

Glynde Lutheran Church

a multi-cultural community of faith



**LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

OF AUSTRALIA



Church@Home

Sunday 28 May 2023

Pentecost, Year A

10.30am Worship Service

SONG: Blessed be your name

<https://youtu.be/6LOJxEXXqQ4>

**Blessed be Your name
In the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name**

**Blessed be Your name
When I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed be Your name**

**Every blessing You pour out
I'll turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in
Lord, still I will say**

***Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name***

**Blessed be Your name
When the sun's shining down on me
When the world's all that it should be
Blessed be Your name**

**Blessed be your name
On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain the offering
Blessed be Your name**

**Every blessing You pour out
I'll turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in
Lord, still I will say**

***Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name***

**You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord, blessed be Your name
You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord, blessed be Your name**

***Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name***

*Words and music by Matt and Beth Redman
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WELCOME

WE GREET EACH OTHER

IN THE NAME...

SONG: Good good Father

<https://youtu.be/qlsQrycKKsY>

**I've heard a thousand stories
Of what they think You're like
But I've heard the tender whisper
Of love in the dead of night
You tell me that You're pleased
And that I'm never alone**

***You're a Good Good Father
It's who You are
It's who You are
It's who You are
And I'm loved by You
It's who I am
It's who I am
It's who I am***

I've seen many searching for answers
Far and wide
But I know we're all searching for answers
Only You provide
Because You know just what we need
Before we say a word

You're a Good Good Father
It's who You are
It's who You are
It's who You are
And I'm loved by You
It's who I am
It's who I am
It's who I am

(Bridge)

You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us

You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us
Love so undeniable I can hardly speak
Peace so unexplainable I can hardly think
As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still
Into love love love

You're a Good Good Father
It's who You are
It's who You are
It's who You are
And I'm loved by You
It's who I am
It's who I am
It's who I am

(Bridge)

**You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us**

CCLI Song # 7036612

Anthony Brown | Pat Barrett

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THEME OF THE DAY:

Acts 2:1-21

“Follower of Jesus, start your engine”

BIBLE READING

[John 20:19-23](#)

CREED

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

**And 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, dead, and buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven,

and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty,

from thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy Christian church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen

SONG: In Christ Alone

<https://youtu.be/16KYvflc2bE>

**In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my Light, my Strength, my Song;
This Cornerstone, this Solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm,
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in all,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.**

**In Christ alone! Who took on flesh;
Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save;
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied;
For every sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.**

**There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then, bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine,
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.**

**No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.**

WE DWELL IN THE WORD: [Acts 2:1-21](#)

“Follower of Jesus, start your engine”

By Pastor Wayne Kerber

On Pentecost, we celebrate the coming and triumph of Holy Spirit—over all of our differences, even the difference of our nationalities and our languages, of class, of race, of gender, over all these differences, Holy Spirit prevails—on Pentecost, over all of the hindrances to speech, Holy Spirit prevails.

You see this so dramatically in Acts 2—there they were, gathered, so many different, divisive languages, and nationalities, and at Holy Spirit’s descent, those differences were overcome—Holy Spirit prevailed at Pentecost—and He prevailed against every human spirit—and continues to do so today.

Let’s be clear—there is a “*human spirit*”—many speak of the human spirit as that power within humanity—where the human spirit is “*resolute*”—like when a track star stumbles, then recovers, gets up, picks up the baton and finishes the race—and the sports commentator says; “That woman has great spirit”—meaning the human spirit.

So many people believe that the human spirit will prevail in all circumstances in life—but that’s not the truth, is it—the same human spirit which, in times of difficulty, is able to take a deep breath, to clench its fist and move forward is also the spirit which clenches its fist in disobedience and rebellion against God—how ironic that the human spirit can be both the source of some of our greatest achievements, and also that which brings grief.

So let us today focus upon the person of Holy Spirit—and if we are honest, we will find that Holy Spirit and our human spirit have at times been at odds, at times they have danced together, encouraged one another, at times they have been in combat with one another—yet always, thank God, Holy Spirit will prevail—if we let him.

Over selfishness, leaping over human walls of free will, comes Holy Spirit to prevail—in the church, in this congregation, time and again,

when one has been cold of heart, slow to move, timid with fear, Holy Spirit can prevail.

In your own life, in those moments when all seems lost, when there is no way out, no way forward and yet you have been surprised when a door was opened, or a way forward is made when there was no way, Holy Spirit has prevailed—He has worked in you and for you to overcome.

We therefore never need lose hope—never need to be kept on tiptoes, expectant, eager, sometimes even nervous—for Holy Spirit which gave birth to the church continues to prod, persuade, and call forward the church—meaning, you and me.

Just when one gets all settled down, comfortable with present arrangements, there comes a rush of wind, or a still small voice, a breath of fresh air, tongues of fire and Holy Spirit—so followers of Jesus “*start your engines.*”

This phrase is used to start a famous race in the USA—the Indianapolis 500—I think it’s also been used for many other car races around the world—and this phrase fits in well with the great celebration of the person of Holy Spirit and the Church of today.

The thing that makes the Indianapolis 500 and other car races around the world what they are, is the great invention called the internal combustion engine—where fuel ignites, combustion happens, and off they go—without the ignition there is no movement—without combustion, there is no race.

And so it is with the Christian Church—the disciples of Jesus were gathered in Jerusalem to celebrate the Jewish festival of the Feast of Weeks, or Shavuot in Hebrew (*the giving of the law at Mt. Sinai*)—one of the three pilgrimage feasts of Israel during which each adult male was required to be present in Jerusalem—(together with Pesach (*which recalls the sacrifice of the lamb whose blood that was painted on the doorposts of the Hebrews*) and Sukkot (*known otherwise as the Feast of Booths or Tabernacles*))

It was a holy time, and the people were ready to pray—but something even greater happened...ignition, combustion—"**Fiery tongues appeared on them, and all of them were filled with the person of Holy Spirit**"

Holy Spirit ignited a new moment and a new people—the fire of Holy Spirit lighted a communication that overcame the former languages of division and competition with a new language of God's love and Spirit—the fire had begun.

Many songs and hymns being sung today around the world have a focus about the ignition that began on that first Pentecost day—and they proclaim the hope that might continue to burn within the church so that it will never lose its passion or burning desire to be followers of Jesus.

They are a prayer for the work of Holy Spirit to continue in us individually and as the whole Body of Christ, so that we might live our faith with a passion, obedience, and commitment, and do the work of God's mission boldly and creatively.

A prayer to believe and know that there is a God here in this universe—invisible, mysterious, powerful, who can't be controlled any more than one can control the wind—and the person of Holy Spirit, this Wind, gives life—physical life—spiritual life.

And this person of Holy Spirit is all around you—in you, above you, below you, beside you, invisibly present—Holy Spirit is present with us, whether we feel him or not—when we are thinking of him or not—when we are good or bad, rich or poor, indifferent or concerned—when we are working, golfing, singing, sailing, hiking, living or dying, Holy Spirit is here...which is pure grace.

Holy Spirit is mysteriously near you, not because you are good, not because you are kind, and not because you are religious—for indeed, none of us are any of those qualities without the work of Holy Spirit, who is graciously present in our life because the person of Holy Spirit is God—and **the purpose of Holy Spirit is to make His presence alive in us.**

The promise of Pentecost is that every person of faith will be ignited by the person of Holy Spirit for a deeper expression of belief and a more powerful expression for Christian living—and Holy Spirit brings a number of purposes to help one achieve what God wants—**the first purpose** being to daily remind one that Jesus is alive in them.

Holy Spirit is to remind us that Jesus is alive in us, and that we are alive in Him—to make the love of Jesus alive in us individually—alive with His love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control—all His virtues alive in us.

Holy Spirit makes the teachings and words of Jesus **ALIVE** in you and me—his words about forgiveness, eternal life, unconditional love—Holy Spirit makes the words and teachings of Jesus become living realities in our lives.

The second purpose of Holy Spirit is to make the church alive—Holy Spirit gets into the church like a wind to blow us out of the pews, to blow us out of our institutions and safe communities and out into the world.

A meteorologist will tell you that "*wind is air on the move*"—when the air is heated up, it becomes wind—that's what the church is to be—air on the move—moving us into our communities to be present in the lives of others—we are to be Holy Spirit filled air—this Ruach (*the breath of God*) on the move.

And this air is here in this room today, filling this sanctuary—filling you and making you strong—to heal your wounds, to give you comfort, to give your life meaning, to forgive you when your life is lived in a way contrary to the will of God.

But even more than that, the person of Holy Spirit that surrounds you, that is in you, is given to you that you may have power—Holy Spirit is given to you so that you would have power to be the living presence of Jesus in this world—to continue the ministry of Jesus to help grow His kingdom by giving you His gifts: a word of knowledge, words of wisdom, discerning on spirits, faith to completely trust, a working of

healings and a working of miracles, prophecy, tongues and interpretation of tongues.

Pentecost is where the Church was given the power—power that is greater than tornadoes—power to proclaim with authority the message of Jesus—**YOU**—not just the person next to you—**YOU** have been given that power, for **YOU** are a Holy Spirit-filled person.

That's where we find Holy Spirit alive—in you and me—working with His power in all sorts of situations—in the gathering of this community for worship and prayer, where we are enlightened by Holy Spirit to understand the words we hear as good news of salvation—in Holy Communion when Holy Spirit works with the words of Jesus to transform ordinary bread and wine into the food and drink of life—the Body and Blood of Jesus—where the person of Holy Spirit transforms and unite us all the more to Jesus?

Yes, Holy Spirit is at work—not simply in the air—not simply as fire—not simply on the tongue—Holy Spirit is at work in human hearts and minds, and souls—Holy Spirit is at work in the places where He chooses to take up residence—in common, ordinary ways, in common ordinary people—like you and me.

What extraordinary power Holy Spirit has, to work in such ways—we may be tempted to think that the winds, the flame and the tongues are where Holy Spirit is, but to think only like this is to miss the person of Holy Spirit who is in and with us every day—eager to start our engines of faith and trust to do what Jesus has called us to do.

SONG: Peace be still

<https://youtu.be/lsIpGiz3SfQ>

**I don't want to be afraid
Every time I face the waves
I don't want to be afraid
I don't want to be afraid
I don't want to fear the storm
Just because I hear it roar
I don't want to fear the storm
I don't want to fear the storm**

Chorus

**Peace be still
Say the word and I will
Set my feet upon the sea
Till I'm dancing in the deep
Peace be still
You are here so it is well
Even when my eyes can't see
I will trust the voice that speaks**

**I'm not gonna be afraid
'Cause these waves are only waves
I'm not gonna be afraid
I'm not gonna be afraid
I'm not gonna fear the storm
You are greater than its roar
I'm not gonna fear the storm
I'm not gonna fear at all**

Interlude

**Peace peace over me
Bridge
Let faith rise up
O heart believe
Let faith rise up in me**

CCLI Song # 7084363

Andrew Holt | Hope Darst | Mia Fieldes

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OFFERING PRAYER

Holy God,
may the Spirit you give us
make us more and more like your Son,
loving and self-giving.
Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Call to prayer

Let us pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the church.

Response

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Suggested intercessions

- * We thank you, holy Father, that, as you had promised, you gave your Holy Spirit to all your people at Pentecost. Pour out your life-giving Spirit on your holy church throughout the world and equip its members with the gifts of your Spirit.
- * You brought light out of darkness and order out of chaos by your Spirit in the creation of the world. Let your Spirit move over our unruly world and heal its broken people.
- * You sent out your Spirit on the disciples like the rush of a mighty wind and distributed tongues of fire on their heads. Burn out all that is evil in us; consecrate all your people for holy service, and empower them to work with you for the salvation of the world.
- * You inspired the disciples with your Spirit to praise your marvellous deeds in many different languages. Unloose the tongues of all your people, so that they may joyfully confess you as their Lord and boldly proclaim their common faith to all the world.
- * Your Spirit touched the hearts of those who heard the gospel from Peter. Sharpen the consciences of those who hear your word and convince them of its truth, so that they may turn from their sins and receive the gift of forgiveness.
- * You gave the Holy Spirit to all those who were baptised on the day of Pentecost. Let your Spirit renew the faith of all those who have been baptised, so that they may devote themselves in public worship to the teaching of the apostles, the giving of gifts to you, the breaking of bread in the Lord's supper, and the prayer of the church for the world.

Concluding prayer

You united people from many different nations and cultures by your Holy Spirit. Bring together those who have been divided by misunderstanding,

hatred, and mistrust, and join us with them and all the angels as we adore you forever; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reign with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.

**Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever.**

Amen.

BLESSING

SONG: The blessing

<https://youtu.be/Zp6aygmvzM4?t=65>

**The Lord bless you
And keep you
Make his face shine upon you
And be gracious to you
The Lord turn his
Face toward you
And give you peace**

**The Lord bless you
And keep you
Make his face shine upon you
And be gracious to you
The Lord turn his
Face toward you
And give you peace**

Amen (x6)

**The Lord bless you
And keep you
Make his face shine upon you
And be gracious to you
The Lord turn his
Face toward you
And give you peace**

Amen (x6)

**May his favour
Be upon you
And a thousand generations
And your family
And your children
And their children
And their children
(repeat)**

**May his presence
Go before you
And behind you
And beside you
All around you
And within you
He is with you
He is with you**

**In the morning
In the evening
In your coming
And your going
In your weeping
And rejoicing**

He is for you (x8)

Amen (x6)

CCLI Song # 7147007

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