all age service

Themes of Waiting, Receiving, Sharing, a service in three parts

WELCOME

Minister brief explanation of this special Service.

OPENING PRAYER

Minister As per local tradition

Minister **Set the scene;** ie, we are waiting, as those disciples were in that room in Jerusalem.

Pause

Waiting is often hard as we find it difficult to be still, to resist doing things, fixing things, quietening the clamours of our lives. They were waiting in Jerusalem day after day but nothing happened. Had Jesus got it wrong?

HYMN

Suggestion: Christ Be Our Light



RESPONSIVE PRAYERS

Minister Faithful God we thank you for all promises in your Word
Make us patient in waiting and eager in seeking you.

All **Send your Holy Spirit we ask.**

Minister God of light and love, help us to desire your good and to be brings of your light
into difficult situations.

All **Send your Holy Spirit**

Minister God of mercy , help us to be merciful and full of compassion to all we meet.

All **Send your Holy Spirit, Amen.**

Come holy spirit is sung by solo voice or recording.

A sound like wind comes maybe using an electric fan followed by young people rushing into the worship space waving flame coloured streams excitedly calling “He’s here, He’s here!”

HYMN

Started by choir or group or cantor.

Suggestion: Lord I Lift Your Name On High, or 10,000 Reasons.

Minister Let us bring our prayers of thanksgiving and also of confession to God.

All Generous God we thank you for your promises fulfilled in Jesus and in the gifting of the Holy Spirit which we celebrate today .In the midst of our celebration Father we also acknowledge our doubts about the fulfilling of your promise and confess those times when we found ourselves impatient as we waited for answers to our prayers. We confess that we were sometimes neglectful in bringing others to you in our prayers. We seek your forgiveness.

Minister The God of love and compassion free you from your neglects and doubts.
In Jesus Name, Amen.

COLLECT

For the day might be used.



BIBLE READING OR DRAMATISED READING

Acts 2:1-21

HYMN

Suggestion: O God Of Burning Cleansing Flame

TALK 1

I wonder why the symbols of wind and fire were used to describe this special gift that Jesus sent? (*I suggest you gather ideas onto a flip chart.*)

These are all great answers. Let's think a bit more about fire (*you might use either a YouTube video playing as a back drop or by lighting a large candle*).

Fire – Gives warmth

Fire – Gives light

Fire – When it comes into contact with other material changes that material, ie: wood, metal, etc.

What is more, the effects of fire can be seen.

I wonder if the gift of the Holy Spirit, symbolised in fire, was sent to bring about a warmth in our lives that enables us to be warmer towards other people?

I wonder if the gift of the Holy Spirit, symbolised in fire, was sent to bring changes in our lives to be more like Jesus?

I wonder if the gift of the Holy Spirit, symbolised in fire means that other people can see changes in us?

ACTIVITY

Intergenerational

Making models of what the special gift that Jesus promised might look like today. Lego, drawing, play dough, painting.



TALK 2

What's all this about power? Difficult word in this day and age of conflict. Let's think of it a bit differently:

Bad power is obvious to all of us. Think with the congregation about these examples. Add others as they are offered – bullies, wars to gain wealth or land, strength to overcome smaller people or even poorer people, using powerful words and actions to deliberately be hurtful.

Good power – To make people and things work to be the best they can. For example; a toaster without an electrical supply is not fit for purpose and will simply gather dust. *Give similar illustrations using a torch, charger, toys, etc.*

When Jesus said he was sending His Holy Spirit and that we would receive power from on high, that is from Father God, then that is always good power:

- It looks like power to serve people who are in need
- It looks like power to love people who are difficult to love
- It looks like power to forgive others
- It looks like power to speak out against injustices and to name wrongs

But it is also the powerful gift to tell others that God loves them and wants them to know that love for themselves.

TALK 3

Sharing

Today we have ended 11 days of **Thy Kingdom Come** days in which we too waited in prayer for five people to come to know that love of God for themselves. Is it now time to harness the spirit's power to speak to those five, to write to them, to take a risk to let them know you have prayed for them and to simply ask them to consider the love God has for them for themselves. Is this the Holy Spirit's gifting for our church today I wonder. Both for adults and children.

What is the worst thing that can happen? They laugh, they think you are batty, or... they think that maybe there is something in this Jesus after all.

So, a challenge:

Will you invite the same Holy Spirit who filled those disciples, to fill you today? There is no pressure – just listen to the gentle whisper of God. *(Invite the children to show the adults how to receive a gift – use of hands open, praying hands, whatever they feel might be helpful to the adults.)*



RECEIVING

Minister During the next song simply be open to receive a fresh the gift God has for you.

SONG

Suggestion: Spirit Of The Living God

INTERCESSIONS

For Gods world lay led.

FINAL HYMN

Suggestion: To God Be The Glory

Local notices.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL
