



Table Liturgy for Pentecost

Evidence indicates that in the early church people gathered for worship in homes, over meals. You are invited to print out this Table liturgy for the Pentecost Season and utilise it for worship over a meal either alone, or with others, at home. This simple worship service is grounded in John's Gospel. It focuses on Jesus' words, declared in the midst of ministry, that he is the bread of life and the true vine. While the liturgy includes bread and juice, it does not include Holy Communion. John's Gospel does not include an account of the last supper Eucharist.

This liturgy includes prayers, pauses, spaces for song, for personal reflection and for shared discussion if you are eating with others. If you are engaging in this worship alone, you may wish to have pencil and paper on the table, so that after the Gospel reading you can write or sketch about your ideas, questions and insights as you eat. In preparation for this worship you are invited to gather a candle, bread and juice, a bible and some tea light candles if you would like to light them during the prayers for others.

A Pentecost Table Liturgy for use at home

We greet you Holy One Sacred Three
Holy Mystery, Holy Wisdom, Holy Flame

a candle is lit

**In the fire of your love our fear dissolves:
as your peace disrupts our complacency,
as your risen life draws us into compassion.**

Ancient of days
Ground of our being
We praise you

(Daniel 7.9, 11, 22)

Jesus, bright morning star,
Hope of our hearts
We praise you

(2 Peter 1.19)

Spirit Holy, Advocate and truth
Birther of love
We praise you

(John 14.16-17, 21-21)

a moment of stillness

While the disciples were locked in fear,
Jesus stood among them speaking peace:

**Jesus breathed on them and said
'Receive the Holy Spirit'**

(John 20.22)

Holy Spirit please abide in us ever more deeply

a moment of stillness

a song or hymn may be sung

Jesus says: 'I am the bread of life:
whoever comes to me will never be hungry'
(John 6.35)

**Jesus, Bread of life,
we praise you for your nourishment and
healing**

bread is shared

We give thanks too, for the gift of food we will
now share.

Liturgy continued P2





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We pray that the day will soon dawn when all will live in justice and mercy so that there is enough food for every person of every culture and walk of life. Please strengthen us to work with you for this, the coming kingdom.

Enjoying eating

You may like to read the Gospel text for this week and discuss, or ponder, your reactions, thoughts, questions and insights.

You may like to reflect on recent experiences of Holy Spirit in your life or in your community.

Jesus says:
'Let anyone who is thirsty come to me... out of the believers heart shall flow rivers of living water'

(John 7.37-39).

**Spirit Holy,
We praise you for your liberating life and presence**

water or juice is shared

Surprising God we pray for this beautiful, broken world,
through the power of Holy Spirit
please burn away hate, division and injustice
so that your peace may flourish:

*prayers for the earth are shared
candles may be lit*

Holy One – Sacred Three we praise you
for coming among us in Jesus:
in healing, teaching and feasting,
in dying, rising and abiding with us now.
We praise you for Spirit Holy:
drawing us ever closer to truth and grace,
burning away the dross,
setting us free for love.
We praise you with all of creation.

a moment of stillness

a song or hymn may be sung

As we leave this table,
we know that you go with us.

And so we bless ourselves,
and one another, with your blessing:
**May Blessed Trinity be with us all:
may the Source of all be upholding you,
may radiant Christ be illuminating you,
may Spirit Holy be emboldening you,
every step that you take
in this stormy world.
In the name of Christ. Amen**

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