



Sunday 23rd May 2021

Family service by the Callaghan Family

**Welcome to our Service today, we hope that you are all well and we pray
God's Holy Spirit will speak to you as we worship Him together.**

**Now we have no church family birthdays this week
but we do have a birthday!**

Today we celebrate the birthday of the church, that is not Croftlands Church but the church as a whole – as it is Pentecost Sunday when we remember the Holy Spirit coming down.



The Holy Spirit was the gift God promised through Jesus to send down on all people that call on His name.

So today we want to welcome the Holy Spirit to be here with us as we worship during this service.

Lets Pray...

Lord, as we worship today
on Pentecost Sunday, come
and fill us with your Holy
Spirit.

We pray that we will sense
your presence with us,
Bring freedom and peace to
broken people,
Open our eyes to see you as
you are.

And open our hearts to
praise you.

Amen.

Worship Song...

Holy Spirit

There's nothing worth more that
could ever come close
No thing can compare, You're our
living hope

Your presence, Lord

Holy Spirit, You are welcome here
Come flood this place and fill the
atmosphere

Your glory, God, is what our
hearts long for

To be overcome by Your
presence, Lord

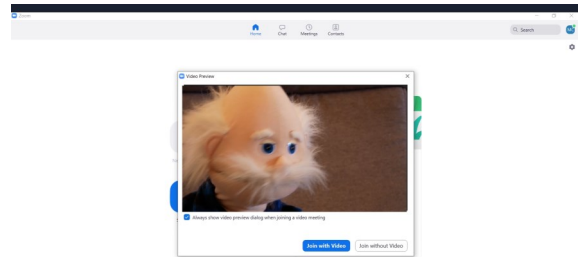
Bible Reading from Acts 2:17-18; 21

'In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy...



And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

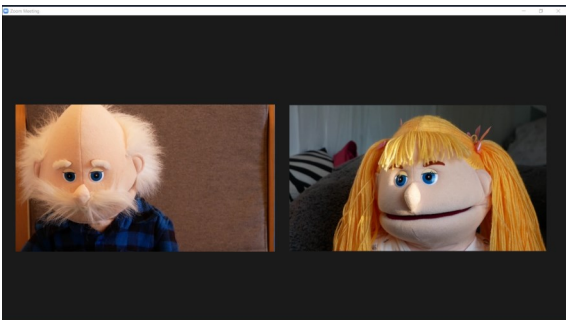
Susie was waiting for a video call with her Grandad who had promised her a gift. As Grandad was getting ready for the call Susie was wondering what the gift might be.



She thought it might be a new phone...or better than that a new puppy which she could call Fido or Buster or ... something else!

As she is talking Grandad joins the call and has over heard everything that she has said and asks her about it.

Susie can't wait to find out what Grandad wants to give her saying that one of her new electronic toys has stopped working and is useless.



As Susie and Grandad talk we find out that the gift is the Holy Spirit as it is Pentecost Sunday.

Susie wonders what it must have been like to be a disciple on the day God sent the Holy Spirit and asked Grandad if he thought it might have tickled the disciples.

Grandad Laughed at the thought of the Holy Spirit tickling the disciples.



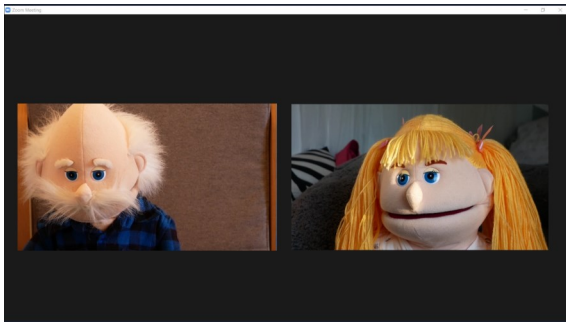
He told her that they would have felt the presence of Jesus with them, because the Holy Spirit makes Jesus real to people.

Susie told Grandad that when she was praying and asking Jesus to forgive her for something she had done, she felt a real sense of Jesus loving her. Grandad told



her that this was the Holy Spirit. He also told her that the Holy Spirit gives us powers, but Susie thought it was the power to zap - people that were nasty to her, but Grandad explained that it was the power to do the things

God wants us to do. They ended their video call as church was about to start and Grandad told her that today they were going to be praying for a refilling of the Holy Spirit.

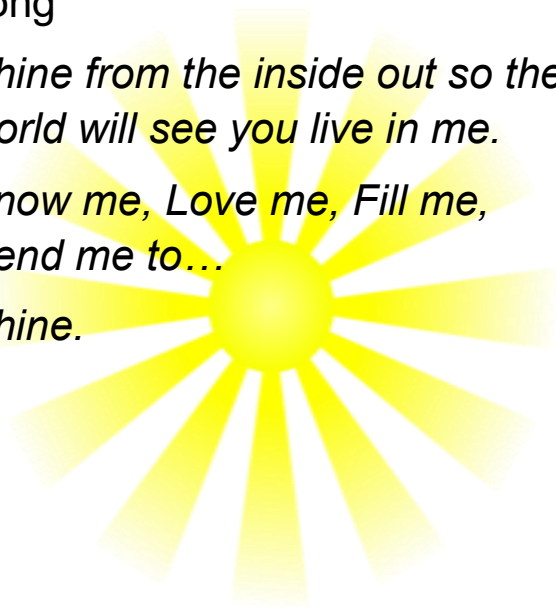


Having the Holy Spirit inside us enables us to Shine from the inside out. This was our next song

Shine from the inside out so the world will see you live in me.

*Know me, Love me, Fill me,
Send me to...*

Shine.



Our talk for today has 4 P's in it.

First of all though lets us think about gifts that we receive not just for birthdays and Christmas but special ones, ones that we don't know about - they are the real special kind.

What about waiting for something to arrive like Susie in the story above was waiting for something. That is exciting too as we know about it and can't wait for it to arrive.

Waiting for something can sometimes be hard. However with the Holy Spirit it is a bit like when you place an order online at Amazon or some other store.



You place the order and get a message that the order has been placed, then as the order is dispatched you get another message and when it is about to be delivered another message.

Thinking about the Holy Spirit God promised it to us throughout the Old Testament. The Bible passage in Joel which Peter requested on the day of Pentecost is one such example. – that is like the order being placed.

Then when Jesus was alive here on earth he promised to send the Holy Spirit once he had gone back up into Heaven John 14:15-17 – that is like the order being dispatched we just have to wait.

Then the Holy Spirit arrives with tongues of fire and wind rushing through – order delivered Amazon drives are always rushing about and we can begin to enjoy whatever it is.

Unlike Amazon the first disciples didn't know when the Holy Spirit was going to be sent so they waited for the promised gift.

However we do know as it has already been sent and is freely available to everyone who calls on the name of the Lord as it says in Acts 2:21.

Now for those that like key words or letters in a talk so far we have had two P, words Pentecost and Promise/ promised.



We are like a car sponge, which is OK but try to clean a dirty car and it doesn't work very well. We need to be immersed into the soapy

water of God's presence then we can have the power to do the job God intended us to do.



This gives us two more P words Presence and Power.



In the service last week we heard that God's Presence = God's Power.



The sponge has to be 100% immersed into the soapy water to work and so do we need to be 100% immersed into God.

Now over time the soapy sponge will run out of soap and become dry and will need filling again - just like we need refilling with the Holy Spirit.

Jesus often took himself off and away from the crowds following a busy day such as after the feeding of the 5000 to spend time with God and getting refuelled.

So the four P words

Pentecost – God sending the
Promised Holy Spirit so God's
Presence can be in us which can then flow out in
Power to do the work God intended us to do.

Our family service ended with Build Your Kingdom Here.
Followed by the grace.

The Grace ...

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
And the love of God,
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
Be with us all,
Now and forever more.
Amen

