



Kensington Presbyterian Church
Growing in faith and sharing God's love
 since 1786

Spirit presence/presents

May 19, 2024

WELCOME, to worship. We are offering a variety of ways for people to gather. We are welcoming people to worship in person (with singing), as well as through Zoom, YouTube, and this printable PDF.¹ If this is how you are worshipping, know that you are not alone... and if you like, you can invite those who live with you to join you, or connect with others through the phone or 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).

Announcements

Clicking on or tapping blue text will take you to a web-site

Choir: Sunday mornings at 9:45.

Zoom Prayer Group: Wednesday at 6:30 a.m.

[us04web.zoom.us/j/773730107?](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/773730107?pwd=eUo2M09YMEw5dkZvdm9uQmpHNIUrUT09)

[pwd=eUo2M09YMEw5dkZvdm9uQmpHNIUrUT09](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/773730107?pwd=eUo2M09YMEw5dkZvdm9uQmpHNIUrUT09)

Jesus & Java: Join us as we share the joys and questions of faith.

Thursday, 3:30 pm at Beetz, 5914 Sherbrooke @ Clifton

Friday's fabulously friendly food & film: pizza at 6:30 pm

Castle in the Sky: An anime classic and belief, expectations & actions. **RSVP** with Peter appreciated.

Drop Box: Food donations are welcome for the local Food Pantry, diapers for young mothers through Head & Hands, and clothes & accessories for the New Hope Boutique.

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



Pentecost
 Kelly Latimore

New Hope Walk: 9:30 - 12:30 walk & lunch

Join in to raise money for meals on wheels & programming

Donations can be made online or in person.

Register ahead, or come early. newhopedg.com (514) 484-0425

New Hope Annual Meeting: Jun 5 from 11-12, followed by lunch.

Contacts

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

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

514-773-4620

Zoé Dupont-Foisy (music director).....zoedupontfoisy@hotmail.com



Approaching God



Lighting of the Christ Candle

Jésus Christ est la lumière du monde.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.



Call to worship

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

We live in her, and she in us.

Give thanks to the Lord, sing praises to our God,
and tell everyone of all God's marvellous actions.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty,
who was, and is, and is to come!



Pentecost - Corinne Vondesch

♪ Hymn: In your pentecostal splendour.....pg 9 (279)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wdkv_QptY3E



Prayer of Approach

Spirit of God,

flickering over our heads,

illuminating our faces,

inspiring our thoughts,

give us now, we pray,

Words of joy and praise.

Spirit of God,

filling our hearts with hope,

steadying our nerves with peace,

comforting our lives with love,

give us now, we pray,

Words of joy and praise.

Spirit of God,

come to us now -

surgings through the darkness of our lives,

sweeping over our weariness

so that, in this time of Pentecost,

the sparkling light of faith,

the rushing wind of hope

and the joyful sound of praise

may echo round the world,

may echo in the church,


and find their response in us.

Spirit of God, give us now, we pray,

Words of joy and praise. Amen.²

² John Harvey from *Fire & Bread* ed Ruth Burgess

As we come to worship God,
let us say together the prayer Christ teaches:

 The Lord's Prayer (please use a version you are comfortable with)

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
Amen.



Listening to God

♪ Hymn: Glory be to God on high.....pg 9

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d0hgkqFenKw>

 Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds
through the power of your Holy Spirit,
so we can grow into the presence/presents of your Spirit.
Amen.

✦ Intro to the readings

Our main reading is going to be mixed into the sermon, but there are two others leading into it.

The first is part of Psalm 104. It's one of the songs that Jesus

would have sung at church. It's about creation. Listen for what is mentioned, and what it's like when God's Spirit is around. How does the singer want to respond to God?




Creation Window - Sacred Heart RC church Bilton, Warwickshire

Then we have another passage about God's Spirit. There's two things it says that you should know a bit more about before we start.

The first is that the passage will say that "they were all together", but not who "they" were. It's at least the 12 apostles who followed Jesus - at probably more.

Next, I want to tell you about the Festival of Weeks or Shavuot or Pentecost (it has three names). This is a Jewish festival to celebrate the first harvest of wheat, and also become a celebration of God's promise to be with people. In Jesus' day all the Jews who could went to Jerusalem to celebrate. Your Jewish friends might still celebrate it, but without going to Jerusalem. Those early followers of Jesus were Jews and were in Jerusalem for this Festival - when something pretty crazy happened.

 Reading: Please look up the passages in your own Bible,³ or click on the name to be taken to an online version.
[Psalm 104](#): 24-35 & [Acts 2](#): 1-4

³ 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 1: Spirit presence/presents

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

The disciples have gathered to join the big celebration of God giving food, the ten commandments, and making a covenant with the people to be with them when suddenly something strange happened. It was something powerful. It moved them to the depths of their souls - and caused them to move physically as well. It was so wonder-filled they had to tell everyone about it.

But how?

Well... you know how you can blow the dust away from something, except this was more than just making something clear. You know how a strong wind can push a boat along to where it needs to go? You know how a powerful wind can blow away what gets in the way? ...It was a bit like that. Something strong that cleaned them out, knocked over their fears and blew them to where they needed to go.

It was also like fire - warming them and lighting their way so they could see where to go and what to do.

So, it was like wind and fire as God's Spirit came among them, and into them.

And the presence of God's Spirit brought presents for all. This passage names languages. This is a pretty good gift.

Who here knows more than one language? three? four? ... It's useful. Languages help you think in different ways, and to communicate with others - to feel less awkward and to get things done.

The Holy Spirit gave them the gift to be able to speak in all sorts of languages - and then the story goes on to say they spilled

out of the house into the street and started telling people from all over (in all those languages) about their experience with God.

It became such a celebration that we still remember it.



Dancing with the Spirit - Nikolova-Houston

Let's sing a song. It's not an excited chaotic one like the disciples were feeling on that Pentecost - but it is about asking God to breathe upon us. (in Hebrew the word for spirit and breath and wind is the same.)

♪ Hymn: Breathe on me breath of God.....pg 9 (389)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=1N_EXkWA-qM

✧ Sermon 2: Spirit presence/presents



Reading: [1 Corinthians 12](#): 1-3

The lectionary has been bouncing around Paul's letter to the Corinthians. Today we go back to chapter 12 and the discussion about Spiritual gifts - or gifts from the Spirit.

The first gift it talks about is just a side effect of opening

yourself to the presence of the Holy Spirit - a consequence of allowing God's Spirit to be a part of you. Paul reminds those listening of how they used to live by doing what other people were doing; of going along with the flow; of letting society and marketing teach them what was important and how to live - of going along with that gentle force called 'peer pressure'.

...and all of us can relate to times when we've also gone along with what seems to be the way to do things.

Paul reminds us that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize Jesus. "no one can say 'Jesus is Lord!' without insight from the Holy Spirit." This gives a rudder, a way to steer our lives so that we can experience the gifts of faith, hope and love.

 Reading: [1 Corinthians 12](#): 4-6, 8-11

In this section Paul reminds us that there are a wide variety of gifts that God gives us. We can consider things to be gifts, like having a building to worship in and food to eat, but here Paul is talking about gifts that the Spirit develops inside us.

Let's brainstorm gifts that gives. . .



Now let's celebrate how some of these gifts are in our midst. Let's put some names beside them. . .

knowledge: Masa, ...
wisdom: Anne, ...
healing: Kathryn, ...
listening: Gloria, ...
kindness: Cathy, ...
welcoming: Ivana, ...
teaching: Marcella, ...
languages/tongues: Rose, ...
music: Zoé, ...
creative: Alix, ...
food: Sandra, ...
organizing: Ines, ...
accounting/numbers: John, ...
tech: Simone, ...
great deeds: Ruth, ...
faith: Peggy, ...
hope: Jane, ...
love: ...

To quote Paul, "Now there are varieties of gifts, but they come from the same Spirit." And these are just a few examples of how the presence of the Spirit has blessed us with gifts (presents).

But it's more than just giving presents. Again to quote Paul "All these gifts are activated by one and the same Spirit." They are being used (which is how we notice them in others).

Let's hear the rest of today's passage.

 Reading: [1 Corinthians 12](#): 7, 12-13

I've been asked how do we tell if it's a gift of the Spirit or not? The answer Paul gives is that it's not about you. You will likely enjoy it. Olympic Runner Eric Liddell said that when he ran he felt the joy of God. For him running was a gift of the Spirit. But it also wasn't about him - he ran to glorify God, and it created opportunities to share the faith, hope & love he experienced from God. Paul reminds us that these gifts are for the common good.

And then Paul goes on to twist an image the Corinthians would have been very familiar with. The idea of the body was commonly used to show how society (the body) has stronger more beautiful parts, and lesser/uglier parts. This image was used to say that it was natural for some people to be well off, and others poor. Paul uses the same image to say the opposite. He points out the obvious, that every part is important in a body. All are different, and needed. If a part of the body were just to live for itself... well, nothing would work right. There are ways around this, but it is more work for the rest.



Beloved - Carolyn C Brown

As we remember Pentecost, know that it was more than just one day a couple of thousand years ago. The Holy Spirit has come into each of our lives - and you have been shaped by this. The first gift was recognizing that Jesus is special - and you've come to church to grow closer.

God's Spirit has given you gifts. If you don't know what they are, ask your friends. You'll find they are things that seem to come naturally to you - and things that help others.



Dear Lord,
thank you for all the gifts that your Spirit brings us.
Help us to know what they are,
and how we can use them to share your love, hope & healing.

*In the name of the Father, Son & Holy Spirit
Amen.*



Responding to God

🎵 Hymn Sing: For those at home, you can join in on YouTube:⁴
www.youtube.com/channel/UC_EPsf2FuWoeen7j1iGcz_w



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

Memories: What sorts of activities bring you joy?

Wonder: How might those activities help others? (perhaps think of helping them feel faith, hope or love)

Values: How do you balance looking after yourself and living for others?

⁴ note: the video disappears for a while after we finish and then reappears later Sunday afternoon.

Actions: Identify ways that your gifts have helped “the common good”?

How might you use them in the week ahead?

Prayer: ...thank God for the gifts of the Spirit, and help in using your gifts.



Spirit Sightings

Every congregation (and individuals) help support Presbyterians Sharing. Often we hear about ministries being supported in Canada. This week's daily prayer sheet (pg 8) tells of how it is also helping the librarian at Zomba Theological University in Malawi to upgrade her education to help the students there.



Offering

Financially, we have set up a donation option on our **website**: kensingtonchurch.ca. Just click the ‘**Donate Now**’ button, and then the pretty button. It gives you various options that are easy to follow.

You can also 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 people⁵

When the day of Pentecost came there was a noise ... like a strong wind blowing.

Wind to blow away the cobwebs of our tradition.

Wind to freshen our faces and awaken us to the challenges of today.

Wind to fill our sails and send us on a voyage of spiritual discovery.

**Wind of the Spirit,
blow strongly through the Church
and enliven us with the breath of God.**

They saw ... tongues of fire ...

Fire to burn away the rubbish in our lives.

Fire for spiritual heat to 'strangely warm' our hearts.

Fire to light a beacon of hope for the people in our communities.

**Fire of the Spirit,
blaze away in the Church
and set us on fire for the Gospel.**

They heard the believers speaking in their own languages.

Speaking in a way that people can understand.

Speaking to real needs, having something to say on real issues.

Speaking so that our neighbours want to listen.

**Words of the Spirit,
speak to us and through us,
that we may preach the living Word.**

5 David Lemmon from *Fire & Bread* ed Ruth Burgess

But others said: 'These people are drunk!'

Perhaps they were:

Drunk on the new wine of the Kingdom of God.

High on the power of the Holy Spirit celebrating
the birth of the Church of Jesus Christ.

**Holy Spirit of God,
inspire and excite us as we celebrate in worship,
and empower the work and witness of your Church today.**

Amen.

♪ Hymn: [I am the church.....](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=50kEqdXz3ao) pg 10 (475)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=50kEqdXz3ao

✦ Benediction (Ephesians 3:20-21)
*Now to him who by the power at work within us
is able to accomplish abundantly far more
than all we can ask or imagine,
to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus
to all generations, forever and ever.*
Amen.



MISSION MOMENT

Sunday, May 19

Gifts to Presbyterians Sharing support international partners through leadership development grants. In 2023, the National Council for Higher Education recommended that the position of Assistant Librarian at Zomba Theological University in Malawi should require at least a bachelor's degree. So, the Rev. Dr. Takuze Chitsulo, Vice Chancellor, requested support from the PCC for Assistant Librarian Jane Mwalabu Makupete to upgrade her Diploma in Library Information to a Bachelor of Arts degree in Records Management. Jane was ecstatic and very grateful when she heard of the PCC's support.



DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, May 19 (Pentecost) Today on Pentecost Sunday we are reminded that we are one worldwide family in Christ. We give thanks for people in every generation who have spent their lives sharing the good news of Jesus with others.

Monday, May 20 We pray for female students studying for ministry at Zomba Theological University in Malawi.

Tuesday, May 21 We pray for peace in the Land where Jesus was born, lived, died and rose again. Praise God for Israelis and Palestinians who speak out for peace despite great personal loss. May the Lord grant peace among the nations.

Wednesday, May 22 Calling God, when you call students from around the world to serve your church, give your church the grace to receive this gift, be taught by the global church and to give you praise.

Thursday, May 23 We rejoice in the growing farm ministry at Crieff Hills Retreat Centre and pray for an abundant harvest of vegetables, flowers, herbs, honey, eggs and maple syrup this year.

Friday, May 24 We pray for Winnipeg Inner City Mission's Flora House programming that encourages children to learn through play and to find joy in discovery.

Saturday, May 25 We pray for Knox College and its Class of 2024 as they convocate today. We pray for a joyful celebration of academic success and an affirmation of a call to serve.

In your pentecostal splendour

TONY BOTEL 8787D

F#m /A C# D Bm6 C# F#m A E/G# C#E# F#m Bm C#7 F#

1. In your pen - te - cos - tal splen - dour rise, O liv - ing God, a - rise;
 2. You of old did lead your peo - ple through the des - ert as they went;
 3. Christ who stooped to die for sin - ners, you have raised to high - est place;
 4. You at Pen - te - cost did show - er gra - cious rain from heav - en a - bove;
 5. Let the fire of your near pres - ence melt our fears, like wax, a - way;

A /C# Esus4-3 F#m /A C#sus4-3 F#m /E D6 E F#m D6 C#

smoke of bat - tle blurs and blinds us; blow your wind and clear our eyes:
 you up - on the mount to Mo - ses did your ten - fold rule pre - sent.
 he, cap - tiv - i - ty led cap - tive, bring forth gifts for all our race.
 on all flesh did pour your Spir - it, sil - ver - winged, des - cend - ing dove.
 touch our lips with songs of cour - age; teach us with your saints to say,

D A6 C# D Bm6 C# F#m A E 3 A D Bm C#7 F#m

You are God of vic - to - ries!
 You are law and cov - e - nant!
 Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah! You are giv - er of all grace!
 You are lib - er - ty and love!
 You will guide us all the way!

Words: John Edward Speers (1916-) Music: Thomas John Williams (1869-1944)

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Rev. Peter Rombeek
Kensington Presbyterian Church

Glory Be to God on High

1. Glo - ry be to God on High, Al - le -
 2. Praise the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son, Al - le -
 3. Sing we prais - es un - to thee, Al - le -

lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on
 lu - ia! Praise the God - head, Three in
 lu - ia, for the truth that sets us

High, Al - le - lu - ia!
 One, Al - le - lu - ia!
 free, Al - le - lu - ia!

WORDS: Traditional MUSIC: Traditional, arr. by John D. Horman

389

Breathe on me, breath of God

TRENTHAM 6686 SM

F Bb/F Bbm/F F /A C7/GF Bb6 Dm/Bb C F Bb/F Gm6

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

F/A F Bbmaj7 Bb6 Gm /Bb F/C (C F/C) C7 F

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

Words: Edwin Hatch (1835-1889) Music: Robert Jackson (1840-1914)

Words: public domain Music: public domain

The Church

475

I am the church! You are the church!

PORT JERVIS 7 7 8 6 with refrain

Refrain

G Em7

I am the church! You are the church! We are the church to -

C/D D7 G Em

geth - er! All who fol - low Je - sus,

Am D Bm Em C/G G Fine

all a-round the world! Yes, we're the church to - geth - er!

Words: Richard Avery (1934-), and Donald Marsh (1923-) Music: Richard Avery (1934-), Donald Marsh (1923-)

Words: copyright © 1972 by Hope Publishing Co. Music: copyright © 1972 by Hope Publishing Co.

Verses

G C C6

1. The church is not a build-ing; the church is not a stee-ple;
 2. We're man - y kinds of peo - ple, with man - y kinds of fac - es;
 3. Some-times the church is march-ing; some-times it's brave - ly burn-ing;
 4. And when the peo - ple gath - er, there's sing - ing and there's pray-ing;
 5. At Pen - te - cost some peo - ple re - ceived the Ho - ly Spir - it

D G C6 D D.C

the church is not a rest - ing place; the church is a peo - ple.
 all col - ours and all a - ges, too, from all times and plac - es.
 some-times it's rid - ing, some-times hid - ing; al - ways it's learn-ing.
 there's laugh-ing and there's cry - ing some-times, all of it say - ing;
 and told the Good News through the world to all who would hear it.