



Liturgy of the Word for Individuals, Families & Communities

Pentecost Sunday World Environment Day

Prepare a prayer focus and light a candle.

SIGN OF THE CROSS: Ki te ingoa...

READER: Kia noho te Ariki ki a koutou -- The Lord be with you

ALL: Ki tōu wairua anō hoki -- And also with you

READER:

Tēnā koutou katoa, and welcome everybody. Today is Pentecost Sunday and World Environment Day. Pope Francis said, 'The Holy Spirit pushes us to go forward, always forward.' Let's be attentive to the call to go forward and be bearers of God's message of love and hope to all people. As we begin our prayer, let's sing together.

Spirit of God in the Clear Running Water

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=chGgBZl2Kyg>

READER: Jesus, you ascended to the Father, and yet you are living among us still. You open to us the gift of everlasting life. Make us your instruments of love and peace in all we do.

You send out your spirit
You renew the face of the Earth
You comfort your people

Lord have mercy
Christ have mercy
Lord have mercy

(All) Lord have mercy
(All) Christ have mercy
All) Lord have mercy

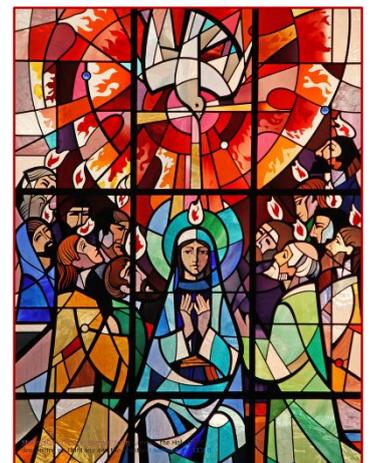
OPENING PRAYER: Ka inoi tatou – let us pray. In this time of silence, we bring to mind all the things we want to pray for. *(Allow silence, 1 minute)*

Bountiful and generous God, your goodness is seen over the face of the Earth. You long to bring humankind to fullness of life, and so you have sent us your Holy Spirit to guide, to lead and to renew us. May we be open to the guidance of the Spirit and faithful in all we do. Through Jesus our Lord and in the unity of the Holy Spirit we pray.

ALL: Amen

FIRST READING Acts 2:1-11

A reading from the book of Acts
When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled,
they were all in one place together.
And suddenly there came from the sky
a noise like a strong driving wind,
and it filled the entire house in which they were.
Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire,
which parted and came to rest on each one of them.
And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit
and began to speak in different tongues,
as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.
Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven
staying in Jerusalem.
At this sound, they gathered in a large crowd, but they were confused
because each one heard them speaking in his own language.
They were astounded, and in amazement they asked,
"Are not all these people who are speaking Galileans?
Then how does each of us hear them in his native language?"



We are Parthians, Medes, and Elamites,
inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia,
Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia,
Egypt and the districts of Libya near Cyrene,
as well as travellers from Rome,
both Jews and converts to Judaism, Cretans and Arabs,
yet we hear them speaking in our own tongues
of the mighty acts of God."

Ko te kupu a te Ariki - The Word of the Lord

ALL: Whakamoemiti ki te Atua - Thanks be to God

Silence – *Let's be quiet for a few moments and let God's Word find a place to rest inside us.*

Discuss - Imagine that you were present as one of those devout Jews. How might you have responded?

PSALM: *Psalm 104* Lord send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

Children <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XLQqvTz1zY>

Youth <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cz2miT-lbMw>

Adults <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7YtviTuiqaM>

Second Reading Romans 8:8-17

A reading from the book of Romans.

Brothers and sisters:

Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh;

on the contrary, you are in the spirit,

if only the Spirit of God dwells in you.

Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

But if Christ is in you,

although the body is dead because of sin,

the spirit is alive because of righteousness.

If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you,

the one who raised Christ from the dead

will give life to your mortal bodies also,

through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Consequently, brothers and sisters,

we are not debtors to the flesh,

to live according to the flesh.

For if you live according to the flesh, you will die,

but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body,

you will live.

For those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear,

but you received a Spirit of adoption,

through whom we cry, "Abba, Father!"

The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit

that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs,

heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ,

if only we suffer with him

so that we may also be glorified with him.

Ko te kupu a te Ariki - The Word of the Lord

ALL: Whakamoemiti ki te Atua - Thanks be to God

Silence - *Follow the reading with quiet thinking time.*

Discussion starter – What does it mean to be 'led by the Spirit?'

GOSPEL: John 14:15-16,23-26

Reader Kia noho te Ariki - The Lord be with you

All Ki tōu wairua anō hoki – And also with you

Reader A reading from the Gospel of John

Jesus said to his disciples:

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

And I will ask the Father,

and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always.

"Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love them,

and we will come to them and make our dwelling with them.

Those who do not love me do not keep my words;

yet the word you hear is not mine

but that of the Father who sent me.

"I have told you this while I am with you.

The Advocate, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name,

will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you."

Reader Ko te rongopai a te Ariki – The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Kia whakanuia rā koe, e te Ariki, e Hēhu Karaiti –

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

After the reading - Silence.

→ **Children's Reflection on the Gospel** – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OMQKy1Mx4gM>

Discuss – What do you think it would have been like to be in that room with the Disciples?

→ **Adults / Youth - Reflection / Discussion** – 'what does it mean to 'keep my word?'

Prayer of the Faithful: As God's people we pray for the needs of the whole world.

For the Church – that by its example of loving service, care for the environment and for the poor, the Church might bring forth a renewed interest in religion, faith and the spiritual life.

(Silence) Reader: Lord send out your Spirit

All: And renew the face of the earth.

For leaders of nations – that building peace and healing our planet become priorities.

(Silence) Reader: Lord send out your Spirit

All: And renew the face of the earth.

For people everywhere – that the call to love which lies deep in the heart of every person, be awakened and given expression in each person's life.

(Silence) Reader: Lord send out your Spirit

All: And renew the face of the earth.

For social media, radio and television – that people reject all that lowers human dignity. That the media become tools for respectful communication and edifying entertainment.

(Silence) Reader: Lord send out your Spirit

All: And renew the face of the earth.

For children who have been wounded by coarse words, violent homes and abusive hands – that their wounds be healed, that peace and love console them.

(Silence) Reader: Lord send out your Spirit

All: And renew the face of the earth.

For the neophytes, newly welcomed into the Church at Easter - that the Holy Spirit breathe new life in them and encourage them as disciples of Jesus.

(Silence) Reader: Lord send out your Spirit

All: And renew the face of the earth.

For people of all Faiths – that we have a greater awareness of God's presence in the whole universe and in the smallest of creatures, and that working together we protect all that has life.

(Silence) Reader: Lord send out your Spirit

All: And renew the face of the earth.

Concluding Prayer

"Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love you and we will come to you and make our dwelling with you." Give us the gift of love, that we may love you now and always. Grant these prayers we bring you. Send us as your disciples of love. Grant this through Jesus Christ, who speaks to us of love, and who lives and reigns in love, with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever... **AMEN**

READER: Today is World Environment Day. Let's pray this *Prayer for our Earth*, together.

A Prayer for our Earth By Pope Francis

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation,

to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day.

Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace. **Amen.**

Pope Francis published this prayer in his Laudato Si' encyclical, and is meant for sharing with all who believe in a God who is the all-powerful Creator

Watch and read a video of the prayer here - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jaTJF1AkwcA>

READER: Let's pray the Lord's prayer together. The Lord's Prayer in Te Reo Māori.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oU1GNEVohYY>

Or the Lord's Prayer in English.

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 the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

READER: A Blessing

In all your days,

May warming sun, falling rain and howling wind stir your heart to praise and thank God.

May you marvel at the Earth that brings forth wheat from grain,
and giant oaks from acorns.

As you stand upon the Earth,
may you remember that Christ is incarnate in all things;

may awe deepen within you,

may care issue from you,

may you be an encouragement to others,

may you nurture seeds of kindness wherever they sprout.

May you open your heart to the guidance of the holy spirit,

And in all things,

May God, who is generous beyond measure, be with you.

All: Amen

READER: Thank you for your participation in this Liturgy of the Word, thank you for your kindness and presence. We rejoice always, because we do not walk alone. God, who abounds in merciful love, is with us and in us and stays with us. May we be messengers of God's love, peace and forgiveness in the world today.

Kia tau te rangimārie ki a koutou – Peace be with you.

Let us go in peace, loving and serving God in all we do.

All: Thanks be to God.

Song A Prayer for the Earth <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VJzoZuxxMlo>