



Community News 28 May 2023 Pentecost

Dope



PENTECOST

“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.
Acts 2:3-4

Church Services

Sunday:

8am Holy Communion
9.25am 2 EAR FM
10am Holy Communion
6.30pm Worship

Readings:

Numbers 11:24-30 (page 114)
Prayer to the Holy Spirit
1 Corinthians 12:1-13 (page 933)
John 7:37-52 (page 869)

Readings

Monday: Psalm 32:1-7; Mark 10:17-27
Tuesday: Psalm 50:20-24; Mark 10:28-31
Wednesday: Psalm 79:8-13; Mark 10:35-42
Thursday: Psalm 33:1-8; Mark 10:46-52
Friday: Psalm 149; Mark 11:11-26
Saturday: Psalm 19:7-10; Mark 11:27-33
Sunday: Psalm 8; 2 Corinthians 13:11-14;
John 7:37-52

O God, who 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 lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

EMAIL: anglicanbbay@gmail.com

PHONE: 44725822 (Thursday and Friday) or contact Doug on 0428 907200.

DIRECT DEPOSIT: Anglican Investment & Development Fund. BSB: 702 389 Account: 05202562 Ref: AnglicanBBay2562

CHURCH: The church office is open Thursday mornings 9am-12pm and Fridays 9am-3pm.

PARISH CONTACTS:

RECTOR: Doug Newman 0428 907200 drnewman1956@gmail.com

CHAIR: Dennis Hughes 0410 915409

WARDENS: John Ulph 0411242588 Liz Maidla 44781128 Tony Henderson 0422099889

OFFICE: Gayleane Overy 0411091125

WEBSITE: <https://www.anglicanchurchbbay.org.au/>

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/batemansbayanglican/>

ANGLICAN NEWS:

2023: A year to Stand! Please extend this newsletter to someone to encourage them.

HOUSEKEEPING: Books are available for worship – to avoid multiple people handling them they will remain in the back of the pews. The Common Cup is available for our Communion Worship. **Intinction is not allowed** and we continue to offer individual cups for those who do not wish to use the Common Cup.

Masks: There is no requirement to wear a mask to attend church but you are invited to wear a mask to reduce community risk.

Hand Sanitizing: COVID and Flu remain active – please sanitize your hands and be mindful of each other's space.

ANGLICAN RENEWAL: Join us at church on Saturday 27th May for worship and prayer leading into Pentecost from 3.30 – 5.30pm. We will share this time with Anglicans from all across Australia. A light fellowship meal will follow at 5.30pm. All welcome.



PENTECOST LUNCH FELLOWSHIP: To celebrate together come along on Sunday at 12.00pm for a fellowship lunch. Bring your lunch (or you can purchase something at Roy's).

PENTECOST RETREAT PODCAST: Join the Retreat Podcast on 29 May, <https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/anglican-renewal>

BBECET PRAYER MEETING: Monday 5th June at 5pm in the hall.

AGEING CONFERENCE: Pray for Rev Liz MacKinlay as she travels to Canada to speak at a conference on Ageing and Spirituality 4-6 June in Toronto. God has strongly gifted Liz in this field, pray for his blessings to flow through this gathering.

WELFARE PANTRY: Thank you to all that have donated to the pantry in the past. The shelves are a little light at the moment, so please when shopping could you purchase one extra item to add to our cupboard. With the cooler weather we need items like chunky soups, noodles, spaghetti etc.

PRAYERS AND PRAISE:

- Continuing prayers for those going through tough times and illnesses.
- Give thanks for answered prayers and healing.
- Give thanks for SRE students who remembered what Pentecost is.

PASTORAL CARE & PRAYER: For support ring Elizabeth Dean 44724330.

LONG TERM PRAYER REQUESTS: Please take time to read our prayer list and ask God for one or two people on it to pray for, not necessarily people you know: Phillipa Shepherd, Veronica Newson, Judy Charman, Dora Coma, Michael Kovacs, Harry Lewis, Ian Oliver, Wendy and Chris Berger, Jay Stewart, Helen Plumb, Marina Vander-Burgh, Keith Sutherland, Iain Ritchie, Rodney Hay, Susan Dean, Robin Hay, Noreen Ralston-Birchall, Ian Overy, Rebecca Coughran, Bob Day, Rachel Harding, Tony Hughes, Jason King, Annette Stewart, Jess Hughes, Judy Stewart, Tommy King, Jonathon and Leticia, Bronwyn Lithgow, Lisa Brookes, Chris Black, Ruby Brown, Jane Wilkinson, Susan Bateman, Rev Mary Clarke.

Bible Study Answers: 1 Corinthians 12: 1 - 13. Can you praise God regardless of your circumstances? Do you trust God enough to open his gifts to you and trust that he has given you the correct gift/s? No matter how little I understand of God's plans for me or for us, I can assure you that he is always close to us and if we are open to his gifts and the prompting of his spirit then the Kairos moments will break through into our daily lives. I can do this because I know of what God has already done and that he keeps his promises. Paul teaches that we are one body and the spiritual gifts are given to individuals, not as they choose but as God appoints, so that they may be used for the common good of the Church community but also in mission to the wider world. The gifts are not ours to choose but Paul encourages us to eagerly desire them. They are good things to have. However, like Christmas gifts they are of no value to us if we do not unwrap them and put them to use. We can choose not to accept the gifts the Spirit brings, he will not force them upon us.

What gifts of the Holy Spirit does Paul list? What do you understand these gifts to be or enable the user to do? The Spiritual gifts of Wisdom, Knowledge, Faith, Healing, Miracles, Prophecy, Discernment of Spirits, Tongues and Interpretation of Tongues are as available to his people today as they were to the Corinthians. In verses 4 to 6 of the epistle reading Paul links together the gifts of the Spirit, the different kinds of Christian service and the use of God’s power in works of mission and ministry as all being of the one Spirit. He emphasizes this interdependence again in verses 12: 27 –31 and in Romans 12.

Is this a definitive and exhaustive list of the gifts of the Holy Spirit? If it is not what might that mean for our understanding of spiritual gifts? No. Paul is not providing a definitive list of gifts, in fact the gifts he lists here can be understood as the ones manifesting in the Corinthian church that were contentious. In the rest of this chapter, chapter 14, Romans 12 and Ephesians 4 Paul gives other similar lists of gifts. Peter also lists gifts as does Isaiah 11. While each list is unique because of the context in which it is given there is a significant overlap.

Romans 12:6-8	1 Corinthians 12:8-10	1 Corinthians 12:28	Ephesians 4:11	1 Peter 4:11
Prophecy	Word of wisdom	Apostle	Apostle	Whoever speaks
Serving	Word of knowledge	Prophet	Prophet	Whoever renders
Teaching	Gift of Faith	Teacher	Evangelist	service
Exhortation	Gifts of healings	Miracles	Pastor-teacher	
Giving	Miracles	Healings		
Leadership	Prophecy	Helps		
Mercy	Distinguishing between spirits	Administration		
	Tongues	Tongues		
	Interpretation of tongues			

Why might the church and some Christians find the gifts of the Spirit problematic for today or consider that they have ceased to function? Where no oxen are, the stall is clean: but much increase comes by the strength of the ox. Proverbs 14:4 and by implication the stall is not clean but has ox muck in it. The presence of the Spirit is organic, it moves as it wills and our imperfect understanding of it and of God can lead to excess and contention, just as it did in Corinth. However, this is no justification for putting a prohibition on God and his presence just so that we can keep church meetings under controlled and strictly on the message we have determined to deliver. An old belief was that God withdrew the Holy Spirit when the canon of scripture was completed because God’s inspiration of faith was no longer needed. This is not supported by the biblical text and is not consistent with what Paul has taught but is intended to keep at bay errors and excess in the prophetic, many of which are easily seen in the early days of charismatic renewal. It is not always tidy and neat when God is bringing increase.

What does Paul teach about the purpose and use of the gifts in the congregation and how might the teaching of 1 Corinthians 13 reflect on corporate use of the gifts? It is natural for us to give the most value to the gifts that we would want for ourselves and therefore we often do not value the gifts we do not want or value the gifts in others. Paul says the same thing in a different way to introduce this section of his teaching to the Corinthians in Chapter 10 verses 23 and 24. Speaking of the believers freedom in worship and of the place of spiritual gifts in public worship Paul says:- everything is permissible – but not everything is beneficial. Everything is permissible – but not everything is constructive. Nobody should seek their own good but should seek the good of others. It is not without clear intent that Paul concludes this teaching in chapter 12 with an exhortation to act always in love by prefacing chapter 13 with and - now I will show you the most excellent way. His similar teaching on the Spiritual gifts in Romans 12 and Ephesians 4 are both also followed closely by an exhortation to love others as Christ has loved us. The gifts of the spirit are not without risk, they are given for a purpose and being human we have the ability and the temptation to abuse them. The test for us as we seek the Kingdom and learn to use the gifts that the Spirit gives us is these: - Is what I believe God is revealing to me loving and is it for the good of the other person rather than for me. I have a third test that I believe applies – Does it proclaim Christ. The actions of the Spirit testify to Christ as Lord. I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom but I will boast in Jesus Christ, his death and resurrection.

Sunday 28 May – Pentecost

Jesus says: Come unto me all you who are thirsty and I will give you living water to drink. Come and be filled again with the Holy Spirit. Let his abundance overflow from you and this place pouring out like a growing river of God flowing into the world. Come Holy Spirit and kindle in us the fire of your love. O God who by the light of the Holy Spirit did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy his consolations through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Traditional: Come Holy Ghost <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5YSvEeezbR0>

Contemporary: Here as in Heaven <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rCog-fv4PGw>

Read. John 7: 37-39 ³⁷ On the last and greatest day of the festival (of Tabernacles), Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. ³⁸ Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them." ³⁹ By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

Thoughts: The Feast of Tabernacles is a week-long fall festival commemorating the 40-year journey of the Israelites in the wilderness. It comes five days after Yom Kippur, the day of Atonement where Jews come to the temple to make sacrifice in annual atonement for their sins and when the scapegoat is loaded with the sins of the nation and sent beyond the city gates to perish outside the walls. During the following celebration that is Tabernacles two important ceremonies took place. The people carried torches around the temple, illuminating bright candelabrum along the walls of the temple to demonstrate that the Messiah would be a light to the Gentiles and the priest drew water from the pool of Siloam and carried it to the temple where it was poured into a silver basin beside the altar. The priest called upon the Lord to provide heavenly water in the form of rain for their supply. Jesus the lamb of God that would fulfill the prophetic purpose of Yom Kippur promised that he would also give to whoever believes in him living water and that this living water that was the Holy Spirit would flow out of them. Compare this with the story of the Samaritan woman at the well ... if only you knew you would ask!! Jesus continues to call his people out of the wilderness, and he provides us with the Holy Spirit to bring life in us and through us wherever we are, that we may overflow with God's love. If you are thirsty come and drink of Jesus.

Song : Living Water <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J7rhojTnlOk>

Prayers: Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant that we may walk in his way, rejoice in his truth, and share his risen life; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Pray for the Holy Spirit to sweep through our nation from our coast right across to the west coast and back again pouring forth living water to all the little communities in between and reviving God's people that they might overflow his presence into all our communities. Come O Lord and change the atmosphere.

O Holy Spirit, tongue of fire, descend upon us as you descended upon the disciples gathered in the upper room for prayers. Sanctify us, free us from the bondage of sin and give us your power to speak with one voice. Rushing wind, sweep over our lands and make your sound gather again the devout people from every nation under heaven. Help us manifest together the victory of life over death given through the Resurrection, making us signs of the living hope and witnesses of your peace. Power of unity, help us to move from the division of Babel due to ethnic or religious division to the Pentecost of unity in the diversity of our gifts, traditions and cultures. Make us messengers of the good news, apostles of peace. Now, more than ever, we need to place our trust in Jesus Christ, as we remember that God is not the author of confusion but of peace; and so we pray for a ceasefire in Eastern Europe, a withdrawal of Russian forces and for peace to prevail. Protect the innocent – the women, men and children who are displaced, whose lives are disrupted, and who live in fear of war. May those with power actively work for peace and seek peaceful solutions to dispute and disagreement.

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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen

Traditional: O Worship the King <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MWe1jOG-aM>

Contemporary: Desert Song <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c3l1z7bXY9Y>

Blessing: Christ our exalted king pour upon you his abundant gifts and bring you to reign with him in glory, and may the blessing of God the father, God the son and God the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you now and forever. Shalom

Bible Study: Read Psalm 42. What verse/s most speak to you today? Why?

What does the psalmist rely on to help in his current circumstances?

How does Jesus offer of Living Water in John 7: 37-38 help you to understand this psalm (if at all).

**Come to us God almighty,
Send your Spirit.
Ignite the fire in our hearts,
Feed your flame within.
Rushing wind blow on us,
Grow the sparks and spread them,
Let your Spirit prepare,
Strength and equip us.
Come to us Lord Jesus,
Send your Spirit.
Let it proclaim who you are,
And multiply your presence,
Through the earth.
Ignite its flame to fill us
with generosity and caring.
Come to us Spirit of truth,
Consume us with your fire.
Let your power shape our world,
with love and peace and justice.
Let your love fill our world
with compassion, and joy, and hope.
Amen.**

