



## Kensington Presbyterian Church

### *Wind & Fire*

*May 31, 2020*

**WELCOME**, during these times of physical isolation we are putting out these worship services that you can do at home.<sup>1</sup> 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](mailto:Peter@Kensingtonchurch.ca)

### *Contacts*

Church Office: 514-486-4559.....[info@Kensingtonchurch.ca](mailto:info@Kensingtonchurch.ca)  
 Rev. Peter Rombeek (pastor).....[Peter@Kensingtonchurch.ca](mailto:Peter@Kensingtonchurch.ca)  
 Antoinette (families).....[Antoinette@Kensingtonchurch.ca](mailto:Antoinette@Kensingtonchurch.ca)  
 Kris Epps (music).....[Kris@Kensingtonchurch.ca](mailto:Kris@Kensingtonchurch.ca)

### *Announcements*

**Talk, Walk and Pray with the Moderator:** The Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Canada is inviting you to join her for talks with people across the country, walking, and in prayer. See her invitation the talks, and prayer list here: <https://presbyterian.ca/gao/moderator/> Walkers can meet with her tomorrow, June 1<sup>st</sup>. See the above web site for more info.

**Mental Health:** If you are experiencing anxiety, please contact us. You may also be interested the mental health 1<sup>st</sup> Aid Kit on our [COVID opportunities](#) web-page. It was written by a registered counsellor who has a Christian perspective.

<sup>1</sup> note: that the footnotes are not as thorough as an academic paper.

**Free Workshops:** available from Fuller Theological Seminary  
<http://formation.fuller.edu/>

Each of these **events** will happen through Zoom. Email Rev Peter for the log-in details: [Peter@Kensingtonchurch.ca](mailto:Peter@Kensingtonchurch.ca)

- **Prayer Time:** Tuesday morning prayer at 9 a.m.
- **Youth Class** (12+): Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
- **Zoom Café:** Thursday at 3 p.m.

Join Rev. Peter for coffee (not included):

- **Worship:** Sunday at 10:30 a.m. [and the text version]
- **Friday Fun:** with [Antoinette@Kensingtonchurch.ca](mailto:Antoinette@Kensingtonchurch.ca)

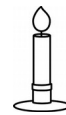
If you are interested, but these times don't work, please contact Peter

Please continue to check out the website <https://kensingtonchurch.ca/> or facebook <https://www.facebook.com/KensingtonChurchNDG/>



### *Approaching God*

Prelude: On holy ground.....Barbra Streisand  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=elu\\_xoyCKu0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=elu_xoyCKu0)



### lighting the candle

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



### Call to worship

God says: I will pour out my Spirit on all people.

**The Spirit has come. Alleluia!**

Christ says: I will ask the Father and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you for ever.

**The Spirit has come. Alleluia!**

Come, Holy Spirit, gentle as a dove,  
 burning as fire, powerful as the wind.

**Come, Holy Spirit, Come!**

## Prayer of approach & confession<sup>2</sup>

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 purge our sin in the warmth of your breath,  
freeing us from our bondage to past wrong.

In a world that can seem hostile,  
your mediating love builds a path from loneliness to joy,  
from antagonism to co-operation.

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

We make our prayer in the name of Jesus, who promised your  
coming and reigns with you in the eternal fellowship of the  
Creator, one perfect Trinity of love.  
Amen.

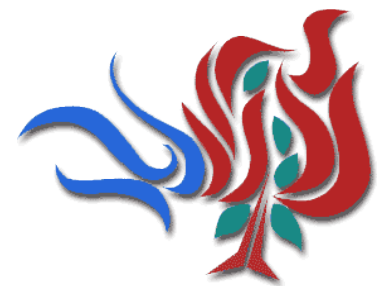
## Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news. God pours the Spirit upon us, even  
when we sin. The Spirit which helps us recognize our  
sin, which encourages us, and which transforms us  
through God's grace.

Thanks be to God!  
Amen.

## Lord's Prayer (feel free to use another version/translation) As a part of turning God's way, we pray the prayer Jesus gave us.

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  
now and forever.  
Amen.



🎵 Hymn: Breathe on me breath of God.....pg 9  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IN\\_EXkWA-qM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IN_EXkWA-qM)

<sup>2</sup> adapted from Elizabeth Baxter. *Fire & Bread* ed. Ruth Burgess

## Listening to God



### Prayer

Lord, open our hearts and minds  
by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
that as th Scriptures are read  
and your Word is explored,  
we may hear with joy what you say to us today.  
Amen.

### Intro to the readings

- Last week we read from *Acts of the Apostles* about Jesus telling them to wait in Jerusalem for the coming of the Holy Spirit - and that about 100 men & women, young & old prayed and waited. A small section about them choosing a replacement for Judas was skipped.



Now we read about what the Spirit filled experience was like. (picture: *Open Heaven* by Tim Steward)

- Paul reminds the Corinthians that God's Spirit works in each of us differently, giving us different experiencing, but that we are still one church



Reading: Please look up the passages in your own Bible,<sup>3</sup> or click on the name to be taken to an online version (NRSV).

[Acts 2: 1-12 \(13-21\)](#)

[1 Corinthians 12: 3b-13](#)

<sup>3</sup> 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

Message: What does this thing mean?<sup>4</sup>

Dear Lord, please bless these words  
and the meditations of our hearts. Amen.

### Voice 1:

Pentecost.

What an amazing day.

A day that needs describing - who knows if it would ever come again?

There was a

'... a noise that sounded like a strong wind blowing'.

But that's not to say there was a strong wind blowing that day.

'They saw what looked like tongues of fire.'

But that's not to say there were flames burning brightly that day.

These were the nearest words they could find to describe their strange experience. That gathering of what became the church had to scramble and feel around to find a way of communicating what they had encountered, for it left them amazed. And so they kept on asking each other: 'What does this thing mean?'

But it is little wonder they chose to speak about it in terms of the wind.

### Voice 2:

For there's the huge destructive power of the wind:

- strong enough to invert umbrellas and flip tables
- strong enough to lift the roofs off houses - revealing what's inside
- strong enough to blow down trees a hundred feet tall.
- driving flood waters to places they have no business to be
- smashing up crops until there is nothing left to eat.

### Voice 3:

The power of the wind; the power of the Holy Spirit of God in people:

- causing lives to be turned inside out and upside down
- dismantling rigid, brittle opinion

<sup>4</sup> adapted by Peter Rombeek from a script by Glendon Macaulay found in *Dirt, Mess and Danger*. Wild Goose Publications. 2011.

- demolishing proud ego and self-importance and self-centredness
- sweeping away deep prejudices and greed
- crushing our ability to depend on ourselves.

Little wonder, when they came face-to-face with the power of God that day, they compared it to the power of the wind.

### **Voice 2:**

There's the gradual coaxing of the wind:

- nudging plants so they grow at an unexpected angle
- eroding rock-faces until they take on a different shape
- causing sailing boats to follow a particular path.

### **Voice 3:**

The gradual coaxing of the wind; the gradual coaxing of the Holy Spirit of God in people:

- amending and reshaping individuals, so they do their thinking in a different kind of way
- wearing down what is unhelpful and rough until the face of love is recognized and more obviously seen
- provoking thoughts, and suggesting, and pointing folk heavenwards; until they are convinced a more Christ-like method, a more God-like way, is what's best for the sake of this world.

Little wonder, when they came face-to-face with the coaxing of God that day, they compared it to the coaxing of the wind.

### **Voice 2:**

But there's also the creative ability of the wind:

- picking up dandelion seeds, and carrying them so new life can take root
- cooling down atmospheres so living is more possible under a baking, boiling sun
- shifting mountain-loads of sand in deserts to create new

contours, bringing variety in creation

- drying up the heavy rains, so crops might grow and flourish, and people can eat, and their bellies are filled, and their hunger is satisfied.

### **Voice 3:**

The creative ability of the wind; the creative ability of the Holy Spirit of God in people:

- planting seeds of compassion and mercy, enabling gentleness to be born again, and willingly shared
- inspiring sacrifice and goodwill and generosity
- moving mountains of prejudice, so that beauty and tenderness can breathe and thrive
- tidying up the rubbish and debris which exists inside us; washing us clean; making us whole; scrubbing us bright.

Little wonder, when they came face-to-face with the creative ability of God that day, they compared it to the creative ability of the wind.



Airborn - A Wyeth



**Voice 1:**

Amazed, they kept on asking each other:  
‘What does this thing mean?’

Amazed, they could only attempt to find approximate words to explain their encounter with the God-Spirit. And so there’s little wonder they spoke about it in terms of the wind. It’s also little wonder they spoke about it in terms of burning fire.

**Voice 4:**

For a fire can be a life-force:

- flames that dance, their lively movements invite, restore and revive.
- warmth sustains and encourages growth
- heat that can make food easier for us to eat, and perform miracles like changing dough into bread

**Voice 5:**

The life-giving fire; the life-giving Holy Spirit of God for people:

- renewing body and soul and spirit when we’re low
- showing new purpose, providing fresh meaning, establishing cause
- turning us into something that can bring nourishment to others.

Little wonder, when they came face-to-face with the life-force of God that day, they compared it to flames of a burning fire.

**Voice 4:**

But like the wind, a fire can also destroy:

- solid rocks are melted to liquid
- great forests are scorched, and history turned to ash
- proud structures are demolished, reduced to no more than rubble
- goods gathered disappear, no longer able to be owned and enjoyed.

**Voice 5:**

The fire that destroys; the paradoxical, destructive force of the Holy Spirit of God for people:

- melting, moulding, transforming stony hearts, until graciousness and gentleness becomes the new response
- old ways of living wiped out, vaporized, leaving space for new ways to be born
- evil systems and wicked regimes suffocated and starved of oxygen, enabling nobler methods and higher values to have their chance.

Little wonder then that, when they came face-to-face with the destructive force of God that day, they compared it to a burning fire.

**Voice 4:**

But a fire that burns gives light:

- a torch to light a path
- a candle-flame that stands as a symbol
- a brightness when all around is cold and dark.
- a beacon on a hilltop

**Voice 5:**

The light-producing fire; the light-producing Holy Spirit of God, in and for people:

- guiding our choice through the maze and the mess that living can be
- burning brightly, like an eternal flame amid hopelessness and despair
- showing **God**ness as an ever-present option and possibility
- establishing hope and drawing us on with the promise of heaven.

Little wonder, when they came face-to-face with the light of God that day, they compared it to the light of a burning fire.

## Voice 1:

Amazed, they kept on asking: 'What does it mean?'  
Those first believers did well to speak about God in terms of wind.  
Isn't the power, the coaxing and the creating of that Pentecostal Spirit is still known to you and me?

Do you remember a time:

- when you were forced into overcoming your own thoughts, feelings - prejudice
- when you were coaxed into becoming generous, while your instinct was to have and to hold and keep for yourself
- when self-centredness and ego was deflated - even blown apart
- when the spirit of creation fanned within you the gentle seeds of compassion, and love was reborn, and beauty and truth could breathe again?

And they did well to speak about God in terms of fire.  
Isn't the life-giving, life-changing, light-providing force of that Pentecostal Spirit is still known to you and me?

Do you remember a time:

- when a sense of what God stands for - and demands - helped you decide what choice to make
- when you saw your purpose and place as a beloved child of God more clearly,
  - when your depression abated because of a promise and a hope and a certainty that the uncomfortable present is not all there is
- when you were surprised at yourself, because gifts - the goodness - which had lain dormant and unused within you, no longer deprived of oxygen, was fed and nourished, so that wind and fire was passed on to others through you?



Pentecost.

What an amazing day.  
A day that needs describing - who knows if it would ever come again?

Well, it does.

It wasn't just a spectacular kick off for the new church. The dynamic divine Spirit something that never fades, or blows out, or dies.

All of us, every single one of us, whether we know it or not, are affected daily, even now, by this huge force, this great influence of good, which is nothing other than that same Spirit of God the first church experienced when they gathered together on that very first Pentecost day.

'What does it mean?'

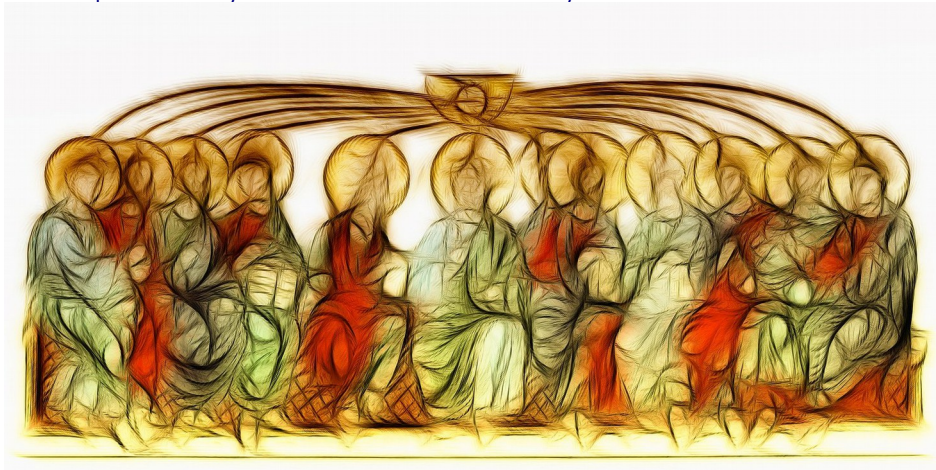
Basically, whenever somebody feels hope,  
or their place as a loved child of God  
or has the urge to sacrifice to make the world better,  
then the Spirit is blowing.

Pentecost is happening again.

*To God be the glory.*

*Amen.*

♪ musical moment: Lyric Pieces Book I, Arietta..... Grieg  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kyef1LaK6XM>



## *Responding to God*

### Activities

- have a birthday cake to celebrate the birthday of The Church
- Make a list of good things. They could be good things in your life, good things you've seen or heard of people doing, .... Then put them each into a sentence that gives credit to God's Spirit.
  - ex. The Holy Spirit brought me to the window just in time to see the cardinal, or The other day I saw the Holy Spirit picking up groceries for somebody through New Hope.
  - This could lead into prayer.
- Come up with a way to express what happened at Pentecost. You could write some music, a poem, paint, cook, dance, tell a story, use chemistry, ...

### FaithTalk

These are some questions for you to discuss with somebody... or many somebodies.

Wonder: What would that first Pentecost have been like?

Actions: How would you describe the Holy Spirit?

Wonder: How would things have changed for the disciples?  
Memories: Looking back over the 'sermon', describe a time when in your life when the Holy Spirit was active.  
Wonder: Why does God 'work' in this way?

### 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](mailto:info@kensingtonchurch.ca).

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

♪ Anthem: Hope for the World.....Jacob Narverud  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3u-cZ3Kt9pQ>

### 🧑 Prayers of the people<sup>5</sup>

Note: if you would like specific prayers included here (like with our prayer book), please send an email to:  
[prayer@Kensingtonchurch.ca](mailto:prayer@Kensingtonchurch.ca)

This prayer provides spaces for us to pray about various things that the Spirit has brought to our attention. Some things I'll be praying about include:

- the situations in the US that as led to the protests and riots
- areas of the world, such as Mexico and Egypt, where care teams are not receiving the support they need
- the ongoing stress everybody is feeling, but especially those in our essential services
- gratitude that under this stress, people are more supportive of each other
- ...and that the heat wave is done

Generous God,  
we thank you for the power of your Holy Spirit.  
We ask that we may be strengthened to serve you better...  
Lord, come to bless us  
**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the wisdom of your Holy Spirit.  
We ask you to help us understand better your will for us...  
Lord, come to bless us  
**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the peace of your Holy Spirit.  
We ask you to keep us confident of your love  
wherever you call us...  
Lord, come to bless us  
**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the healing of your Holy Spirit.  
We ask you to bring reconciliation and wholeness  
where there is division, sickness, and sorrow...  
Lord, come to bless us  
**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the gifts of your Holy Spirit.  
We ask you to equip us for the work you have given us...  
Lord, come to bless us  
**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the fruit of your Holy Spirit.  
We ask you to reveal in our lives the love of Jesus...  
Lord, come to bless us

**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the breath of your Holy Spirit  
given on Pentecost.

We ask you to keep the whole church in the joy of eternal life...  
Lord, come to bless us  
**and fill us with your Spirit.**

Generous God,  
you sent your Holy Spirit upon the Messiah at the river Jordan  
and upon the disciples in the upper room:  
In your mercy fill us with your Spirit,  
hear our prayer, and make us one in heart and mind  
to serve you in Christ, our Lord. Amen.

♪ Hymn: Love divine, all love excelling.....pg 10  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cj-fUaa7bpg>

### Sending & Benediction

As you go from this place and time,  
look for the work of the Spirit active in the world,  
and in you.

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing  
so that you may abound in hope  
by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Romans 15:13*

**Postlude:** Everytime I Feel the Spirit I Pray.....Mahalia Jackson  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sZTPCDzz\\_NM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sZTPCDzz_NM)





## Prayer Partnership

These are invitations compiled by the Presbyterian Church in Canada for our prayers.

### Sunday, May 31 – A Long Journey for a Rohingya Family

Polio left 20-year-old Kafietula and his 10-year-old sister Shohita unable to walk. When the arson and killings started in Rohingya, their family had to carry them to Bangladesh! Working with the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, PWS&D is providing food



vouchers to shop at local markets. With diverse foods to help them stay healthy, many Rohingya people can begin to dream again. “Shohita is able to go to school and is learning English. She has a dream of being a teacher and wants to help others.”

**Monday, June 1** Let us pray for an abundance of grace and kindness at this difficult time for communities and people.

**Tuesday, June 2** We thank God for worship and music leaders who give their time and gifts to support the worship of God.

**Wednesday, June 3** We pray for graduating students of our theological colleges, asking for guidance as they seek to serve in the ministries to which God has called them.

**Thursday, June 4** We thank God for the faithfulness of congregations as they continue to support Presbyterians Sharing with their financial gifts and their prayers.

**Friday, June 5** We pray for Ecumenical Shared Ministries in which a variety of denominations share buildings, worship and serve together in Christian unity.

**Saturday, June 6** We pray for the new ministry at Living Waters, Peterborough, Ont., with the Rev. Jonathan Baird.

## Breathe on Me, Breath of God

1 Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life a - new,  
2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,  
3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am whol - ly thine,  
4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er die,

that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.  
un - til with thee I will one will, to do and to en - dure.  
un - til this earth - ly part of me glows with thy fire di - vine.  
but live with thee the per - fect life of thine e - ter - ni - ty.

In both Hebrew and Greek, the words for “spirit” can equally well be translated as “breath” or “wind,” so it is very appropriate to address the Holy Spirit as the “Breath of God.” This tune by an English organist has become the customary one in North American hymnals.

TEXT: Edwin Hatch, 1878  
MUSIC: Robert Jackson, 1888

TRENTHAM  
SM



Pentecost  
Nelson

# Love divine, all loves excelling

HYFRYDOL 8787D

F C F Bb/D C7/E F C Dm C F/A C7/G F /A

1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, joy of heaven, to  
 2. Breathe, oh breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to eve - ry  
 3. Come, al - migh - ty to de - liv - er, let us all thy  
 4. Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

Bb6 Dm C F F /A C F Bb/D C7/E F C Dm C

earth come down; fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing,  
 troub - led breast! Let us all in thee in - her - it,  
 grace re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn and nev - er,  
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion

F/A Gm6 F /A Bb6 Dm C F Am Dm7 Dm

all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art  
 let us find the prom - ised rest; take a - way our  
 nev - er more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be  
 per - fect - ly re - stored in thee, changed from glo - ry

Gm C7 Dm C7/E F /E Dm Bb6 Am Gmsus4-3 Bbmaj7 C7sus4-3

all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art;  
 love of sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be;  
 al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove,  
 in - to glo - ry till in heaven we take our place,

F Am Gm C7 F /A C Bb C

vis - it us with thy sal - va - tion;  
 end - of faith as its be - gin - ning,  
 pray and praise thee, with - out ceas - ing,  
 till we cast our crowns be - fore thee,

F/A Bb /D F/C C7 F

en - ter eve - ry trem - bling heart.  
 set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
 glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 lost in won - der, love and praise.