

# **Praying Together at Ascension & Pentecost**

## **@St Luke's, Holmes Chapel**

O God, make speed to save us;

**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us,

**And clothe your people with power from on high. Alleluia.**

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits;

Who forgives all your sins, and heals all your infirmities;

Who redeems your life from the Pit and crowns you with faithful love and compassion;

Who satisfies you with good things,

So that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

The Lord executes righteousness and judgement for all who are oppressed.

He made his ways known to Moses and his works to the children of Israel.

The Lord has established his throne in heaven,

And his kingdom has dominion over all.

Bless the Lord, you angels of his, you mighty ones who do his bidding

And hearken to the voice of his word.

Bless the Lord, all you his hosts,

You ministers of his who do his will.

Bless the Lord, all you works of his, in all places of his dominion;

Bless the Lord, O my soul. *(from Psalm 103)*

**Glory to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;**

**As it was in the beginning is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.**

## **Hearing and responding to the Word of God**

*Bible readings can be found on the church website or Facebook page.*

*Read them out loud then finish with this response:*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Canticles**

I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries.  
I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses.

A new heart I will give you, and put a new spirit within you,  
And I will remove from your body the heart of stone  
And give you a heart of flesh.

You shall be my people, and I will be your God. *(from Ezekiel 36)*

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your people  
**And kindle in us the fire of your love.**

All who are led by the Spirit of God  
Are children of God and fellow-heirs with Christ.

**Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your people**

Renew the face of your creation, Lord,  
Pouring on us the gifts of your Spirit,

**And kindle in us the fire of your love.**

For the creation waits with eager longing  
For the glorious liberty of the children of God.

**Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your people**

**And kindle in us the fire of your love.** *(cf Romans 8)*

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,  
Who has come to his people and set them free  
He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,  
Born of the house of his servant David.  
Through his holy prophets God promised of old  
to save us from our enemies, and from the hands of all that hate us.  
To show mercy to our ancestors, and to remember his holy covenant.  
This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham  
To set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
Free to worship him without fear,  
Holy and righteous in his sight, all the days of our life

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way. To give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of all their sins. In the tender compassion of our God, the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

*(Luke 1:68-79)*

The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set us free from the law of sin and death; all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God; For we have received the Spirit that enables us to cry 'Abba, Father'. The Spirit himself bears witness that we are children of God And if God's children, then heirs of God; If heirs of God, then fellow-heirs with Christ; Since we suffer with him now, that we may be glorified with him.

*(Romans 8:2,14ff)*

## **Prayers**

### **O God the King of glory,**

You have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ  
With great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:  
We beseech you, leave us not comfortless,  
But send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us  
And exalt us to the place where our Saviour Jesus Christ is gone before.  
through that same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### **Almighty and everlasting God,**

we thank you that you have brought us safely to the beginning of this day.  
Keep us from falling into sin or running into danger;  
order us in all our doings and guide us to do always what is righteous in  
your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Let us pray to God,** who alone makes us dwell in safety:

For all who are affected by coronavirus, through illness or isolation or  
anxiety, that they may find relief and recovery:

Lord, hear us,

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

For those who are guiding our nation at this time, and shaping national policies, that they may make wise decisions:

Lord, hear us,

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

For doctors, nurses and medical researchers,  
that through their skill and insights many will be restored to health:

Lord, hear us,

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

For the vulnerable and the fearful, for the gravely ill and the dying,  
that they may know your comfort and peace:

Lord, hear us,

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

**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.**

May the Spirit kindle in us the fire of God's love.

**Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**