



THE SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST

The Office of Readings

The Invitatory

■ Lord, open our lips. And we shall praise your name.

Psalm 95

"Every day, as long as this 'today' lasts, keep encouraging one another" (Heb 3:13).

Antiphon:

Alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world. Come, let us adore him, alleluia.

Come, ríng out our jóy to the Lórd; * háil the Gód who sáves us.

Let us come before him, giving thanks, * with sóngs let us háil the Lórd.

A míghty Gód is the Lórd, * a gréat king abóve all góds.

In his hánd are the dépths of the éarth; * the héights of the mountains are hís.

To hím belongs the séa, for he máde it * and the drý land sháped by his hánds.

Come ín; let us bów and bend lów; *

let us knéel before the Gód who máde us:

for hé is our Gód and wé †

the péople who belong to his pásture, * the flóck that is léd by his hánd.

O that todáy you would lísten to his vóice! †

'Hárden not your héarts as at Meríbah, * as on that dáy at Mássah in the désert

when your fáthers pút me to the tést; *

when they tried me, though they saw my work.

For forty yéars I was wéaried of these péople † and I sáid: "Their héarts are astráy, ' these péople do not knów my wáys."

Thén I took an óath in my ánger: *

"Néver shall they énter my rést."

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Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Antiphon: Alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord

has filled the whole world. Come, let us adore him, alleluia.

Hymn

When God of old came down from heaven, In power and wrath he came. Before his feet the clouds were riven, Half darkness and half flame:

But when he came the second time, He came in power and love. Softer than gale at morning prime Hovered his holy Dove

The fires that rushed on Sinai down In sudden torrents dread, Now gently light, a glorious crown, On every sainted head

And as on Israel's awe-struck ear The voice exceeding loud, The trump, that angels quake to hear, Thrill'd from the deep dark cloud;

And when the Spirit of our God Came down his flock to find, A voice from heaven was heard abroad, A rushing, mighty wind.

It fills the Church of God, it fills The sinful world around; Only in stubborn hearts and wills No place for it is found.

Come Lord, come Wisdom, Love and Power, Open our ears to hear Let us not miss the accepted hour! Save, Lord, by love or fear.

Psalm 104 Hymn to God the Creator

"For everyone who is in Christ there is a new creation; The old creation has gone, and now the new one is here" (2 Cor 5:17).

Antiphon: The Holy Spirit is like a wind

that blows wherever it pleases: you hear its sound,

but you cannot tell where it comes from

or where it is going. Alleluia.

Bléss the Lórd, my sóul! *

Lord Gód, how gréat you áre,

clóthed in májesty and glóry, *

wrápped in líght as in a róbe!

You strétch out the héavens like a tént. *

Above the ráins you búild your dwélling.

You make the clouds your chariot, *

you walk on the wings of the wind,

you máke the winds your méssengers *

and fláshing fíre your sérvant.

You founded the éarth on its báse, *

to stand firm from age to age.

You wrápped it with the ócean like a clóak: *

the waters stood higher than the mountains.

At your thréat they tóok to flíght; *

at the voice of your thunder they fléd.

They rose over the mountains and flowed down *

to the place which you had appointed.

You set límits they míght not páss *

lest they retúrn to cóver the éarth.

You make springs gush forth in the valleys; *

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He will give light to those in dárkness, † those who dwéll in the shádow of déath, * and gúide us into the wáy of péace.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Antiphon: Receive the Holy Spirit.

Those whose sins you forgive will be forgiven them. Alleluia.

Prayers and intercessions

On this day of Pentecost, the Church is filled with joy. Strengthened with measureless hope, we pray to Christ, who is calling his Church together in the Holy Spirit.

- Lord, renew the face of the earth.

Lord Jesus, raised on the cross, you poured out the water of rebirth for the life of the world.

Quicken the life of all men with the gift of the Spirit.

- Lord, renew the face of the earth.

Raised up to God's right hand, you bestowed on the apostles the Father's Gift;

your Church now waits for the same Gift, the same hope.

- Lord, renew the face of the earth.

You breathed your Spirit upon the apostles, and gave them the power of forgiveness:

set all men free today from the prison of sin.

- Lord, renew the face of the earth.

You promised to send us the Spirit of truth, that we might become your heralds throughout the world.

Through his presence in the Church may we bear faithful witness to you

- Lord, renew the face of the earth.

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.

Let us pray

Lord God, you sanctify your Church in every race and nation by the mystery we celebrate on this day. Pour out the gifts of the Holy Spirit on all mankind, and fulfil now in the hearts of your faithful what you accomplished when the Gospel was first preached on earth. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

May the Lord bless us, \blacksquare and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

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Amen.

they flów in betwéen the hílls.

They give drínk to all the béasts of the field; *
the wild-asses quénch their thírst.

On their bánks dwell the bírds of héaven; *
from the bránches they síng their sóng.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Antiphon: The Holy Spirit is like a wind

that blows wherever it pleases: you hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from

or where it is going. Alleluia.

Psalm 104

Antiphon: Suddenly a sound came from heaven

like the rush of a mighty wind. Alleluia.

From your dwélling you water the hills; * éarth drinks its fill of your gift.

You make the grass grow for the cattle * and the plants to serve man's needs,

that he may bring forth bréad from the éarth *

and wine to chéer man's héart;

óil, to máke his face shíne *

and bréad to stréngthen man's héart.

The trées of the Lórd drink their fill, * the cédars he plánted on Lébanon;

thére the bírds build their nésts; *

on the trée-top the stórk has her hóme.

The góats find a hóme on the móuntains * and rábbits híde in the rócks.

You made the moon to mark the months; * the sún knows the time for its sétting.

When you spréad the dárkness it is níght * and all the béasts of the fórest creep fórth.

The young lions roar for their préy *

and ask their food from God.

At the rising of the sun they steal away *

and go to rest in their dens.

Mán goes fórth to his wórk, * to lábour till évening fálls.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Antiphon: Suddenly a sound came from heaven

like the rush of a mighty wind. Alleluia.

Psalm 104

Antiphon: Send forth your spirit and new life will begin;

you will renew the face of the earth. Alleluia.

How mány are your wórks, O Lórd! †

In wisdom you have máde them áll. *

The éarth is fúll of your ríches.

Thére is the séa, vast and wíde, †

with its moving swarms past counting, *

líving things gréat and smáll.

The ships are moving there *

and the mónsters you máde to pláy with.

Áll of thése look to yóu *

to give them their fóod in due séason.

You give it, they gáther it úp: *

you ópen your hánd, they have their fíll.

You híde your fáce, they are dismáyed; † you táke back your spírit, they díe, *

retúrning to the dúst from which they cáme.

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You sénd forth your spírit, they are creáted; * and you renéw the fáce of the éarth.

May the glóry of the Lórd last for éver! *

May the Lórd rejóice in his wórks!

He lóoks on the éarth and it trémbles; *
 the móuntains send forth smóke at his tóuch.

I will síng to the Lórd all my lífe, *
 make músic to my Gód while I líve.

May my thóughts be pléasing to hím. *
 I fínd my jóy in the Lórd.

Let sínners vánish from the éarth *
 and the wícked exíst no móre.

Bléss the Lórd, my sóul.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Antiphon: Send forth your spirit and new life will begin; you will renew the face of the earth. Alleluia.

Psalm-prayer:

God of all life, light, and love, through the visible things of this world you raise our thoughts to things unseen, and you show us your power and your love. From your dwelling place refresh our hearts and renew the face of the earth with the life-giving water of your word, until the new heaven and new earth resound with the song of resurrection. Amen.

- **V**. The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world, alleluia.
- **R.** And he who holds all things in being knows every word that is said, alleluia.

First Reading

Romans 8:5-27

Those who follow the leading of God's spirit are all God's sons

The unspiritual are interested only in what is unspiritual, but the spiritual are interested in spiritual things. It is death to limit oneself to what is unspiritual; life and peace can only come with concern for the spiritual. That is because to limit oneself to what is unspiritual is to be at enmity with God: such a limitation never could and never does submit to God's law. People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in vou.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

Everyone moved by the Spirit is a son of God. The spirit you received is not the spirit of slaves bringing fear into your lives again; it is the spirit of sons, and it makes us cry out, 'Abba, Father!' The Spirit himself and our spirit bear united witness that we are children of God. And if we are children we are heirs as well: heirs of God and coheirs with Christ, sharing his sufferings so as to share his glory.

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

He crówns the póor with salvátion.
Let the fáithful rejóice in their glóry, *
shout for jóy and táke their rést.
Let the práise of Gód be on their líps *
and a twó-edged swórd in their hánd,
to déal out véngeance to the nátions *
and púnishment on áll the péoples;
to bínd their kíngs in cháins *
and their nóbles in fétters of íron;
to cárry out the séntence pre-ordáined: *
this hónour is for áll his fáithful.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Antiphon: The apostles spoke in different tongues

and proclaimed the wonderful deeds of God.

Alleluia.

Psalm-prayer:

Lord Jesus, you came to your own people and gave to all who welcomed you power to become children of God In your merciful love watch over the Church and through her ministry bring salvation to the meek and lowly. May we avoid the snares of the impious, and come to rejoice in glory with your saints. Amen.

Short Reading Acts 5: 30-32

It was the God of our ancestors who raised up Jesus, but it was you who had him executed by hanging on a tree. By his own right hand God has now raised him up to be leader and saviour, to give repentance and forgiveness of sins through him to Israel. We are witnesses to all this, we and the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.

Short Responsory

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, alleluia, alleluia.

- They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, alleluia, alleluia.

They began to speak.

- They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, alleluia, alleluia. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

- They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, alleluia, alleluia.

Canticle Benedictus

The Messiah and the one who was sent before him

Antiphon: Receive the Holy Spirit.

Those whose sins you forgive will be forgiven them. Alleluia.

■ Bléssed be the Lórd, the Gód of Ísrael! *

He has vísited his péople and redéemed them.

He has raised úp for ús a mighty sáviour *

in the hóuse of Dávid his sérvant,

as he prómised by the líps of holy mén, *

thóse who were his próphets from of óld.

A sáviour who would frée us from our fóes, '

from the hánds of áll who háte us.

So his lóve for our fáthers is fulfilled *

and his hóly covenant remémbered.

He swóre to Ábraham our fáther to gránt us, *

that frée from féar, and sáved from the hánds of our fóes,

we might sérve him in hóliness and jústice *

all the dáys of our lífe in his présence.

As for you, little child, *

you shall be cálled a próphet of Gód, the Most Hígh.

You shall go ahéad of the Lórd *

to prépare his ways before him,

To make knówn to his péople their salvátion *

through forgiveness of all their sins,

the loving-kíndness of the héart of our Gód *

who vísits us like the dáwn from on hígh.

sing a hymn to God. Alleluia.

O all you works of the Lord, O bless the Lord. *

To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, angels of the Lord, O bless the Lord.

To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, the heavens of the Lord, O bless the Lord. *

And you, clouds of the sky, O bless the Lord.

And you, all armies of the Lord, O bless the Lord. '

To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, sun and moon, O bless the Lord. *

And you, the stars of the heavens, O bless the Lord.

And you, showers and rain, O bless the Lord. '

To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, all you breezes and winds, O bless the Lord. *

And you, fire and heat, O bless the Lord.

And you, cold and heat, O bless the Lord. '

To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, showers and dew, O bless the Lord. '

And you, frosts and cold, O bless the Lord.

And you, frost and snow, O bless the Lord.

To him be highest glory and praise for ever. And you, night-time and day, O bless the Lord.

And you, darkness and light, O bless the Lord.

And you, lightning and clouds, O bless the Lord. * To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

O let the earth bless the Lord. *

To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, mountains and hills, O bless the Lord. *

And you, all plants of the earth, O bless the Lord.

And you, fountains and springs, O bless the Lord. *

To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, rivers and seas, O bless the Lord.

And you, creatures of the sea, O bless the Lord.

And you, every bird in the sky, O bless the Lord. †

And you, wild beasts and tame, O bless the Lord. *

To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, children of men, O bless the Lord. *

To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

O Israel, bless the Lord, O bless the Lord. *

And you, priests of the Lord, O bless the Lord.

And you, servants of the Lord, O bless the Lord. *

To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, spirits and souls of the just, O bless the Lord. *

And you, holy and humble of heart, O bless the Lord.

Ananias, Azarias, Mizael, O bless the Lord. *

To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

Let us praise the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit: *

To you be highest glory and praise for ever.

May you be blessed, O Lord, in the heavens: *

To you be highest glory and praise for ever.

Antiphon:

Let every spring of water bless the Lord; let everything that lives in water sing a hymn to God. Alleluia.

Psalm 149 The saints rejoice

"The members of the Church, God's new people, will rejoice in their king, who is Christ" (Hesychius)

Antiphon:

The apostles spoke in different tongues and proclaimed the wonderful deeds of God. Alleluia.

Síng a new sóng to the Lórd, *

his práise in the assémbly of the fáithful.

Let Ísrael rejóice in its Máker, '

let Síon's sons exúlt in their kíng.

Let them práise his náme with dáncing *

and make músic with tímbrel and hárp.

For the Lórd takes delight in his péople. *

For we must be content to hope that we shall be saved - our salvation is not in sight, we should not have to be hoping for it if it were - but, as I say, we must hope to be saved since we are not saved yet - it is something we must wait for with patience.

The Spirit too comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

Responsory

- Because through faith you are sons of God in union with Christ Jesus,* God has sent into our hearts the Spirit of his Son, crying 'Abba, Father', alleluia.
- The spirit that God gave us is no craven spirit, but one to inspire strength, love, and self-discipline.* God has sent into our hearts the Spirit of his Son, crying 'Abba, Father', alleluia.

Second Reading

From the treatise "Against the Heresies" by St Irenaeus The sending of the Holy Spirit

When the Lord told his disciples to go and teach all nations and baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, he conferred on them the power of giving men new life in

He had promised through the prophets that in these last days he would pour out his Spirit on his servants and handmaids, and that they would prophesy. So when the Son of God became the Son of Man, the Spirit also descended upon him, becoming accustomed in this way to dwelling with the human race, to living in men and to inhabiting God's creation. The Spirit accomplished the Father's will in men who had grown old in sin, and gave them new life in Christ.

Luke says that the Spirit came down on the disciples at Pentecost, after the Lord's ascension, with power to open the gates of life to all nations and to make known to them the new covenant So it was that men of every language joined in singing one song of praise to God, and scattered tribes, restored to unity by the Spirit, were offered to the Father as the first-fruits of all the nations.

This was why the Lord had promised to send the Advocate: he was to prepare us as an offering to God. Like dry flour, which cannot become one lump of dough, one loaf of bread, without moisture, we who are many could not become one in Christ Jesus without the water that comes down from heaven. And like parched ground, which yields no harvest unless it receives moisture, we who were once like a waterless tree could never have lived and borne fruit without this abundant rainfall from above. Through the baptism that liberates us from change and decay we have become one in body; through the Spirit we have become one in soul.

The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and strength, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of God came down upon the Lord, and the Lord in turn gave this Spirit to his Church, sending the Advocate from heaven into all the world into which, according to his own words, the devil too had been cast down like lightning.

If we are not to be scorched and made unfruitful, we need the dew of God. Since we have our accuser, we need an advocate as well. And so the Lord in his pity for man, who had fallen into the hands of brigands, having himself bound up his wounds and left for his care two coins bearing the royal image, entrusted him to the Holy Spirit. Now, through the Spirit, the image and inscription of the Father and the Son have been given to us, and it is our duty to use the coin committed to our charge and make it yield a rich profit for the Lord.

Responsory

- R. When the day of Pentecost had come, the disciples were all together in one place, and suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind,* and it filled all the house, alleluia.
- V. While they were all together in one place, suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind,* and it filled all the house, alleluia.

Te Deum

We praise you, O God: *

we acclaim you as the Lord.

Everlasting Father, *

all the world bows down before you.

All the angels sing your praise, *

the hosts of heaven and all the angelic powers,

all the cherubim and seraphim *

call out to you in unending song:

Holy, Holy, Holy, *

is the Lord God of angel hosts!

The heavens and the earth are filled *

with your majesty and glory.

The glorious band of apostles, *

the noble company of prophets,

the white-robed army who shed their blood for Christ, * all sing your praise.

And to the ends of the earth *

your holy Church proclaims her faith in you:

Father, whose majesty is boundless, *

your true and only Son, who is to be adored, *

the Holy Spirit sent to be our Advocate.

You, Christ, are the king of glory, *

Son of the eternal Father.

When you took our nature to save mankind *

you did not shrink from birth in the Virgin's womb.

You overcame the power of death *

opening the Father's kingdom to all who believe in you.

Enthroned at God's right hand in the glory of the Father, *you will come in judgement according to your promise.

You redeemed your people by your precious blood.

Come, we implore you, to our aid.

Grant us with the saints *

a place in eternal glory.

The final part of the hymn may be omitted:

Lord, save your people *

and bless your inheritance.

Rule them and uphold them *

for ever and ever.

Day by day we praise you: *

we acclaim you now and to all eternity.

In your goodness, Lord, keep us free from sin. *

Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

May your mercy always be with us, Lord, '

for we have hoped in you.

In you, Lord, we put our trust: *

we shall not be put to shame.

Let us pray.

Lord God, you sanctify your Church in every race and nation by the mystery we celebrate on this day. Pour out the gifts of the Holy Spirit on all mankind, and fulfil now in the hearts of your faithful what you accomplished when the Gospel was first preached on earth. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Let us praise the Lord.

- Thanks be to God.

Morning Prayer (Lauds)

Introduction

■ O God, come to our aid.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia.

Hymn

A mighty wind invades the world, So strong and free on beating wing: It is the Spirit of the Lord From whom all truth and freedom spring.

The Spirit is a fountain clear For ever leaping to the sky, Whose waters give unending life, Whose timeless source is never dry.

The Spirit comes in tongues of flame, With love and wisdom burning bright, The wind, the fountain and the fire Combine in this great feast of light.

O tranquil Spirit, bring us peace, With God the Father and the Son. We praise you, blessed Trinity, Unchanging, and for ever One.

Psalm 63 Thirsting for God

"Let the man who has put away the deeds of the night watch for God."

Antiphon: How good and how kind, O Lord,

is your Spirit in us! Alleluia.

O Gód, you are my Gód, for you I lóng; * for you my sóul is thírsting.

My bódy pínes for yóu *

like a drý, weary lánd without wáter.

So I gáze on yóu in the sánctuary * to sée your stréngth and your glóry.

For your love is better than life, *

my líps will spéak vour práise.

So I will bléss you áll my lífe, *

in your name I will lift up my hands.

My sóul shall be fílled as with a bánquet, '

my móuth shall práise you with jóy.

On my béd I remémber you. *

On yóu I múse through the níght

for yóu have béen my hélp; *

in the shádow of your wings I rejóice.

My sóul clíngs to yóu; *

your right hand hólds me fást.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Antiphon: How good and how kind, O Lord,

is your Spirit in us! Alleluia.

Psalm-prayer:

This morning, Lord, we lift up our hands to praise you. We thirst for you; we long for you. Help us to love you more than life itself and fill us with good gifts from your banquet table. Amen.

Canticle

Daniel 3:57-88,56 - All creatures, bless the Lord

"Praise our God, all you his servants" (Rev 19:5).

Antiphon: Let every spring of water bless the Lord;

let everything that lives in water