



Order of worship

Day of Pentecost

May 23, 2021

Call to worship (*Psalm 104*)

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

**When you send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the ground.**

May the glory of the Lord endure forever;
may God rejoice in all God has made —
who looks on the earth and it trembles,
who touches the mountains and they smoke.

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

May my meditation be pleasing,
for I rejoice in the Lord.

**Bless the Lord, O my soul.
Praise the Lord!**

Call to confession

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. It is new every morning. Great is God's faithfulness. Knowing that we will find mercy in the presence of our God, we have courage to confess our sins before God and each other. Let us pray together.



Prayer of confession *(from the Book of Common Worship)*

Merciful God,

You poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples
creating bold tongues and ready ears.

We confess that we ignore your Spirit among us;
we are silent about you when we should speak,
and listen to almost any voice but your own.

We do not listen for your word of grace
which invites us;

We do not speak the good news of your love
which invites others.

Have mercy on us, O God.

(silence for individual prayers of confession)

Gracious God,

Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit.

Fill us with a flaming desire
to be a believing and witnessing people,
doing your will
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Declaration of forgiveness

Scripture announces that this is a true saying and is to be
universally accepted: Christ came into the world to save
sinners. While we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Friends,
in Christ you are forgiven. Know this and be at peace.

Prayer for illumination *(John Calvin)*

Enlighten us, O God, by your spirit, in the understanding of
your Word, and grant us the grace to receive it in true fear and
humility, that we may learn to put our trust in you, to fear and
honor you, by glorifying your Holy Name in all our life, and to
yield you the love and obedience which faithful servants owe
to their master and children to their fathers, seeing it has led
you to call us to the number of your servants and children.



The affirmation of faith (*Apostles' 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
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there 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.

Call for the offering

God has blessed us to be a blessing. With the gifts
we have received, we give back to God so that God's
mission in the world may be advanced and God's glory
may abound.

Prayer of dedication

Generous God, from your abundance you have freely
given; now from our abundance we give you what is yours.
Receive now what we offer so that your world of which you
have not grown weary, and your glory in which the world
abides, may know more of your abundance. In Christ's
name we pray, amen.



Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer (*Christina Rossetti, 1830-94*)

O God the Holy Ghost
who art light unto thine elect,
 Evermore enlighten us.
Thou who art fire of love,
 Evermore enkindle us.
Thou who art Lord and giver of life,
 Evermore live in us.
Thou who bestowest sevenfold grace,
 Evermore replenish us.
As the wind is thy symbol,
 So forward our goings.
As the dove,
 So launch us heavenwards.
As water,
 So purify our spirits.
As a cloud,
 So abate our temptations.
As dew,
 So revive our languor.
As fire,
 So purge out our dross.



Charge and benediction

Go out into the world in peace.
Have courage.
Hold on to what is good.
Repay no one evil for evil.
Strengthen the faint-hearted.
Support the weak.
Help the suffering.
Honor all people.
Love and serve the Lord,
 rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.
May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.
 Amen.

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