

# St J of J 'At Home'

The Building is closed, the Church is open



*St John of Jerusalem, South Hackney  
from the Rectory window*

# The Feast of Pentecost - 31 May 2020

## The Gathering

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

## The Greeting

Grace, mercy and peace  
From God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you.  
**and also with you.**

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

*Informal greeting – words for the Eucharist on the website [www.sjoj.co.uk](http://www.sjoj.co.uk)*

## Introduction

Jesus Christ, whom we worship, is our crucified, risen and ascended Lord and we have walked with him through his journey of love.  
We have faced the agony of his suffering and death on a cross.  
We have rejoiced at his bursting free from the bonds of death.  
We have enjoyed his risen presence with us  
and his revelation of himself through the breaking of bread.  
We have seen his return to the throne before which every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that this Jesus is Lord.  
And now, with the followers of his own time,  
we await the coming of the promised Holy Spirit, his gift to his people,  
through whom we make Christ known to the world.

## Responsory

As we wait in silence,  
**fill us with your Spirit.**  
As we listen to your word,  
**fill us with your Spirit.**  
As we worship you in majesty,  
**fill us with your Spirit.**  
As we long for your refreshing,  
**fill us with your Spirit.**  
As we long for your renewing,  
**fill us with your Spirit.**  
As we long for your equipping,  
**fill us with your Spirit.**  
As we long for your empowering,  
**fill us with your Spirit.**

## Prayer for Personal Renewal

Be with us, Spirit of God;  
**nothing can separate us from your love.**

Breathe on us, breath of God;  
**fill us with your saving power.**

Speak in us, wisdom of God;  
**bring strength, healing and peace.**

Blessed are you, sovereign God and eternal Father.  
Daily your Spirit renews the face of the earth,  
bringing strength out of weakness,  
hope out of despair  
and life out of death.  
By the power of your Spirit,  
may your blessing rest upon those anointed with this oil in your name.  
Let it be for them a sign of your acceptance and adoption,  
your equipping and empowering.  
Form in them the likeness of Christ,  
that they may be witnesses of your astonishing love,  
and fill them afresh with life in all its fullness.

Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*Anointing*

Let us bless the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
**Let us praise and bless God for ever.**

## Gloria in Excelsis

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.

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.

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.  
Amen.

## Collect for The Feast of Pentecost

Let us pray that the Spirit will work through our lives  
to bring Christ to the world.

God, who as 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.

Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy  
in this time of uncertainty and distress.  
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may rejoice in your comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### The Liturgy of the Word

#### First Reading

#### A Reading from the Book of Acts

When the day of Pentecost had come, they 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."

*Acts 2:1-21*

This is the Word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God

Psalm 104.26-36,37b

*(If you are following the words from the parish website, please say every second verse):*

- 26 O Lord, how manifold are your works! ♦  
In wisdom you have made them all;  
the earth is full of your creatures.
- 27 **There is the sea, spread far and wide, ♦  
and there move creatures beyond number, both small and great.**
- 28 There go the ships, and there is that Leviathan ♦  
which you have made to play in the deep.
- 29 **All of these look to you ♦  
to give them their food in due season.**
- 30 When you give it them, they gather it; ♦  
you open your hand and they are filled with good.
- 31 **When you hide your face they are troubled; ♦  
when you take away their breath,  
they die and return again to the dust.**
- 32 When you send forth your spirit, they are created, ♦  
and you renew the face of the earth.
- 33 **May the glory of the Lord endure for ever; ♦  
may the Lord rejoice in his works;**
- 34 He looks on the earth and it trembles; ♦  
he touches the mountains and they smoke.
- 35 **I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; ♦  
I will make music to my God while I have my being.**
- 36 So shall my song please him ♦  
while I rejoice in the Lord.
- 37 **Bless the Lord, O my soul.  
Alleluia.**

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John  
**Glory to you O Lord**

It was evening on 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.'

*John 20:19-23*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon - The Revd Deacon Gill Newman**

The Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
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,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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 response to 'Lord, come to bless us' is 'and fill us with your Spirit.'

Lord, come to bless us.  
**and fill us with your Spirit.**

Generous God,  
we thank you for the power of your Holy Spirit.  
We ask that we may be strengthened to serve you better.  
Lord, come to bless us.  
**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the wisdom of your Holy Spirit.  
We ask you to make us wise to understand your will.  
Lord, come to bless us.  
**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the peace of your Holy Spirit.  
We ask you to keep us confident of your love,  
wherever you call us.  
Lord, come to bless us.  
**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the healing of your Holy Spirit.  
We ask you to bring reconciliation and wholeness  
where there is division, sickness and sorrow...  
Lord, come to bless us.  
**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the gifts of your Holy Spirit.  
We ask you to equip us for the work which you  
have given us.  
Lord, come to bless us.  
**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the fruit of your Holy Spirit.  
We ask you to reveal in our lives the love of Jesus.  
Lord, come to bless us.  
**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the breath of your Holy Spirit,  
given by the risen Lord.  
We ask you to keep the whole Church,  
living and departed,  
in the joy of eternal life...

Lord, come to bless us.  
**and fill us with your Spirit.**

Generous God,  
you sent your Holy Spirit upon your Messiah at the River Jordan,  
and upon the disciples in the upper room.  
In your mercy fill us with your Spirit.  
hear our prayer,  
and make us one in heart and mind  
to serve you with joy for ever.  
Amen.

*And at the end:*

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

Prayers of Penitence

God so loved the world  
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ  
to save us from our sins,  
to be our advocate in heaven,  
and to bring us to eternal life.  
Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,  
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments  
and to live in love and peace with all.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon **you**,  
pardon and deliver **you** from all **your** sins,  
confirm and strengthen **you** in all goodness,  
and keep **you** in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### The Liturgy of the Sacrament

### The Peace

God has made us one in Christ.  
He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come,  
has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.

*cf Ephesians 1.13,14*

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

### Preparation of the Table Taking of the Bread and Wine

Blessed be God,  
who feeds the hungry,  
who raises the poor,  
who fills our praise.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

### The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.  
**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and everlasting God,  
through Jesus Christ, your only Son our Lord.  
This day we give you thanks  
because in fulfilment of your promise  
you pour out your Spirit upon us,  
filling us with your gifts, leading us into all truth,  
and uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith.  
Your Spirit gives us grace to call you Father,  
to proclaim your gospel to all nations  
and to serve you as a royal priesthood.  
Therefore we join our voices with angels and archangels,  
and with all those in whom the Spirit dwells,  
to proclaim the glory of your name,  
for ever praising you and *saying*:

**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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will,  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you 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 gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you;  
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.

Great is the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died:**  
**Christ is risen:**  
**Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;  
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.  
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,  
we bring before you this bread and this cup  
and we thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.  
Send the Holy Spirit on your people  
and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread and one cup,  
so that we, in the company of John the Baptist and all the saints,  
may praise and glorify you for ever,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord;  
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Being made one by the power of the Spirit  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught 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.**

## Breaking of the Bread

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

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

## Agnus Dei (The Lamb of God)

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

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

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

## Spiritual Communion

*From the Church of England's 'Guidance on Spiritual Communion  
and Coronavirus':*

Thanks be to you Lord Jesus Christ,  
for all the benefits you have given me,  
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.  
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,  
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.  
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,  
may I know you more clearly,  
love you more dearly,  
and follow you more nearly, day by day.  
Amen.

## Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed 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.

*The sharing of Communion*

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.

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

### Notices

(1) Zoom church meeting at 11am. (2) If you would like to join Victoria at 4pm today to sing and reflect on some Easter hymns, or if you would like to join the virtual 'Happy Singers' group at 4pm on a Wednesday - please email her at [victoriahayorganist@gmail.com](mailto:victoriahayorganist@gmail.com) (3) scheme to help anyone who lives in Victoria Ward who needs to be self isolating at this time. The number to ring is **07447 462 531**. Please see the full message at the very bottom of this Order of Service. Love and prayers sent to everyone.

### Blessing & Dismissal

### Blessing of Light

*Take two candles to the Easter Candle and return to the altar*

Blessed are you, sovereign God, overflowing in love.  
With Pentecost dawns the age of the Spirit.  
Now the flame of heaven rests on every believer.  
Strong and weak, women and men tell out your word;  
the young receive visions, the old receive dreams.  
With the new wine of the Spirit  
they proclaim your reign of love.  
Amid the birth pangs of the new creation  
the way of light is made known.  
Source of freedom, giver of life,  
blessed are you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*Give one candle*

For fifty days we have celebrated the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ over the powers of sin and death. We have proclaimed God's mighty acts and we have prayed that the power that was at work when God raised Jesus from the dead might be at work in us.

As part of God's Church here in South Hackney, I call upon you to live out what you proclaim.

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, will you dare to walk into God's future, trusting him to be your guide?

**By the Spirit's power, we will.**

Will you dare to embrace each other and grow together in love?

**We will.**

Will you dare to share your riches in common and minister to each other in need?

**We will.**

Will you dare to pray for each other until your hearts beat with the longings of God?

**We will.**

Will you dare to carry the light of Christ into the world's dark places?

**We will.**

The Lord is here.  
**His Spirit is with us.**

Today we have remembered the coming of God's power on the disciples and we invite that same Spirit to drive us out into the wild places of the world.

May the Spirit,  
who hovered over the waters when the world was created,  
breathe into you the life he gives.

May the Spirit,  
who overshadowed the Virgin when the eternal Son came among us,  
make you joyful in the service of the Lord.

May the Spirit,  
who set the Church on fire upon the Day of Pentecost,  
bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ.

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

Filled with the Spirit's power, go in the light and peace of Christ.  
Alleluia, alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

## To neighbours in Victoria Ward

You may well have seen or heard of posters around our neighbourhood offering aid to people who need to be at home all the time now. People who are self isolating, including older members of our community and those with underlying health conditions.

The service being offered is that people can ring a number and a volunteer will be found who can help with shopping, running errands, walking your dog, have a conversation if you're feeling lonely - if you need to be at home at this time and there is no one to help you do these things.

The volunteer base has grown organically - all local people who live in Victoria Ward.

This volunteer network only covers Victoria Ward, so if you don't live in the Ward, I'm afraid this won't work for you. Neighbouring Wards are also running similar schemes. To check the Ward boundaries please use the 'Wards in Hackney' map on this page of the Hackney Council website. Scroll down to find the map, and then zoom in:

<https://hackney.gov.uk/constituencies-wards>

The number for people to call is  
**07447 462 531.**

email is [victoriamutualaid@gmail.com](mailto:victoriamutualaid@gmail.com)

Just to repeat - the area covered is Victoria Ward. People would need to be warned about that if this goes out widely, as the system is based on a web of very small units which cover the Ward.

Please spread the word about this to friends and neighbours in the Ward.

With all good wishes,

Andrew

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