



SAINT STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
EVENING PRAYER: RITE I  
SATURDAY, MAY 22, 2021  
OBSERVING THE DAY OF PENTECOST

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"Pentecost" by [Titian](#) (aka Tiziano Vecellio), 1545

Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.  
*Philippians 1:2*

### **Confession of Sins**

*Officiant* Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

*Officiant and People together*

Almighty and most merciful Father,  
we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,  
we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts,  
we have offended against thy holy laws,  
we have left undone those things which we ought to have done,  
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.  
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,  
spare thou those who confess their faults,  
restore thou those who are penitent,

according to thy promises declared unto mankind  
in Christ Jesus our Lord;  
and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,  
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,  
to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

*The Priest alone says*

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant us absolution and remission of all our sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of His Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

### **The Invitatory and Psalter**

*Officiant*      O God, make speed to save us.

*People*          O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Officiant and People*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

### **Psalm 104:25-35, 37**

25 O Lord, how manifold are your works! \*  
in wisdom you have made them all;  
the earth is full of your creatures.

26 Yonder is the great and wide sea  
with its living things too many to number, \*  
creatures both small and great.

27 There move the ships,  
and there is that Leviathan, \*  
which you have made for the sport of it.

28 All of them look to you \*  
to give them their food in due season.

29 You give it to them; they gather it; \*  
you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

30 You hide your face, and they are terrified; \*  
you take away their breath,  
and they die and return to their dust.

31 You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; \*  
and so you renew the face of the earth.

32 May the glory of the Lord endure for ever; \*  
may the Lord rejoice in all his works.

33 He looks at the earth and it trembles; \*  
he touches the mountains and they smoke.

34 I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; \*  
I will praise my God while I have my being.

35 May these words of mine please him; \*  
I will rejoice in the Lord.

37 Bless the Lord, O my soul. \*  
Hallelujah!

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

**A Reading from the Book of Acts (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.' "

*Reader*           Here endeth the Lesson

### **Canticle 2 – A Song of Praise**

Blessed art thou, O Lord God of our fathers;  
    praised and exalted above all for ever.  
Blessed art thou for the Name of thy Majesty;  
    praised and exalted above all for ever.  
Blessed art thou in the temple of thy holiness;  
    praised and exalted above all for ever.  
Blessed art thou that beholdest the depths, and dwellest between the Cherubim;  
    praised and exalted above all for ever.  
Blessed art thou on the glorious throne of thy kingdom;

praised and exalted above all for ever.  
Blessed art thou in the firmament of heaven;  
praised and exalted above all for ever.  
Blessed art thou, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;  
praised and exalted above all for ever.

**A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans (8:22-27),**

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

*Reader*            Here endeth the Lesson

**A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John (15:26-27; 16:4b-15),**

Jesus said to his disciples, "When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

"I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me,

because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason, I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

*Reader*        Here endeth the Reading

## **Sermon**

### **The Apostles' Creed** (Rite II language)

*Officiant and People together*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **The Prayers**

*Officiant*        The Lord be with you.

*People*            And with thy spirit.

*Officiant*        Let us pray.

*Officiant and People*

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, and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

### **Suffrages B**

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,  
*We entreat thee, O Lord.*

That thy holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,  
*We entreat thee, O Lord.*

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,  
*We entreat thee, O Lord.*

That there may be peace to thy Church and to the whole world,  
*We entreat thee, O Lord.*

That we may depart this life in thy faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great  
judgment seat of Christ,  
*We entreat thee, O Lord.*

That we may be bound together by thy Holy Spirit in the communion of Stephen and all thy  
saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,  
*We entreat thee, O Lord.*

On the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Anglican Church of Melanesia.

In the Diocese of Montana, we pray for All Saint's, Columbia Falls/Whitefish and the Rev.  
Charlie Knuth, Rector.

In our St. Stephen's community, we pray for Dorothy, Jayden, Miles, Nick and Melissa,  
Richard, and Susan.

*Collect of the Day*

Almighty God, who on this day didst open the way of eternal life to every race and nation by the promised gift of thy Holy Spirit: Shed abroad this gift throughout the world by the preaching of the Gospel, that it may reach to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*A Collect for the Presence of Christ*

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know thee as thou art revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of thy love. *Amen.*

*Prayer for Mission*

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give thine angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for thy love's sake. *Amen.*

*Intercessions and thanksgivings may follow*

**General Thanksgiving**

*Officiant and People*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we thine unworthy servants  
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks  
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all men.

We bless thee for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for thine inestimable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we beseech thee,  
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,  
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;  
and that we show forth thy praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to thy service,



and by walking before thee  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,  
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

*Then may be said*

*Officiant*      Let us bless the Lord.

*People*          Thanks be to God.

*Concluding sentence*

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen. *Romans 15:13*

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