

**Welcome to worship in
Port Talbot Ministry Area
St Agnes' Church**

The Feast of Pentecost - year A

**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 out pass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till he become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.**

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

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

Today we remember the day when the Holy Spirit came to bring power and strength to the new Church. As we rejoice, let us reflect on what the presence of the Holy Spirit means for us today.

Father of glory, holy and eternal, look upon us now in power and mercy. May your strength overcome our weakness, your radiance transform our blindness, and your Spirit draw us to that love shown and offered to us by your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy, Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.

The Spirit brings us a rich variety of gifts. Let us ask the Lord's forgiveness for the times we have failed to use them.

Silence

Heavenly Father, we have sinned in thought, word and deed, and have failed to do what we ought to have done. We are sorry and truly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who died for us, forgive us all that is past and lead us in his way to walk as children of light. Amen.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you and set you free from sin, strengthen you in goodness and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**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

God, who at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Sit

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 2. 1-21
When the day of Pentecost had come, the disciples 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.**

Psalm 104

**You made the earth, determining its orbit:
primeval chaos fled at your command.
You send the streams from mountain peak to
valley,
and yet prevent them flooding all the land.**

**The waters flow, till plain and pasture flourish;
the forest thrives - there birds may freely nest;
the thirsty creatures drink and find
refreshment;
and human hearts with wine and grain are
blessed.**

**You formed the moon to mark the passing
seasons;
you gave the sun, whose radiance lights the
day;
as each new morning calls us to your service,
the wildlife of the night-time steals away.**

**Unnumbered marvels emphasise your
wisdom:
who knows what mysteries lie beneath the
sea?
Yet every mouth relies on your provision:
without your care, how brief our lives would
be.**

**May you rejoice in all you have created,
though just your glance could set the earth
ablaze;
may we direct our lives to bring you pleasure,
and praise you with the song of all our days.**

A reading from St Paul's first letter to the Corinthians 12. 3b-13

No one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit,

to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St John 20. 19-23

Glory to you O Lord

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.**

The Sermon

Stand

The Creed

**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;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from 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.**

The Intercessions

Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

The prayers end with:

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

Stand

The Peace

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,
patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
gentleness and self-control. If we live by the
Spirit let us also walk by the Spirit.

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

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The Offertory Hymn

**O thou who camest from above
the fire celestial to impart,
kindle a flame of sacred love
on the mean altar of my heart!**

**There let it for thy glory burn
with inextinguishable blaze,
and trembling to its source return
in humble prayer and fervent praise.**

**Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
to work and speak and think for thee:
still let me guard the holy fire
and still stir up the gift in me.**

**Ready for all thy perfect will,
my acts of faith and love repeat,
till death thy endless mercies seal,
and make the sacrifice complete.**

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God the Almighty Father.
May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his Holy Church.

The Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy at all times and in all places to give you thanks, holy Father, all-powerful and everliving God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Who ascended to his heavenly throne at your right hand and through whom you pour out the Holy Spirit upon your people: the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and true godliness and of the fear of the Lord. We celebrate the mission of your Church when in many languages the Holy Spirit found one voice to proclaim one faith.

And so with the hosts of angels and all the company of heaven we proclaim the glory of your name and join in their unending hymn of praise:

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

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

All praise and thanks to you, true and living God, Creator of all things, Giver of life. You formed us in your own image; but we have marred that image and fall short of your glory.

We give you thanks that you sent your Son to share our life; you gave him up to death that the world might be saved, and you raised him from the dead that we might live in him and he in us.

Sanctify with your Spirit this bread and wine, your gifts to us, that they may be for us the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

On the night he was betrayed, he took bread, and when he had given thanks he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you: do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way after supper he took the cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, Drink from this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins: do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come in glory.

As he has commanded us, Father, we remember Jesus Christ, your Son. Proclaiming his victorious death, rejoicing in his resurrection and waiting for him to come in glory we bring to you this bread, this cup.

Accept our sacrifice of thanks and praise. Restore and revive your people, renew us and all for whom we pray with your grace and heavenly blessing, and at the last receive us with all your saints into that unending joy promised by your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Saviour gave us:

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.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body for we all share in one bread.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Behold the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world: Happy are those who are called to his supper.

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

During Communion

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 mortal 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.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,
and thee, of both, to be but one;
that through the ages all along
this may be our endless song:

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

Stand

The Sending Out

Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious:
his love is everlasting.

**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.**

Sit for the notices etc.

Stand

The Blessing

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Spirit of truth lead you into all the truth,
give you grace to witness that Jesus Christ is
Lord, and to proclaim the mighty word and
works of God and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be
among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia.

In the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Regina Coeli

**Joy to thee, O Queen of heaven, alleluia!
He whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluia!
As he promised hath arisen, alleluia!
Pour for us to God thy prayer, alleluia!**

Let us pray

O God, who by the resurrection of your Son,
Our Lord Jesus Christ, brought joy to the whole
world: grant that, aided by the prayers of his
Mother, the Virgin Mary, we may know the
joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ our
Lord. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

**Eternal Ruler of the ceaseless round
of circling plants singing on their way;
guide of the nations from the night profound
into the glory of the perfect day;
rule in our hearts, that we may ever be
guided and strengthened and upheld by thee.**

**We are of thee, the children of thy love,
the brothers of thy well-belovèd Son;
descend, O Holy Spirit, like a dove,
into our hearts, that we may be as one:
as one with thee, to whom we ever tend;
as one with him, our Brother and our Friend.**

**We would be one in hatred of all wrong,
one in our love of all things sweet and fair,
one with the hoy that breaketh into song,
one with the grief that trembles into prayer,
one in the power that makes thy children free
to follow truth, and thus to follow thee.**

**O clothe us with thy heavenly armour, Lord,
thy trusty shield, thy sword of love divine;
our inspiration be thy constant word;
we ask no victories that are not thine:
give or withhold, let pain or pleasure be;
enough to know that we are serving thee.**