

Worship at St Luke's this weekend

Sunday 7am: Holy Communion

(Hymns: TIS 231, MP 67, TIS 414, They'll know we are Christians by our love.)

Sunday 9am: Family Communion (also streamed via ZOOM*)

(Hymns: MP 241, Spirit of God (Skye boat song MP 1351), TIS418, JP 367, vv1,2,4,5)

* <https://zoom.us/j/7210725462> or by telephone (07 3185 3730, meeting ID 721 072 5462).

Contact the Parish Office for the password.

'A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you,' says the Lord God;
'I will put my spirit within you and you shall live.'

Rev'd Timothy writes...

It is tempting, as we read the account of Pentecost, and of how the Holy Spirit came and moved amongst the disciples leading many (Acts 2:41 says 3,000) coming to belief, and to pray that the Holy Spirit would come upon the Church today to help us grow ... but no, we don't do this; the Spirit is already with us.



When the Holy Spirit entered the disciples, other people heard and they saw – they saw how the disciples behaved; they saw how the members of the early Church

Pentecost Prayer

When this earth was created
it was God who spoke the word
and it was done;
gave his warmth to the cold earth —
all was new and all was young,
time had begun.

*Make me warm when I am cold,
make me young when I am old;
move me, touch me inside,
let your love burn in me now.*

If I'm rough, make me gentle;
if my words are hard and sharp,
soften this heart.

If I'm weak, make me stronger,
let me look to you for strength
to make a new start.

If I'm deaf, break the silence;
if I'm blinded by the dark,
give me your light.

If I'm lame and I stumble,
let me take your hand again
and hold it so tight.

If you speak, let me hear you;
help me recognise your voice
everywhere.

If you pass, let me see you;
help me know the face is yours,
help me to care.

Robyn Mann

cared for one another; how they looked after the poor and needy. And so as we talk about Christ, as we profess Christ, it's about more than just using the right words. It's about following Christ. Pentecost is not passive, it's active. We cannot sit back and wait for the Holy Spirit to be active in the Church ... the Spirit is already active in the Church. On the day of Pentecost the disciples were 'all' filled with the Holy Spirit and they began to talk as the Spirit enabled them to speak. At Pentecost we have a wonderful opportunity to examine how God might want to use us and how the Spirit might enable us.

Combined Church Service for Pentecost

You are invited to this Ecumenical service organised by the Annerley Minister Fraternal.

TODAY: 6.30pm Sunday 19th May

Fairfield Christian Family
51 Cross Street, Fairfield



Readings for Day of Pentecost

First Reading (7am only)

A reading from the book of Ezekial

¹ The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³ He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord God, you know.' ⁴ Then he said to me, 'Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵ Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.'

⁷ So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸ I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, 'Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' ¹⁰ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹ Then he said to me, 'Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our

hope is lost; we are cut off completely." ¹² Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.'

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm 104.26-36

²⁶ Lord, how various are your works: in wisdom you have made them all, and the earth is full of your creatures.

²⁷ There is the wide, immeasurable sea: there move living things without number, great and small;

²⁸ There go the ships, to and fro: and there is that Leviathan whom you formed to sport in the deep.

²⁹ These all look to you: to give them their food in due season.

³⁰ When you give it to them, they gather it: when you open your hand they are satisfied with good things.

³¹ When you hide your face, they are troubled: when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

³² When you send forth your spirit they are created:

and you renew the face of the earth.

³³ May the glory of the Lord endure for ever:

may the Lord rejoice in his works.

³⁴ If he look upon the earth, it shall tremble:

if he but touch the mountains, they shall smoke.

³⁵ I will sing to the Lord as long as I live: I will praise my God while I have any being.

³⁶ May my meditation be pleasing to him: for my joy shall be in the Lord.

Second reading

A reading from the book of Acts

¹ 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.'

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."

The Gospel

A reading from the gospel of John

^{15:26} 'When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. ²⁷ You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

^{16:4} 'I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵ But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, "Where are you going?" ⁶ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. ⁷ Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸ And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong

about sin and righteousness and judgement: ⁹ about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰ about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; ¹¹ about judgement, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

¹² 'I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵ All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Copyright: The Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Pentecost

This week's texts have in common a strong emphasis on the Spirit of God. The Spirit is poured out on all nations and peoples, so that through this outpouring all nations may be blessed and receive the good news. There is also prevalent imagery of the Spirit as breath and wind. The wind of the Spirit is portrayed as the breath of life that swoops in and enlivens fearful disciples and dry bones alike. The presence of the Spirit is the continuation of God's redemptive work completed in Christ. Through adoption, the sharing of the Spirit and redemption of humanity will positively affect the whole of creation. It is clear that God cares for all of creation, not only humanity, and redemption is for all creation.

Acts 2:1–21 Pentecost is another name for the Jewish Feast of Weeks or Shavuot, a one-day festival 50 days after the Passover.

It recalled when the Israelites offered God the first fruits of the harvest. As they shed the agrarian-based lifestyle, Shavuot became the festival at which Jews celebrated the seminal event in Jewish religious history: the revelation at Mount Sinai.

The advocate whom Jesus promised the disciples (John 14:15–31 and Acts 1:4) has

arrived. The imagery of wind and fire are reminiscent of the theophanies when God's presence was made known through physical manifestations. Throughout the Bible, wind represents God's presence as Spirit. The Spirit represented as wind is also a symbol of regeneration and new birth. Many scholars view the occurrence of speaking in other tongues as the reversal of the events that occurred at the construction of the Tower of Babel (Genesis 11:1–9).

The arrival of the Holy Spirit prepares and empowers the church to carry out the mandate that Christ issued his disciples. Believers are equipped to carry out Christ's mission in the world. The central theme in the excerpt from the book of Joel is that God will pour out the Holy Spirit onto all peoples. This affirms the inclusivity of the Spirit and the evangelistic nature of the church.

In Ezekiel 37:1–14, the prophet writes to the Judahites exiled in Babylon and those who remain in Jerusalem. The main message is a restoration of hope. The bones are a metaphor of how the people view their current circumstances. To them, the Israelite community as a united people is dead. Ezekiel is not predicting the resurrection of the entire Israelite nation. Although they look onto dry bones that have been dead and buried, God will bring them back to life.

Psalms 104:22–34 shows that God's creation not confined to human beings; God's care extends into all aspects of creation. God is continually and intimately involved in the inner workings of the world and all within it.

Romans 8:22–27 implies creation itself has been in a period of birth, bringing something new into the world. This labour is a time of pain, hard work, and great anticipation. The adoption of humanity into the family of God also benefits the whole of creation. The redemption that humanity experiences at the time of this adoption extends to the entirety of God's creation. No longer will Earth be ruled over in futility but will be taken care of, as always intended. All creation is in birthing pains. We wait with bated breath for the Spirit, who has started a work within us, to bring it to completion.

John 15:26–27; 16:4b–15 offers more metaphors for the Spirit – the advocate who speaks on our behalf; the helper; the one who comforts, strengthens, and empowers. The Spirit will illuminate Jesus' teaching for believers and propel them to tell of God's love and care.

• • • • •

Each of this week's passages is concerned with the involvement of the Spirit in God's creation. The outpouring of the Spirit is portrayed as the outpouring of the breath of life, which rushes in to renew what is perceived dead. The Spirit is shown to unify individuals across languages and nationalities with the intention that every nation will be blessed by the gospel message. A theme of hope runs through these passages like a golden thread that runs the length of an elaborate tapestry. God is still at work, even amongst dead bones, bringing new life into the most unexpected places. Where do you see God bringing life into the unexpected areas of your life? For what do you pray for the breath of new life?

For our Prayers

Prayer for the day

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love, joy, and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The World

Pray for the reopening of the Rafah border crossing to enable humanitarian aid to be reach those in need in Gaza.

Anglican Communion

The Anglican Church of Canada

The Diocese of North West Australia: †Darrell Parker; Clergy and People

The Parish of Toowong: Tom Sullivan, Alan Dale, Elsie Clack, Michael Faragher

Anglicare SQ Abri Residential Aged Care – Gold Coast (Southport)

Toowoomba Anglican School, Toowoomba: Principal – Simon Lees; Chaplaincy team;

Chair of School Council – Mac Drysdale; members of School Council; staff & students

Our missionary partners

Bruce and Libby, serving with CMS in Nepal.

Our parish

Pray for our sister churches in the Annerley area, worshipping together for Pentecost, as we together proclaim the gospel.

Local Schools & Colleges

Yeronga High, Mansfield High, Holland Park High, Mt Gravatt High, Brisbane State High

Those who are sick, frail or emotionally stressed

Ryan, Jocelyn Hawes, Peter F, Peter Pressdee, David F., Jan Moody, Robyn McElnea, Maxine McElnea, June McNicol, Cathy, Rita Johnson, Sharon L., Margaret Sheehan, Don Rennie, Georgina Crawford, Glenda, Sue, Rev'd Shane Hubner, Robyn Maxwell.

From the Parish Book of Remembrance

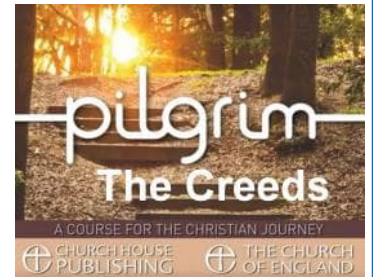
19 May: Harry Ivor Noel Broughton, Beverley Lorraine Joan McLune; 21 May: William Thomas MacKenzie; 22 May: Leslie Abott, Allan Robert Hagerty; 23 May: Grahame John Bertram; 24 May: Joseph Bell.

We also give thanks for the life of Alwyn Bailey who died on Thursday 16th May.

Parish Study: The Creeds

Our current Parish Study is a six week course looking at the Creeds, using material from the Church of England 'Pilgrim'. This course will help us unpack the meaning of the Creeds, and how they can resource our Christian life.

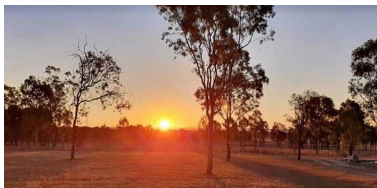
The course runs fortnightly. Session Three will be next week 28th May at 10am or 30th May at 7.30pm. A course booklet is available, cost \$15.



Parish Camp: coordinator sought

Our Parish Camp for 2024 has been booked for 3-4 August back at Glengarry, Mt Tarampa.

In order for this to go ahead we need a coordinator. If you are able to help, please speak to Rev'd Timothy.



Children's Church
continues weekly
for term 2



Services This Week:

Tuesday-Friday

6pm: Evening Prayer on Zoom

Sunday 26th May

(Trinity Sunday)

7am: Holy Communion (St Luke's)

9am: Family Communion
(St Lukes's / Zoom)
with Children's Church

*Readings: Isaiah 6:1-8, Psalm 29,
Romans 8:12-17, John 3:1-17*

Keep in touch:

-  priest@stlukesekibin.org.au
(Rector, Rev'd Timothy)
-  admin@stlukesekibin.org.au (Office)
-  families@stlukesekibin.org.au
(Children's church)
- 3848 2123 (Rectory and Office)
-  P.O. Box 79, Wellers Hill, QLD 4121
-  www.stlukesekibin.org.au
-  @stlukesekibin
-  Parish Wardens:
 - Brian Wood (0466 656 149)
 - Alison Lampe (0408 183 701)
 - Lynn Mitchell (0409 150 861)

Offerings:

Bank details (internet banking):
Anglican Parish of Ekibin

A/C 0000 7820
BSB 704 901

Or scan the QR
code to give
online:



[https://
www.bpoint.com.au/
pay/TIM/?BillerCode=1709377](https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/TIM/?BillerCode=1709377)