



Kensington Presbyterian Church

Pentecost Pentkot خمسين

Pentecôte ペンテコステ

May 23, 2021

WELCOME, during these times of physical isolation we are putting out these worship services that you can do at home.¹ This doesn't mean you have to do them alone. You can invite those who live with you, or connect with others through the phone or computer, or even in small groups outside.

If you have any prayer requests, ideas, or just want to talk, please reach out to your elder or Rev. Peter (Peter@Kensingtonchurch.ca).



Nikolaikirche - Leipzig

Announcements

Sunday School: is available Sundays, noon to 1^{ish}

Join Antoinette for a chat, reflections on a Bible passage and an activity. For more information, contact Antoinette (below).

[zoom.us/j/95177919687?](https://zoom.us/j/95177919687?pwd=K1hpWXJrVElxQWpOMINKdkV1UGloQT09)

[pwd=K1hpWXJrVElxQWpOMINKdkV1UGloQT09](https://zoom.us/j/95177919687?pwd=K1hpWXJrVElxQWpOMINKdkV1UGloQT09)

Meeting ID: 951 7791 9687

Passcode: 389127

WMS: If you would like to financially support the Women's Missionary Society you can make cheques out to *Kensington W.M.S.* and leave them at the church. Howie will pick them up.

Book Study: first Wednesdays of the month at 7:30

The Liturgy of the Ordinary helps you find God in all aspects of life... one chapter a month. You are still welcome to join the group. If you are interested, please contact Ines.Rombeek@gmail.com.

This is also a good activity to invite a friend who is open to the idea of God or curious about what it means to be a Christian.

Prayer Group: will be meeting through Zoom on Wed. at 11:30 a.m.

If you would like to pray at a different time, please contact Peter.

[us02web.zoom.us/j/78266904325?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/78266904325?pwd=dkhMck1ZRxBKtmdvK2VsaHRIOFF1UT09)

[pwd=dkhMck1ZRxBKtmdvK2VsaHRIOFF1UT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/78266904325?pwd=dkhMck1ZRxBKtmdvK2VsaHRIOFF1UT09)

or phone: 438-809-7799

Meeting ID: 782 6690 4325

Passcode: 7864826

Visiting: The government considers ministers to be essential workers. If you need a visit, please contact Rev. Peter.

Contacts

Church Office: 514-486-4559.....info@Kensingtonchurch.ca

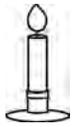
Rev. Peter Rombeek (pastor).....Peter@Kensingtonchurch.ca

Antoinette (families).....Antoinette@Kensingtonchurch.ca

¹ note: that the footnotes are not as thorough as an academic paper.



Approaching God



Lighting of the Christ Candle
Jésus Chris est la lumière du monde.
Jesus Christ is the light of the world.



Call to worship - you'll need to gather some things first...
Come, let us gather around and see how the Spirit will nurture
our faith today.

Who is with us?

Christ, the light of the world.
(Place a candle on a table in your gathering place and light it.)

Who is with us?

The Love of God, who came to meet us in the world.
(Place a cross on a table in your gathering place.)

Who is with us?

The Wisdom of God, who speaks through the Scriptures.
(Place an open Bible on a table in your gathering place.)

Who is with us?

The Grace of God, who proclaims we are children of God.
(Place a symbol of baptism - a bowl of water, a seashell - on a
table in your gathering space.)

Who is with us?

Our risen Lord, who meets us at the table.
(Place a symbol of communion - a plate and cup, a loaf of bread,
grapes - on a table in your gathering space.)

We are here, Holy Spirit, ready for your leading.²

² from pres-outlook.org/2021/05/pentecost-family-faith-formation-home/

♪ Hymn: Enemy of Apathy.....pg 10
www.youtube.com/watch?v=5EmkyT6uUZE



Prayer of Approach

Holy, sprightly Spirit of God,
we delight at your dancing among us,
filling the world with joyful possibility,
revealing the music of the Creator.
We rejoice at your daring spontaneity
and find ourselves caught off guard by your unexpected
communications.

In a world that can seem stuck,
you spark into being new possibilities:
you washing our sin in the warmth of your breath,
or burning it with your fire if needed,
and freeing us from our bondage to past wrongs.

In a world that can seem drab,
you weave your ever-changing patterns
into the fabric of our beings.

In a world that can be hostile,
your love builds a path from loneliness to conviviality,
from antagonism to co-operation.

In a world that can seem purposeless,
your vitality shouts out a mighty 'Yes' to life
and declares the source of all living to be
the One from whom you come,
the Father & Mother, Creator and Lover of all.

To you we pray Amen.³

³ John McLuckie, *Fire and Bread* ed Ruth Burgess. *Wild Goose*

Assurance of Pardon (Ezekiel 36: 24-28)

Here the Good News

“I will take you out of the nations;
I will gather you from all the countries.
I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean.
I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you;
I will remove from you your heart of stone
and give you a heart of flesh.
And I will put my Spirit in you
and move you to follow my decrees.
You will be my people, and I will be your God.”

Friends in Christ: by the power of the Spirit,
we are united with Christ and given a new spirit.
Live in the joy and peace of that assurance.⁴



airborn - A Wyeth

4 Worship Sourcebook Q.2.4.1

Amen.

 Lord’s prayer (feel free to use another version/translation)
Jesus left us a prayer to guide us into a healthier relations with
God and each other. Let us join with Christians around the
world, saying...

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom,
the power,
and the glory are yours**



Listening to God

 Hymn: God’s Spirit Came at Pentecost.....pg 9
www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fn_tIM3PjDI (music only)

 Prayer for Illumination
Lord of heaven and earth,
pour out on us the abundant gifts of your Holy Spirit.
May the work begun by the Spirit on the day of Pentecost
continue in us as we hear your Word and do your will. Amen.
Amen.⁵

5 Worship Sourcebook Q.3.1.2

✧ Intro to the readings

- The passage from Paul's letter to the Romans was written later in his work, but still before the Gospels and Acts were written. It gives some good advice learned from experience.
- Acts continues is what the was anticipated in last week's reading
- Psalm relates to God's gifts - including play

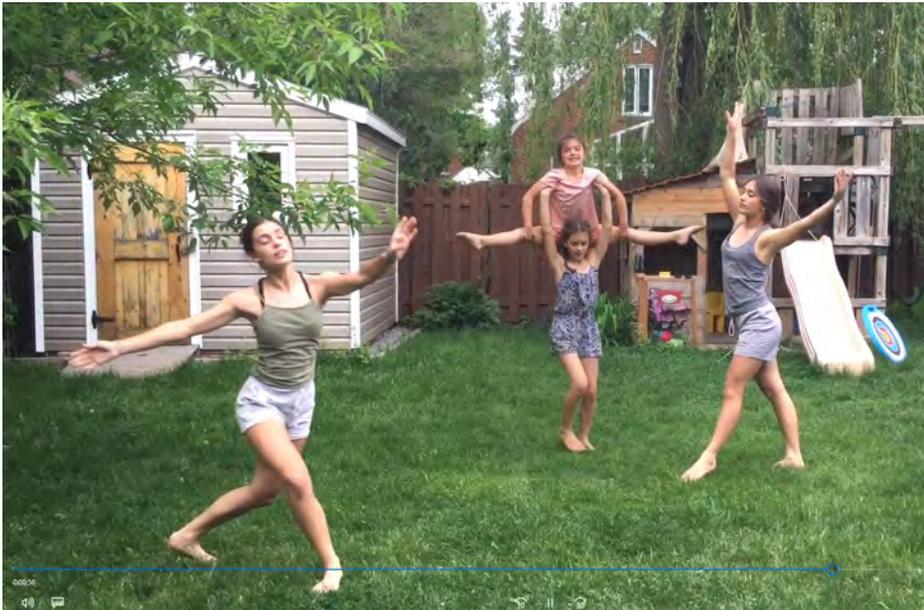
📖 Reading: Please look up the passages in your own Bible,⁶ or click on the name to be taken to an online version (NRSV).

[Acts 2](#): 1-21

[Romans 8](#): 22-27

[Psalm 104](#): 24-35

Dance



⁶ If you'd like a new Bible with helpful notes, I recommend the 'Life with God Bible' NRSV from Renovaré. ISBN 0061834963 or for the more academically inclined, The New Oxford Study Bible NRSV

✧ Sermon: Pentecost Pentkot **خمسين** Pentecôte **ペンテコステ**
Dear Lord, please bless these words
and the meditations of our hearts.⁷ Amen.

It's been a roller-coaster of a time for the followers of Jesus. The excitement of arriving in Jerusalem for the big festival of Passover that turned into a parade with palms. Then that special supper with Jesus - followed by his arrest, unfair trial, and crucifixion at the calling of the crowd. As they sit in shock, women bring the news comes in that Jesus is alive... and he is. He continues to teach them about helping people live God's love... until he disappears into the sky.

They are told they will spread the exciting news everywhere, but for now, just hang out and wait.

So they have.

We're told those who were learning from Jesus did a little bit of preparation, but mostly they prayed.

I wonder if they were patient prayers, or questioning prayers, 'what's next' prayers, or 'hurry up' prayers. I suspect all of the above.

Whatever they prayed, there was no going back for them. They had witnessed a vision of a better way for the world to be. They have witnessed a hope for everyone that was more powerful than death. They didn't know what was coming, but they couldn't go back to the same old life they'd had before.

and then it happened.

Jerusalem was crowded again with pilgrims for the festival of Shavuot (Feast of Weeks). It's a harvest festival that celebrates

⁷ Psalm 19:14

God's abundant gifts (with help from the Biblical book of [Ruth](#)⁸). People journeyed from all over to be there.

Those first followers were gathered together when the extraordinary happened. It was indescribable - but later they try anyways. It sounded like a huge wind ripping through the house, except it wasn't. And there was a sparkling in the air, like sunlight on the water or flames without a candle. And this light rests on everybody's head.



Which was amazing. This wasn't just for Peter, or the 12 apostles, or just the men... this was for everyone.

and, Wow! The energy just couldn't be contained.

They burst out onto the streets overflowing with excitement. Everyone talking at once. You'd think it would be just a babble of voices, except it wasn't.

They were speaking clearly in languages from all over - from

⁸ This is a short book, maybe twice as long as this sermon, so you may want to read it through. It tells of being down and out, but being guided to abundance.

where all those visitors had come.

Have you ever been like those visitors?

Travelling in a foreign place where they don't speak your language. Perhaps you have learned some of their language in school, or tried some Duolingo? But to be surrounded by crowds in an unfamiliar city, all speaking in a language you don't really know... and then you hear it.

Somebody speaking your language.

It's like a flashlight piercing the darkness. You may not see the source, but as it washes over you every molecule in your body relaxes into that sound. You don't even know what they're saying, but you are drawn towards it.

This is one of the things that happens when the Holy Spirit came that day. It was one of the gifts that was given. It was one of the ways barriers between people were broken.

At it's interesting that it happened like this.

God could easily have done it the other way around. The disciples keep speaking their language and everyone else becomes like them. But that's not what happens. God recognizes the differences and respects that. The Holy Spirit working in this way affirms that diversity is good and not to be feared.

and the diversity doesn't stop with languages.

Peter (you remember him, the one who was always 'putting his food in his mouth' and how had denied Jesus?), well Peter stands up a delivers a great sermon. He points out that the Holy Spirit has come for everyone. All ages are included; all genders; all income levels, people with status and without... God's Spirit is open to anyone.

It's not that your age, or gender, or language, etc don't matter,

it's that they aren't barriers for God.

Why does God bother with all this diversity?
Wouldn't it be easier if everyone were the same?
Wouldn't that make for a stronger body of believers?

Because together we are formed in the image of God. None of us has it all. Our differences help us know God better.

They also help us make the world better.

True; not all the time. Our differences cause lots of conflict as well. But when we are welcoming of others this makes the world better. Take languages as an example. Each language has different ways of structuring ideas. This creates different ways to see problems - and solutions. Each language has different words, or ways of expressing ideas or feelings. This allows a greater expression of ideas and feelings. It also helps us not get stuck in our own little perspective.

Diversity brings not just different ways of expressing something, but also different skills, wisdom, experiences, and energy. These aren't automatically used to make the world better, but they can be. The gift of the Holy Spirit can break through the barriers to bring people together.

Which is something to notice about these gifts. It's not like many birthday gifts. The gifts aren't for the disciples. Sure, Peter being able to give a sermon without saying something embarrassing is nice, but they're used to that. And the languages... not necessary for them.

But their gifts aren't for them. They are to share the Good News with the people around them - in this case, people from the ends of the earth.

Which is exciting for them. But that was then and this is now.

Except, that that's not quite true. Yes, that was a very special day, but it wasn't the only time the Holy Spirit came. We had a story a few weeks ago from later in Acts when Peter was giving another sermon to a centurion and his household. The Holy Spirit didn't wait for Peter to finish before flowing through those people who had different languages and customs.

And the Holy Spirit continues to be active - even now. We all have gifts - a diversity of gifts. Some are more up front like Peter speaking to the crowd, some of our gifts are more connecting with neighbours, or being passionate about injustice, or praying, or fixing things, or teaching, or listening, or organizing, or sharing through wordless languages of music, dance, math and other arts, ...

Today's Pentecost story is one of a new beginning when the Holy Spirit came down and dramatically moved the disciples out of their room, bridging the barriers between people - and between them and God.

It is today's Pentecost story because it is still happening today. We are being invited into a new beginning. We have been given gifts. If you're not sure what they are, ask your friends. We are being invited out to share God's love and hope.

*To God be all the glory
Amen.*



Responding to God

♪ Hymn: Spirit of the living God.....pg 11 (400)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=jrwRS1h-rmY

🗨️ FaithTalk: These are some questions for you to discuss with somebody... or many somebodies. Do what you feel safe (and practice stretching a little).

Memory: Do you have a journey story when you felt overwhelmed by difference?

Wonder: Why are so many languages spoken?

Memories: Even when speaking the same language, what gets in the way of understanding each other?

Values: What do you appreciate about diversity? What is challenging?

Wonder: Speculate on what is the Holy Spirit doing now?

Wonder: What role does the church play (Kensington or larger)? ...could it play?

Wonder: How could we approach people on their terms/language?

✦ Spirit Sighting

Discerning how we go out into the world can be hard. Today is also *Healing and Reconciliation Sunday*. It is important for us to remember that we were part of the hurt that was caused by the residential school system and this attempt to wipe out diversity provided by the Indigenous peoples. Thanks to the work of the Great Spirit, we recognize this now and have changed the way we offer to help others.



Lakota Trinity - Father John Giuliani

✦ Offering

Financially, we have set up a donation option on **our website**. Just click the '[Donate Now](#)' button, and then the

pretty button. It gives you various options that are easy to follow.

You can now donate through **interac e-transfer**. Our name is Kensington Presbyterian Church and the e-mail address is info@kensingtonchurch.ca.

Mailing a cheque or signing up for Pre-Authorized Remittance (**PAR**) are also good options.

🧎 Prayers of the people

Spirit of fire,

Inflame in us a passion for justice and equality:

So we will be cleaned of our prejudices and fears

And share your hope and love with humility.

Spirit of compassion,

Infuse us with your longings for wholeness and happiness:

So we will reach out

to those who are hurting,

Enfolding one another with your love and tenderness.

Spirit of wisdom,

Be within us as we journey, gently guiding us along right paths:

So we will be led

towards transformation and new beginnings.

Spirit of gentleness,

Touch us again, releasing us from all that we are afraid of:

So we will know that you accept us,

And we can freely accept and embrace others.

Spirit of power,

Hold us in our powerlessness:

So we will know your strength

**and become a voice for the voiceless,
Healing for the wounded
And empowerment for the weak.**

Spirit of judgement,
Be tender with us and show us your mercy:
**So we will humbly learn of you
And be your voice in the world.**

Spirit of healing,
Draw near to us in all sickness, grief, confusion and pain; . . .
In your graciousness, bring hope, healing and renewal:
So many will discover you with them.

Spirit of dance,
be our playfulness:
**That we may leap and laugh and enter your joy;
in life and in death.**

**In Jesus name
Amen.**

♪ Hymn: Siyahumba.....pg 11 (639)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=VXVk5c_VjMc
www.youtube.com/watch?v=BHbqX1GqPfo (Jazzy)

✦ Benediction
May the love of the Creator enfold us,
the wisdom of the Son enlighten us,
and the fire of the Spirit kindle us;
and may the blessing of the Lord God
come down upon us

and remain with us always
Amen.
Alleluia!



Pentecost - Church of Pallostihaus, Vienna

Worship Resources to Do God's Work

This year, **Pentecost** and **Healing and Reconciliation Sunday** fall on the same day, making it a day not only for celebration, but also for solemn reflection and prayer for the

Indigenous children who attended residential schools and the people who are living with its legacy. Resources to help worship leaders develop services to mark the church's birthday and honour its commitment to reconciliation are available on the PCC website at presbyterian.ca/worship. Gifts to Presbyterians Sharing have helped build this comprehensive library of worship resources, providing congregations with free materials (seasonal, intergenerational, ecumenical, etc.) to do God's work throughout the year.



DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, May 23 (Healing & Reconciliation Sunday) We pray that hearts and minds will continue to be opened to the truth about the harm of colonisation and the Indian Residential School system. We pray that all Canadians will work for the healing and well-being of Indigenous people and their communities.

Monday, May 24 During National AccessAbility Week, we pray for accessible church communities that are free of barriers.

Tuesday, May 25 We pray for God, who called prophets and apostles, to raise up a new generation of pastors and teachers for the church of our day.

Wednesday, May 26 We pray for the Rev. Joan Masterton of St. James Presbyterian Church in Stouffville, Ont., who serves as the convener of the Cutting Edge of Mission (Dr. E.H. Johnson) Committee.

Thursday, May 27 We pray that students at the MIBE Graduate School for Nurses in Indore, India, feel supported and guided by a strong sense of God's direction as they pursue their studies to become compassionate healthcare leaders.

Friday, May 28 We pray for seniors and their caregivers who are persevering in nursing homes and retirement residences as the pandemic continues.

Saturday, May 29 We pray for Presbyterian camps and conference centres as they prepare programs for the summer. May God provide them with creativity, energy and resources to share faith and fun with children and youth this season.

God's Spirit came at Pentecost

1. God's Spir - it came at Pen - te - cost to folk who feared their
 2. A mul - ti - ra - cial au - dience heard what God, through the a -
 3. E'en now, as on that ear - liest day, we feel un - cer - tain.
 4. Now blest be God who, through his Son, calls un - like peo - ple

hope was lost; in - spired by wind and fire of grace, they faced a
 pos - tles said. Some scorned the depths to which they'd sunk while oth - ers
 So we pray, "Lord, give us Pen - te - cost a - gain through cit - y
 to be one; and blest be Christ, as - cend - ed Lord, by heav'n's com -

crowd - ed mar - ket - place. There, speak - ing tongues they'd nev - er
 laughed and called them drunk. Yet man - y who had come to
 square and coun - try glen. With or with - out new tongues of
 mu - ni - ty a - dored. And bless the Spir - it who, on

known, they preached the Gos - pel Christ had shown.
 mock found faith in Christ, the sol - id rock.
 flame make your church wor - thy of your name."
 earth, brings all God's prom - is - es to birth.

Text: John L. Bell, b.1949 and Graham Maule, b. 1958; © 1988, 2017, WGRG, c/o Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent
 Tune: SUSSEX CAROL; English carol CCLI No. 4440603

not too quickly

ENEMY OF APATHY

Tune: THAINAKY (JLB)

Em Bm7 Em Bm7 Em

She sits like a bird,

Am B7 Em Am B7

brood-ing on the wa-ters, hover-ing on the cha-os of the world's first day; she

Am7 D7 Gmaj7 Cmaj7 Fmaj7 Am7

sighs and she sings, moth-er-ing cre-a-tion, wait-ing to give birth to all the

Words and Music © 1988 WGRG, The Iona Community, Glasgow.

B Em Bm7 Em Bm7 E

Word will say. last time.

1. She sits like a bird, brooding on the waters,
Hovering on the chaos of the world's first day;
She sighs and she sings, mothering creation,
Waiting to give birth to all the Word will say.
2. She wings over earth, resting where she wishes,
Lighting close at hand or soaring through the skies;
She nests in the womb, welcoming each wonder,
Nourishing potential hidden to our eyes.
3. She dances in fire, startling her spectators,
Waking tongues of ecstasy where dumbness reigned;
She weans and inspires all whose hearts are open,
Nor can she be captured, silenced or restrained.
4. For she is the Spirit, one with God in essence,
Gifted by the Saviour in eternal love;
She is the key opening the scriptures,
Enemy of apathy and heavenly dove.

In Hebrew, the word used for the Spirit is *ruach* . . . a feminine noun. Genesis Chapter 1 and Psalm 139 are two passages of scripture which speak of the Spirit in female images. These are reflected in this song.

At first, it may seem strange to use the pronoun 'she', but that is the fault both of the English language and of masculine-oriented theology which fails to grasp the liberating significance of Paul's comment that in Jesus Christ 'there is neither male nor female'.

Spirit of the living God

F C F Bb F C F F/A

1. Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me. Spir - it of the
 2. Spir - it of the liv - ing God, move a - mong us all; make us one in

C7/G F Bb Gm F/C C F Bb F G G 7

liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me. Melt me, mould me, fill me,
 heart and mind; make us one in love: hum - ble, car - ing, self - less,

C C7 F C F Bb F/C C7 F

use me. Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me!
 shar - ing. Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fill our lives with love!

Words: v.1, Daniel Iverson (1890–1977); v.2, Michael Baughen (1930–) Music: Daniel Iverson (1890–1977)

Words: v. 1, copyright © Birdwing Music, 1935, 1963. All rights reserved. Used by permission of CMC Ltd; v. 2, copyright © 1982 by Hope Publishing Co. Music: copyright © Birdwing Music, 1935, 1963. All rights reserved. Used by permission of CMC Ltd. CCLI No. 4440603

We are marching / Siyahamba

SIYAHAMBA Irregular

G D7 G C/G G C D (C/D)

We are march - ing in the light of God; we are march - ing in the light of
 Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen -
 Nous mar - chons dans la lu - mière de Dieu, nous mar - chons dans la lu - mière de

Sop.

1. God. We are march - ing,
 khos'. Si - ya - ham - ba,
 Dieu. Oui, nous mar - chons,
 G (C/G) G7 C

God. We are the light of God. We are march - ing, march - ing, we are
 khos'. Si - ya - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya -
 Dieu. Nous mar - lu - mière de Dieu. Oui, nous mar - chons, mar - chons; oui, nous

G oo, C D (C/D) G

march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing in the light of God.
 ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 mar - chons, mar - chons; nous mar - chons dans la lu - mière de Dieu.

Words: South African (Xhosa) traditional; English translation, Anders Nyberg (1955–); French, Andrew Donaldson (1951–) Music: South African traditional; arrangement, Anders Nyberg (1955–)

Words: English translation, copyright © Walton Music Corporation, 1984; French, copyright © The Presbyterian Church in Canada, 1997
 Music: arrangement, copyright © Walton Music Corporation, 1984