CHRIST CHURCH THORNTON

Service of Holy Communion
Pentecost Sunday 24 May 2026
'Being a messenger of the gospel'

Welcome

Worship in Song

In the darkness we were waiting
Without hope without light
Till from heaven you came running
There was mercy in your eyes
To fulfil the law and prophets
To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt

Praise the Father, praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of glory, majesty
Praise forever to the King of kings

To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross
For even in your suffering
You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation
Jesus for our sake you died

And the morning that you rose
All of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death
And the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored

And the Church of Christ was born
Then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel shall not faint
By his blood and in His Name
In his freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me

Confession

Almighty God, you poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples creating bold tongues, open ears, and a new community of faith. We confess that we hold back the power of your Spirit among us. We do not listen for your word of truth, we do not speak the good news of your love, nor do we live as a people made one in Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Transform our lives by the power of your Spirit, and fill us with the desire to be your faithful people, doing your will for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

God's love has been poured into our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit. The proof of God's amazing love is that while we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, our sins are forgiven and we can approach the throne of God in confidence. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Special Prayer for Today

God, who as at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Bible Readings

Acts 2.1-47 *(Church Bible page 909)*
Luke 24.36-53 *(Church Bible page 885)*

Sermon

Worship in Song

Are you thirsty, are you empty
Come and drink these living waters
Tired and broken, peace unspoken
Rest beside these living waters

Christ is calling, find refreshing
At the cross of living waters
Lay your life down, all the old gone
Rise up in these living waters

There's a river that flows with mercy and love
Bringing joy to the city of our God
There our hope is secure, do not fear anymore
Praise the Lord of living waters

Spirit moving, mercy washing
Healing in these living waters
Lead your children, to the shoreline
Life is in these living waters

Are you thirsty, are you empty
Come and drink these living waters
Love forgiveness, vast and boundless
Christ He is our living waters

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers

At the end: Merciful Father,
accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Notices & Banns of Marriage

The Peace

God has made us one in Christ. He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come, has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Worship in Song

Beautiful Lord, wonderful Saviour,
I know for sure, all of my days are held in your hand,
Crafted into your perfect plan.
You gently call me into your presence,
Guiding me by your Holy Spirit.
Teach me, dear Lord, to live all of my life
Through your eyes.

I'm captured by your holy calling,
Set me apart
I know you're drawing me to yourself;
Lead me, Lord, I pray.

Take me, mould me, use me, fill me;
I give my life to the Potter's hand.
Call me, guide me, lead me, walk beside me;
I give my life to the Potter's hand.

Offertory Prayer

Lord God, take our hearts and set them on fire for you. Take our lives and transform them to be like that of Jesus. Take our church and resurrect it with your life-giving Spirit. Take our gifts and use them for the fulfilment of your vision of peace and unity. Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you**.

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son.
You embraced us as your children and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.
He opened his arms of love upon the cross and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends he took bread, and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.
Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his body is the bread of life.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this in remembrance of me.
Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his blood is shed for all.

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.
As we eat and drink these holy gifts make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.

With your whole Church throughout the world we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Giving of Communion

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

We receive communion

Worship in Song *- during communion*

Holy Spirit living breath of God,
Breathe new life into my willing soul.
Let the presence of the risen Lord
Come renew my heart and make me whole
Cause your word to come alive in me,
Give me faith for what I cannot see;
Give me passion for your purity;
Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

Holy Spirit, come abide within,
May your joy be seen in all I do.
Love enough to cover every sin
In each thought and deed and attitude:
Kindness to the greatest and the least,
Gentleness that sows the path of peace.
Turn my strivings into works of grace;
Breath of God, show Christ in all I do.

Holy Spirit, from creation's birth,
Giving life to all that God has made,
Show your power once again on earth,
Cause your church to hunger for your ways.
May the fragrance of our prayers arise;
Lead us on the road of sacrifice,
That in unity the face of Christ
May be clear for all the world to see.

Worship in Song *- during communion*
Spirit of heaven flood over me
Forming Christ in all that I do
Turn every sinful desire in me
Into holy passion for You

O Spirit of God come down
Let mercy and grace abound
My passionate prayer shall be, Christ in me

Spirit of beauty and holiness
Come refine with fire from above
Till I am cast in Your righteousness
And I love the things that You love

Breathe Your forgiveness when darkness falls
And my heart is heavy with sin
Fill me with faith for the higher cause
Of the ceaseless praise of the King

Prayer after Communion
Faithful God, who fulfilled the promises of Easter by sending us your Holy Spirit and opening to every race and nation the way of life eternal: open our lips by your Spirit, that every tongue may tell of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Worship in Song
Lord Jesus you have built your church
You are our faithful living Head
Across the years the flame has passed
Across the earth the light has spread

Lord Jesus build your church today
May we be faithful to your word
Delighting in its glorious truth
Rejoicing in its gracious Lord

Keep us in the faith
Make us one in Christ
Pressing on in hope to win the prize
Let the light still shine
May the flame burn bright
Till the day your glory fills the skies

Lord Jesus build your church today
May we be faithful to your love
One body bound by bonds of peace
One holy bride for Christ our God

Lord Jesus build your church today
May we be faithful to proclaim
To go and make your gospel known
To go and magnify your name

Blessing
May the Father from whom every family in earth and heaven receives its name strengthen you with his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; and may the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.