**Westfield 10.30am 23rd May 2021 Robin**

**Call to worship** – remain seated & in a contemplative mood to sing 613 Spirit of the living God (2nd verse on sheet not in hymn book).

**MP 1004 O God of burning cleansing flame.**

O God of burning, cleansing flame,

send the fire!

Your blood-bought gift today we claim:

send the fire today!

Look down and see this waiting host,

and send the promised Holy Ghost;

we need another Pentecost!

Send the fire today,

send the fire today!

God of Elijah, hear our cry:

send the fire!

And make us fit to live or die:

send the fire today!

To burn up every trace of sin,

to bring the light and glory in,

the revolution now begin!

Send the fire today,

send the fire today!

It's fire we want, for fire we plead:

send the fire!

The fire will meet our every need:

send the fire today!

For strength to always do what's right,

for grace to conquer in the fight,

for power to walk the world in white:

send the fire today,

send the fire today!

To make our weak heart strong

and brave, send the fire!

To live, a dying world to save:

send the fire today!

O see us on Your altar Jay,

we give our lives to You today,

so crown the offering now, we pray:

send the fire today,

send the fire today,

send the fire today!

William Booth(1829-1912) adapted Lex Loizides © 1994 Thankyou Music CCLI 150801

**Prayer & Lord’s Prayer**

We come, this special morning, Father rejoicing in the coming of your Holy Spirit Wind and fire – tongues of men and angels… Lord move in our midst, by your Spirit. Cleanse us, empty us, mould us and fill us that we may live lives that are pleasing in your sight… bodies to be healed, your saints filled with your Spirit and your great Name lifted high and glorified.

Send us to this generation, proclaiming the good news of Christ risen, ascended and glorified…sins forgiven and of men made to become sons of the living God.

We pray for another Pentecost.. for holy wind to blow away the dross and indifference for holy fire to set our hearts ablaze for a great reviving in our day and generation…build your church Lord…complete the bride and come soon…

We say together.. Our Father..

**OT Reading Joel 2 23-32**

**Notices, Mission Prayer & Dedication of Offering**

**MP 525 O thou who camest from above**

O Thou who camest from above

the pure, celestial fire to impart,

kindle a flame of sacred love

on the mean altar of my heart.

There let it for Thy glory burn,

with inextinguishable blaze;

and, trembling, to its source return

in humble love and fervent praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart's desire

to work and speak and think for Thee;

still let me guard the holy fire,

and still stir up Thy gift in me;

Ready for all Thy perfect will,

my acts of faith and love repeat,

till death Thine endless mercies seal,

and make the sacrifice complete.

Charles Wesley (1707-88) CCLI 150801

**Prayers of Intercession Duty Elder Marjorie**

**NT Reading Acts 2 v 1-21**

**Message**

The APOSTLES CREED No 10 I believe in the Holy Spirit.

Reading John 14 v 15-26

J.B.Phillips “Every time we say” I believe in the Holy Spirit” we mean that we believe in a living God, able and willing to enter human personality and change it “Not by will power, new year resolutions or turning over a new leaf.. but by the power of God through the Holy Spirit.

Chorus;- ‘The things I used to do I do them no more..’

“Can a leopard change it’s spots?” it can’t but God can change man.. turn him around give him a new start and make him someone special.. His own heir.

Norman Snaith “God the Holy Spirit, is that veritable presence of the living God. He is that personal, transforming power who can be evident in the hearts and lives of men. He is the life of the church.”

His personality…His purpose...His provision (alliterated to help memory)

His Personality

In our reading Jesus used the personal pronoun.” I will pray the Father and He shall give you another comforter that he may abide with you for ever” “The world cannot accept Him, but you know Him”

Not some mere blind unintelligent force or influence.. as some cults would suggest.. but a person possessing knowledge, emotion ( He can be grieved) and will.

Acts 10..Tells of a certain centurion, a God fearing man, who has a vision of an angel, who tells him to send to Joppa for one called Simon Peter…Simon, was on the roof top, praying…seeing a sheet let down from heaven with all sorts of animals on it.. and a voice calling from heaven saying “ rise up, kill and eat.. which Simon Peter refuses because it is not kosher. While he is wondering about all this the men sent from Cornelius, the centurion have arrived at his door. While Peter was still thinking about the vision the Spirit said to him “Simon, three men are looking for you, get up and go downstairs. Do not hesitate for I have sent them.” Acts 10.

The Holy Spirit speaks of himself in the first person “I have sent them.”

He is part and parcel of the Trinity.. Father, Son and Holy Ghost. He is the executor of the Godhead.

God willed your salvation. Christ accomplished it and the Holy Spirit applies it.

Living Bible Hebrews 10 “Christ gave himself to God for our sins as one sacrifice for all time and then sat down in the place of honour of God’s right hand.. for by that one offering he made forever perfect in the sight of God all those whom He is making holy, and the Holy Spirit testifies that this is so.

He is a divine person…one convicts, converts and convinces us that we have been born again and have become heirs to God and joint heir with Jesus Christ.

His Purpose

Multi-tasked.. Comforter/teacher/witness/convictor of sin/prophet.. and pre-eminently One who glorifies Christ in us and through us to a lost and indifferent world. Are there things that make you cringe.. “60 minute makeover.. and the unfortunate recipients “O my god”.. make me cringe.. “Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.. then even the children copied their parents.. and we switched off. It is a witness of the Holy Spirit indwelling.. seeking to mould us and make us more like Christ. Opposite the test centre at Heckmondwike, is a Catholic church called the ‘Church of the Paraclete’ a technical Greek term to describe a lawyer who is called to aid the accused.. fully qualified to help, but outside the mans crime.. one seeking to help.

John 14. “If you love me, obey me, and I will ask the Father and He will give you another comforter, and he will never leave you . He is the Holy Spirit who leads into all truth.”

Jesus called Him another comforter.. There are two words for another .. one is another of a different kind.. the second.. another of the same kind.. eg. ‘Nancy had a Peugeot and I had a Mazda car.. I had one and she had another of a different kind.. later she inherited mine and I got a new Mazda now, I had one and she had another of the same kind...The Holy Spirit is another of the same kind as Jesus .. He is part and parcel of the Godhead.. the Trinity.

As a man accepts Jesus as Saviour he is born again of the Spirit and it is this same Spirit that will one day raise him to the heavenly heights;

Romans 8:11 “But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his spirit that dwells in you.”

Illustration: piece of wood and magnet.

Rom. 8 “Therefore brothers, if, by the Spirit, you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive a spirit that makes you slaves again to fear but you received the Spirit of sonship, and by Him we cry “Abba Father” the Spirit himself testifies that we are God’s children.”

His Provisions

Christ is risen, ascended and glorified.. seated at the Father’s right hand. The disciples were told to wait for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.. He it is that provides for our needs and gives to the Lord’s people:- Offices, fruits and gifts.

Offices

He gave some, apostles and prophets, and some evangelists and some pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ. Eph. 4:11-12

These God give offices then; Prophet.. is a link between church and God.. to inform, challenge and encourage.

 Evangelist.. link between church and those outside

 Teacher.. link between church and scriptures

 Pastor.. link within the church to bring all things together. And to bring us to spiritual maturity.. to encourage us in the Way. (perhaps we ought to consider these separate offices and not expect one man/woman to fulfil them all.. like a jack of all trades.)

Fruits of the Spirit

A tree is known by its fruit.. and we are encouraged to bring forth the fruits of the spirit.. love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, meekness, temperance, and faith.

These fruits, like those on a tree, do not all appear at once.. there is a gradual growing, first the blossom, then the fruit.. and we should also show signs of spiritual growth.. are you more gentle.. longsuffering today than, say 5 years ago.. is your faith stronger, have you a greater joy.. even in adversity?? (the only way for you to judge if you are more longsuffering is for somebody to try your patience .. the only way to know you have more peace.. is for someone to rub you up the wrong way.. now you know why the temptations and trials come..!!

Illustration : Billy Gtraham.

You don’t have to say anything.. just live it!

The Gifts of the Spirit.

The Gifts of the Spirit cause some people great difficulties.. it ought not to be so.. it is often because they have seen or heard people being fanatical.. like a sounding gong, comes to mind. (Donald Gee Principal) used to talk of people “all froth and bubble”).. so heavenly minded they are no earthly good.. this is why doctrine is important.

1 Cor. 12 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant, there are diversities of gifts but the same Spirit.

And there are diversities of operation, but it is the same God which worketh all and in all.. but the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal; for to one is given by the Spirit a word of wisdom, to another a word of knowledge by the same Spirit.. to another faith by the same Spirit.. to another gifts of healing by the same Spirit.. to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another diverse kinds of tongues and to another the interpretation of tongues.. giving to every man as He wills.. for as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of that one body are one body.. so also is Christ.. for by one spirit are we all baptised into one body.. 1 Cor. 12

We are ‘born again of the Spirit’.. but that is just a start.. many stay there quite content.. but God has so much more. Our need is to let The Spirit flow through us making us more Christlike.. and then sending us to be witnesses of God’s love and greatness.

I believe in the gifts of the Spirit.

Illustration : Slough.. singing in tongues

All these Offices.. Fruits and Gifts.. that we may be made perfect.. little touches of heaven on the way.. may He become more real to each of us.. use us in His service and bring honour and glory to His Name.. amen and amen.

**Shine return to share**

**MP 587 Search me O God**

Search me, 0 God,

and know my heart today;

try me, O Lord,

and know my thoughts I pray:

see if there be some wicked way in me,

cleanse me from every sin

and set me free.

I praise Thee, Lord,

for cleansing me from sin;

fulfil Thy word,

and make me pure within;

fill me with fire,

where once I burned with shame,

grant my desire to magnify Thy name.

Lord, take my life,

and make it wholly Thine;

fill my poor heart

with Thy great love divine;

take all my will, my passion,

self and pride;

I now surrender - Lord, in me abide.

O Holy Ghost,

revival comes from Thee;

send a revival - start the work in me:

Thy word declares

Thou wilt supply our need;

for blessing now, 0 Lord,

I humbly plead.

J Edwin Orr (1912-87) © 1936 Maranatha! Music/CopyCare CCLI 150801

**Blessing:**

May the Holy Spirit grant to us another Pentecost – burn up the dross- fill us and use us to bring honour and glory to the Saviour’s name…now go in peace and may the God of peace go with you…Amen and amen.