

# Whare Karakia

## Home prayers

31 May 2020

Acts 2: 1-12

John 7: 37-39

We realize life is a bit different for all of us right now but nonetheless we worship a God who stays the same through every age and season, and is our constant guide. So, like the first disciples we are imagining church in a new way and invite you to 'worship through' the following liturgy on your own or with your family this Sunday 31 May at 10am, from your home.



The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

*Romans 5: 5*



### Opening Prayer

Father,  
you have filled your people with the Spirit  
who rested first on your Son  
and united us in your Church;  
open the channels for your Spirit  
that we may freely work together,  
and your kingdom and your rule increase. Amen.

### Confession & Absolution

*Let us take a moment to bring to mind those things that we have said and done that have separated us from God.*

Almighty God, who pardons all who truly repent,  
forgive us our sins, strengthen us by the Holy Spirit,  
and keep us in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.  
Amen.

### Song

Spirit of the living God,  
Fall afresh on me.  
Spirit of the living God,  
Fall afresh on me.

Break me, melt me,  
Mould me, fill me.  
Spirit of the living God,  
Fall afresh on me.

If you are in need of support (prayer or otherwise) please contact us:  
Rev. Learne 021 984 002 or [office@northwestanglican.org.nz](mailto:office@northwestanglican.org.nz)



CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

**Northwest Anglican**

## Reflection: From Learne

As we celebrate the wonder today of the Pentecost story what comes to mind for you? I wonder what strikes you in a fresh way about that story? For me the strong connection between the birth, life and death of Jesus, and his resurrection and then the ascension are all pieces we need to always hold on to. The first Pentecost event and our personal filling with the Spirit are not isolated incidents in the Christian story. During the early levels of stay at home there were a number of jigsaw puzzles done where I was living. Jigsaw puzzles only make sense when you have all the pieces. If you lose some of the pieces they don't look right, and you could even argue it isn't a complete puzzle. Losing a piece would be one sad moment but I think even worse would be choosing a section and deciding it is not needed. The Spirit of God is poured out that we might be empowered to be witnesses to the world around us of the loving transformative power and presence of our creating and saving God. The Spirit of God is poured out that we might have comfort and wisdom, love and joy and peace in troubled times. The Spirit of God is poured out that we might be changed into the likeness of our God and become who we were always made to be – kind and faithful and creative and good and generous and all of the nature we see in our Lord Jesus Christ. Take time on this day to celebrate the coming of the Spirit.

## Response Activity

Pray the following prayer allowing yourself to spend time knowing the presence of God is with you in this moment and every moment.

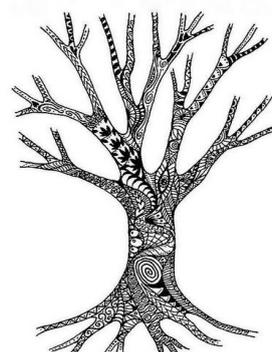
God of power may the boldness of your Spirit transform us,  
 may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us,  
 may the gifts and fruit of your Spirit  
 be our goal and our strength now and always,  
 fill us afresh that we might be witnesses to your loving good news,  
 in your name we pray , Amen

## Questions to Ponder

1. Read the story of the first Pentecost and allow yourself to be one of the characters in the drama played out. Write down what you are feeling and thinking as you experience that event.
2. Write down all of the different traits or aspects that the Spirit wants to bring forth in our lives. Name one or two that you might like the Lord to develop further in your life.

## Intercessions

Draw a picture of a tree with branches stretching out (don't worry if it a simple stick drawing!) Each branch will represent a section to pray for (e.g. The world, our church, those who are sick, New Zealand, people who have lost family members to covid19 etc). Beyond each large branch you might like to have smaller branches that may have specific issues or names of people you would like to pray for. Conclude with the Lord's Prayer.



## Closing Prayer

Lord of Power, just as the outpouring of Your Holy Spirit on Pentecost so drastically changed the lives of the disciples, may the burning fire of Your Holy Spirit refine and renew us, so that we will never be the same. May we move in the power of the Spirit, and may our lives and ministries be infused with Your divine, supernatural touch and authority. May the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation cause us to grow in our knowledge of You. Amen.