

St Edmundsbury
Cathedral



Pentecost Songs of Praise



Sunday 24 May 2026
3.30 pm

Welcome to St Edmundsbury Cathedral

St Edmundsbury Cathedral is Suffolk's Cathedral. It is a place of worship and mission; a place of welcome and hospitality, serving the Diocese, County and beyond. At St Edmundsbury Cathedral, we hold our Benedictine principles close. Principles such as love, care, hospitality and community. They are reflected in how we work with each other, how we talk about the Cathedral, and how we reach out to the whole of Suffolk and beyond. Our values are faith, welcome, compassion and confidence and they are demonstrated across our areas of work in worship, mission, hospitality and sustainability. The Cathedral is committed to the safeguarding, care and nurture of everyone within our community. Everyone is welcome, always.

St Edmundsbury Cathedral is part of the **Inclusive Church** Network. As such, we believe in a church which celebrates and affirms every person and does not discriminate on grounds of age, disability, economic power, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, learning disability, mental health, neurodiversity, or sexuality.

To assist you at today's service, please take note of the following information.

Accessibility

- An induction loop system is in operation.
- Large-print orders of service are available.
- The order of service indicates whether to sit or stand, however please feel free to adopt the posture with which you are most comfortable.

Photography, Filming and Live-streaming

- For safeguarding reasons, members of the public are not permitted to take photographs or video recordings during the service.
- Please note that this service will be livestreamed on YouTube. If you do not want to appear in this please inform a warden or vergers.
- Photographs, video or livestream footage in which you may appear could be used by the Cathedral at any time and appear in the public domain including social media.
- Please ensure your mobile phones are turned to silent.

Pentecost

Pentecost (from the Greek pentekoste, 'fiftieth' of fifty days of celebration) marks the end of the Great Fifty Days of Easter. It has its roots in the Jewish Feast of Weeks, which was completed on the fiftieth day after Passover. On the fiftieth day of Easter, God sends his Holy Spirit to empower the Church to perform the mission which the risen Christ has entrusted to it.

Pentecost celebrates both the Holy Spirit and the Christian Church. The risen and ascended Lord is no longer present to the Church in the body of his flesh; the Church is now to be the new body of Christ, filled with his life through the gift of the Spirit.

The Order of Service

All stand as the ministers enter and remain standing for

The Greeting

All O Lord, open our lips
and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

All Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

All Give us the joy of your saving help
and sustain us with your life-giving Spirit.

All remain standing for

The Welcome

All remain standing to sing

The Hymn

**All together in one place, Alleluia,
friends of Jesus met to pray, Alleluia,
waiting as the Lord had said, Alleluia,
for the Pentecostal day. Alleluia!**

**All together with one power, Alleluia,
poured out when the Spirit came, Alleluia,
touching each and filling all, Alleluia,
rushing wind and burning flame. Alleluia!**

**All together with one voice, Alleluia,
praising God in every tongue: Alleluia,
languages they never learned, Alleluia,
telling what the Lord had done. Alleluia!**

**All together with one aim: Alleluia,
bearing witness to their Lord; Alleluia,
sharing faith by word and deed, Alleluia,
preaching Christ, the living Word. Alleluia!**

**All together still today, Alleluia,
though two thousand years have gone. Alleluia,
Still the Spirit's power is given; Alleluia,
still God's people meet as one. Alleluia!**

**One in mission, one in faith, Alleluia,
still responding to God's call, Alleluia,
one in telling all the world, Alleluia,
Jesus Christ is Lord of all! Alleluia!**

Words: Brian Hoare, b. 1935

*Music: Llanfair, Melody probably by Robert Williams, 1782-1881
harmonised probably by Compilers of English Hymnal, 1906*

All sit for

The Bidding

On this day of Pentecost,
we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit:
the breath of God that brings us life,
the fire of God that kindles love within us,
and the power of God that sends us into the world.
As once the Spirit came upon the disciples
with wind and flame and a voice for every nation,
so we pray that the same Spirit
will fill this place and each one of us today.
Let us open our hearts to God's presence,
lift our voices in praise,
and join with the whole Church, on earth and in heaven,
in worship of the living God.

The Pentecost Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs – in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.'

Acts 2.1-13, NRSV

All Come, Holy Spirit
and fill us with your love.

The Hymn

**Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.**

**O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.**

**Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing:
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.**

**And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till he become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.**

*Words: Discendi, amor santo, Bianco da Siena, d. 1434,
translated by R. F. Littledale, 1833-1890*

Music: Down Ampney, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

All sit for

The Prayer for Personal Renewal

The oil of Chrism is presented with these words.

Oil for the renewal of God's people.

The Dean says

All Be with us, Spirit of God;
nothing can separate us from your love.

All Breathe on us, breath of God;
fill us with your saving power.

All Speak in us, wisdom of God;
bring strength, healing and peace.

I invite you to receive the anointing with oil,
a sign of the Spirit's renewing grace.
As the apostles were strengthened and made new,
so may you be refreshed in body, mind, and spirit.

As the organist plays, those who wish to receive the ministry of anointing are invited to come forward to the altar rail.

When all who wish to have been anointed, the Dean prays

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father,
ignite in us your holy fire;
strengthen your children with the gift of faith,
revive your Church with the breath of love,
and renew the face of the earth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All **Amen.**

All Come, Holy Spirit
and fill us with your love.

The Hymn

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure;
until with thee I will one will,
to do and to endure.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,
till I am wholly thine;
until this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God:
so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.**

Words: Edwin Hatch, 1835-1889

Music: Carlisle, Charles Lockhart, 1745-1815

A Reading

A reading from the Gospel of John.

Jesus said to his disciples, 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

'I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.' Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, 'Lord, how is it that you will reveal yourself to us, and not to the world?' Jesus answered him, 'Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

'I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.'

John 14.15-27, NRSV

All

Come, Holy Spirit
and fill us with your love.

All stand to sing

The Hymn

During which the altar is censed.

**Holy Spirit, living breath of God,
breathe new life into my willing soul.
Bring the presence of the risen Lord
to 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.**

Words and Music: Keith Getty, b. 1974 and Stuart Townend, b. 1963

All sit or kneel for

The Prayers

The Collect

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.

All **Amen.**

Being made one by the power of the Spirit,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us.

The Lord's Prayer

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

All **Come, Holy Spirit
and fill us with your love.**

The Hymn

**O thou who camest from above
the fire celestial to impart,
kindle a flame of sacred love
on the mean altar of my heart!**

**There let it for thy glory burn
with inextinguishable blaze,
and trembling to its source return
in humble prayer and fervent praise.**

**Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
to work, and speak, and think for thee;
still let me guard the holy fire,
and still stir up the gift in me.**

**Ready for all thy perfect will,
my acts of faith and love repeat;
till death thy endless mercies seal,
and make the sacrifice complete.**

Words: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Music: Hereford, Samuel Sebastian Wesley 1810-1876

All remain standing for

Extinguishing the Paschal Candle

The Dean moves to stand by the Easter Candle.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All **He is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

For fifty days we have rejoiced in the light of Christ,
the risen Lord who has conquered death and darkness.

Today we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit,
God's presence no longer beside us, but within us.

In the power of the Spirit,
we are now bearers of Christ's light in the world.

The Easter Candle is extinguished.

All remain standing for

The Blessing

May the Spirit,
who hovered over the waters at creation,
who descended upon the disciples at Pentecost,
who equips the Church for mission today,
strengthen you in faith and fill you with joy,
that the light of Christ might shine in you;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

All remain standing as the procession departs and the organist plays

The Organ Voluntary

Giving

St Edmundsbury Cathedral is a charitable organisation, dependent on your donations for our ongoing work of worship, service and hospitality.

Please give as generously as you can. If you do not carry cash you can donate using one of the contactless giving points or by scanning the QR code below.

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