

Sunday 31st May 2020 "PENTECOST"

Dear friends,

If you have the Internet, you will find a video to accompany this sheet on YouTube from Sunday morning – search for Isle of Man Methodist Church and you will find it on our YouTube channel, along with a video for MAST Youth (teenagers) and MAST Kids (6-11yrs).

Don't forget also that Judith Ley is broadcasting "At Your Service" on Manx Radio FM at 0930 every Sunday which includes prayers, readings, hymns, and teaching.

Our prayers are with you all,

Isle of Man Methodist Staff Team

Opening Prayer

God declares: I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

Come Holy Spirit, Fill the hearts of your faithful people, And kindle in us the fire of your love; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn: There's a spirit in the air... Sing/ Read /pray / the words below

There's a spirit in the air, telling Christians everywhere : 'Praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working in our world !'

Lose your shyness, find your tongue, tell the world what God has done : God in Christ has come to stay. We can see his power today !

When believers break the bread, when a hungry child is fed, praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working, in our world.

Still the Spirit gives us light, seeing wrong and setting right : God in Christ has come to stay. We can see his power today !

When a stranger's not alone, where the homeless find a home, praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working, in our world.

May the Spirit fill our praise, guide our thoughts and change our ways. God in Christ has come to stay. We can see his power today !

There's a Spirit in the air, calling people everywhere : praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working, in our world.

Brian Wren (b. 1936)

Reproduced from Hymns and Psalms, number 398

Let us pray together

Faithful God, you fulfilled the promise of Easter by sending your Holy Spirit and opening the way of eternal life to all the human race.

We confess that; your Spirit gives light, but we have preferred darkness; your Spirit gives wisdom, but we have been foolish; your Spirit gives power but we have trusted in our own strength.

We ask for forgiveness.

Scripture reminds us that: There is now no condemnation for those who live in union with Christ Jesus; for the law of the Spirit of life has set us free from the law of sin and death.

Keep us in the unity of your Spirit, that every tongue may tell of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Today's Readings:

Acts 2:1-13. Acts 2:14-21.

Find a Bible and read the above passages. If you do not have a Bible at home, ask your local minister who will gladly source one for you.

A time of reflection

What is the message of Pentecost this year?

If ever there was a time to hear the news that God has poured out the Holy Spirit on all flesh this is that time.

"Every Christian home a place of worship and a house of prayer" is a phrase I have heard in many places. The poster which says "The church is not closed but deployed into the community" is an equally important image for this time.

Fred Pratt Green the hymn writer put it this way:

"The Church of Christ, in every age beset by change but Spirit-led, must claim and test its heritage and keep on rising from the dead."

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Hymn: The Spirit lives to set us free... Sing/ Read /pray / the words below:

> The Spirit lives to set us free, walk, walk in the light; he binds us all in unity, walk, walk in the light. Walk in the light, walk in the light, walk in the light, walk in the light of the Lord.

Jesus promised life to all, walk, walk in the light ; the dead were wakened by his call, walk, walk in the light.

He died in pain on Calvary, walk, walk in the light; to save the lost like you and me, walk, walk in the light.

We know his death was not the end, walk, walk in the light; he gave his Spirit to be our friend, walk, walk in the light.

By Jesus' love our wounds are healed, walk, walk in the light ; the Father's kindness is revealed, walk, walk in the light.

The Spirit lives in you and me, walk, walk in the light;

his light will shine for all to see, walk, walk in the light.

Damian Lundy (1944–1996)

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Prayers of Intercession In the silence let us pray for those who we carry in our hearts at this time.

The Lord hears our prayer **Thanks be to God.**

We pray for those who serve in our communities: For shop keepers and bus drivers For people who make deliveries For construction workers For the police and ambulance service For all those who find themselves redeployed as a result of this crisis and for those who work in health care. Loving God, bring protection and peace.

The Lord hears our prayer **Thanks be to God.**

We pray for the hidden victims of the virus. Those in developing countries Those who feel trapped in their homes but are too fearful to come out. Those who grieve the loss of loved ones and those who fear what returning to normality may look like.

The Lord hears our prayer **Thanks be to God.**

We pray for those who have the virus. May they know your presence. We pray also for those with other health concerns. Give them the courage to seek help.

The Lord hears our prayer **Thanks be to God.**

On this Pentecost Sunday we pray for the church. Give us the courage to be reborn and fill us again with your Holy Spirit so that, in new and different ways, we may re-learn what it is to connect people with the Good News.

The Lord hears our prayer **Thanks be to God.**

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

A prayer of blessing

The blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Be with us all, this day and forever more. **Amen.**



Some original materials by R A Bending, adapted by the Isle of Man Methodist Staff Team