

Stewards Prayer

**Phil announces: Introit (Seated) SoF 40 Be Still**

**Mike 1** Near keyboard, with music stand **Bob Jeanne Phil**

**Mike 2** Near the Organ, lecturn, **Christina, Wendy,  
Margaret**

**Reading: Acts 2:1-4 Phil**

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.

**Bob** We shouldn't have been surprised,  
not if we'd had any sense;  
it was what we'd been told to expect,  
what he'd promised us.  
But we never imagined anything quite so  
extraordinary.

**Christina** We were waiting, it's true,  
gathered together as so often before,  
but we'd been doing that for  
days and our confidence had taken a  
hammering.

**Wendy** We were going through the motions,  
that's all telling each other he hadn't  
forgotten us,  
talking of the future as though we still believed in it,  
wondering in our hearts if there was anything to look  
forward to.

**Margaret** I mean, what could we hope to achieve when all was said and  
there done. What reason to think that we, a motley bunch if ever  
was one, should fare better than our master? We wanted to  
carry on his work, don't get me wrong:  
we wanted to tell people what had happened,  
help them find faith for themselves,  
but how could we even  
hope to begin?

**Marjorie** So we kept the doors locked  
and sang our hymns  
and said our prayers  
and hid our doubts.  
Until suddenly it happened!  
I can't properly describe it even now,  
— but it changed our lives.

**Jeanne** (with ribbons)

It was as though a mighty wind blew away the  
cobwebs,  
a refreshing breeze revived our flagging faith,  
a breath of air stirred our spirits. As  
though a tiny spark rekindled our  
confidence,  
a tongue of fire set our hearts aflame,  
a raging inferno swept our  
fears away.  
As though life had begun  
again,  
the world become a  
different place, and each of  
us been born anew.  
I know that doesn't make  
sense,  
but it's the best I can do.  
You'll have to experience it for yourself  
to understand.  
And you can, just as we did.  
Believe me, we never would have thought  
it possible, — despite all Jesus said to us.

**Phil** We were lost,  
lonely,  
frightened,  
hopelessly aware of our weaknesses,  
searching for any strengths.  
We never thought we'd  
change a soul,  
let alone the world,

**Marjorie** but that's because we had no idea how God could  
change us!

**Phil announces:** Congregational Hymn 451 O Thou who  
camest



**Phil announces Lord's Prayer new version (on screen please Tony)**

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  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours  
Now and forever Amen

**Margaret, Marjorie, Christina move to sit with backs to the stage**

**Prayers of Intercession**

**Phil: We remain seated as we now sing Hymns of Fellowship No 12,"All over the World the Spirit is moving" Between each verse we will offer our Prayers of Intercession and at the end of each section will you kindly respond with the words on the screen commencing "Lord of the past, the present and the future" We will then move to the next verse of the song**

***SoF 12 Verse 1 All over the world the Spirit is moving***

**Margaret:** Lord, the all revealing light of your Love is shining at this time of Pentecost as we are challenged to make a difference in the name of Jesus.

We give you thanks that your love for each of us is revealed to us in so many ways. We thank you for our families, our friends, those sitting next to us here this morning, those we meet at school, at work, at the shops or wherever we find ourselves.

Help us to be considerate in our actions, thoughtful in our dealings with people and reflect in our lives your loving concern for all. Help us to be open to see your will, and trust you in the choices we make each day.

*(Tony, on screen please) Lord of the past, the present and the future, breathe on us breath of God fill us with new life.*

*We pray that mirrored here, our lives will tell your story.*

*Shine in our darkness.*

Lord, in your mercy - **Hear our prayer.**

## **Margaret sits back to stage**

***Verse 2 All over His church God's Spirit is moving.***

**Phil:** Lord the light of your love is shining as we are challenged at this time of Pentecost to make a difference in the name of Jesus. We remember and thank you for the joy of sharing with others your good news. You gave us a living, vibrant gospel to proclaim not to keep to ourselves. Help us to take out and share our faith with those we meet. Inspire and challenge us as we try to live out your teaching day by day.

Send Your guidance and wisdom to overcome the uncertainties in our Church and Circuit as we face the inevitable changes the next few years will bring. Give us compassion for those Churches who may have to consider amalgamation or closure; speak to us so that we can know the ways in which our own Church needs to respond to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. Help us to use the opportunities created to spread Your Message of love and salvation more effectively in our neighbourhoods.

We remember all who visit our church and all the organisations that meet on our premises. May they always receive a loving welcome and find God here. May we be wise stewards of our Church and the inheritance we share.

*Lord of the past, the present and the future,  
breathe on us breath of God fill us with new life.  
We pray that mirrored here, our lives will tell your story.  
Shine in our darkness.*  
Lord, in your mercy - **Hear our prayer.**

**Phil sits back to stage**

**Marjorie and Christina to mike**

*Verse 3 Right here in this place the Spirit is moving.*

**Marjorie:** Lord the light of your love is shining as we are challenged at this time of Pentecost to make a difference in the name of Jesus. We give you thanks that you are there in every situation, and aspect of our lives, with us through every moment of every day.

Help us to be mindful of the differing needs of those we meet. Help us to be there when needed, sharing the high and happy parts of life and supportive during the lowest and most miserable times we all experience. We remember all in special need this morning and bring before you the families who have requested our prayers:

**Christina: Prayers from the Prayer Board**

**Marjorie:** We bring before you those who feel no one cares for or about them, the unemployed, the poor, the lonely, the depressed and those suffering injustice and neglect.

We remember those who are close to death and those recently bereaved.

*Lord of the past, the present and the future,  
breathe on us breath of God fill us with new life.*

*We pray that mirrored here, our lives will tell your story.*

*Shine in our darkness.*

Lord, in your mercy - **Hear our prayer. Amen**

**Christina** announces Offertory

**Marjorie:** Prayer

**Marjorie** announces Hymn 851 (Response) I will offer up my life

**Phil:** Benediction