



**5 JUNE 2022**

### **Welcome to worship**

Welcome to church this morning, as we celebrate Pentecost and the birth of the church.

### **Lectionary Readings**

#### **This week June 5, 2022**

Acts 2:1-21 or Gen 11:1-9  
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b  
Romans 8:14-17  
John 14:8-17, (25-27)

#### **Next week June 12, 2022**

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31  
Psalm 8  
Romans 5:1-5  
John 16:12-15

### **Ukraine Appeal**

Thank you to all who donated to the Ukraine Crisis Emergency Appeal. We raised \$550 which church council has rounded to \$1000 which has been sent to Act for Peace.

### **Ordination Invitation**

Gail Hinton, who will be our new minister, is being ordained on Sunday 19 June at 2.30pm at Penrith Uniting Church, 15 Evan St Penrith. You would be most welcome to attend the service. Please let Sue know if you are planning to attend so, we can let Gail know for catering purposes.

 **HOLROYD**  
COMBINED CHURCHES

## **Pentecost Service**

### **6pm Sunday 5th June**

Hosted by Holroyd New Life Church  
732 Merrylands Rd, Greystanes  
SONGS + PRAYERS + MESSAGE + SUPPER  
[www.holroyd-churches.org.au](http://www.holroyd-churches.org.au)  
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## **Dear Church – Happy birthday to you Acts 2:1-21**

We regularly celebrate the birth of Jesus – we call that Christmas.  
We remember his crucifixion and resurrection – we call that Easter.  
But today is Pentecost and few realize it or its implication for the church, then or now.  
So.... What is significant about Pentecost?

Pentecost is the day when the Church received the power of the Holy Spirit, so effectively, Pentecost is the birthday of the Church.

Pentecost is very much associated with power. Power can be used in at least 2 different ways. It can be unleashed or it can be harnessed. God is looking for a church that has sustainability, a church with staying power, through tough times and good. Daily, not just in weekly outbursts. The Holy Spirit works in both ways.

At Pentecost, as we heard today, the Spirit exploded onto the scene. Times were uncertain and in a loud, confused and confusing way, with lots of noise, the Christian Church sprang into life.

In verses 15 and 16, people from all different cultures and languages came running to hear what was going on. And they were all amazed! Peter steps forward and points out that this very event was prophesied many years earlier by the prophet Joel in chapter 2; 28, The prediction was that the Holy Spirit will empower the Church. And what happened that first Pentecost? Thousands were affected and changed by one mighty explosion of God's power.

But He also works continuously through the Church, churches just like ours. God loves worship, even when worship lacks the Bang factor of others. God loves fellowship and service and I reckon we have plenty of that here. Christians are empowered with staying power, even, especially in tough times like when a pandemic hits and we are between ministry leaders.

Today, we celebrate Pentecost Sunday, and in a sense, we look back on the past year and see where we have come from spiritually and where we are now.

Are you being led by the Spirit? It is only when we look back and see where we have come from and what we have come through, that we can see if we should be celebrating Pentecost, or whether we need to further focus our Christian journeys in prayer and scripture study.

I believe that while we wait for the ministry leadership of Gail, who will join us in a few months, we can focus our lives and prayers on what God wants us to do and how He wants us to live. There have been many issues that have focused our attention on ourselves in recent times. The Global Pandemic is clearly affecting us all, but even though things are not yet “back to normal”, we should still look to how we can seek and find what God wants for us individually, and as a constantly burning source of God's love in this, our local community.

Happy birthday dear Church. I wish you many more happy and fruitful years of love and service.

Adrian