

## St. Matt's Midweek Update – 6<sup>th</sup> June 2025



I hope you have had a good week.

This Sunday is Pentecost, 50 days after Easter and the birth of the early church. It's a day when we celebrate God's Holy Spirit coming on the disciples in power and filling them ready for their ministry to the world.

Although we are still looking at Joseph in our talk this Sunday morning, we will be celebrating Pentecost and the Holy Spirit through our worship and other parts of our service and at the 5pm service.

Acts 2:1-4 says:

"When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them."

In the Bible, fire represents God's presence with and in His people. In the Old Testament we see God speaking to Moses through a burning bush, we see a pillar of fire guiding the Israelites after they escaped from Egypt, we see wind and fire on the top of Mount Sinai when God was speaking to Moses and his people and giving the ten commandments, and we see pillars of fire over the tabernacle and the temple when they are built.

And here in Acts, the fire of God rests on each of the disciples, showing that God's presence is with them and his power is in them.

Peter then goes on to quote the prophet Joel as he speaks to the crowds in Jerusalem...

"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."

The Holy Spirit is for all of us, and the power it gives us is the same power that raised Jesus from the dead. It's not a fire that burns things up, but a fire that empowers and gives life.

As we celebrate Pentecost this Sunday, I pray that God would reignite that power and passion in us as a church. That we would dream dreams and see visions. And that we would know the power of the fire of the Holy Spirit on and in each one of us.

Amen.

## Notices



**This Sunday (8th June)** we have two services, at 10am and 5pm.

In the morning, Matt will be speaking on the next part of Joseph's story and the Bible passage is Genesis 41:1-57. We will have groups for our children and youth this week.

At 5pm, Richard Arding will be leading a service of communion and speaking on Pentecost. Tea and cakes are available from 4.30pm.

**Next Sunday (15th June)** we have our main 10am service with groups for children and young people. We will be sharing communion together in this service and we will also be celebrating Father's day.

### **Let's get together to pray!**

Just a reminder that we have some opportunities to get together and pray for our church and the wider world coming up.



**Wednesday 11th June 8pm to 9pm** - this will be a hybrid meeting, both in person in the church centre and on Zoom.

Thank you to Mary and Linde for organising this meeting for us - we will be thanking God, praying for the world & praying for our church. If you would like to join the meeting on Zoom, here are the details:

Meeting ID - 84301099318

Password - 671667

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84301099318?pwd=FTyHLZCMjj3nnibEonUcBbuf1kXnXf.1>

**Sunday 13th July 8.30am to 9.30am** in the church centre, with a simple breakfast!

**Mission prayer meeting** - the next monthly mission prayer meeting is on Wednesday 18th June 3.30pm - 4.30pm at Mary's house and on Teams.

### **Save the date - church BBQ and activities at Adamswell - Sunday 6th July**



A reminder to save the date for our BBQ lunch and afternoon of activities at Adamswell in Langton Green. There is lots of space, and Brian will make some of the scout activities available for us to use, like the bouncy castle, archery and axe throwing. There is also the potential for an afternoon walk if someone would like to lead that for anyone interested. I will get a sign-up link in next week's email, so look out for that.

### **Save the date - Chris and Carole Open House!**

Another date to put in your diary! Chris and Carole are having an open house at their new house in Dorset on Saturday 30th August.

Please save the date for now, and there will be more details to follow.



### **Become a Life & Soul Mentor**

Life & Soul is one of our mission partners and is a Christian charity working in local secondary schools to offer one-to-one mentoring for students who need someone to walk alongside them with care, consistency, and hope. Right now, they're inviting new volunteer mentors to join them.

What does it take to be a mentor? Just a couple of hours a week in term time, a desire to support young people, and a willingness to join in with training and ongoing support. They provide everything else: a clear programme to follow, a friendly and prayerful team, and—of course—cake whenever they gather!

If anyone would like a no-pressure chat about what's involved, or is ready to sign up, they can get in touch with Angie at [angies@lifeandsoul.org.uk](mailto:angies@lifeandsoul.org.uk)

If you need any help or support, please do be in touch with me in the office.  
We hope to see you on Sunday.

St. Matthew's Church Office High Brooms Road Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9BW

01892 618108 [office@stmattschurch.org.uk](mailto:office@stmattschurch.org.uk) [www.stmattschurch.org.uk](http://www.stmattschurch.org.uk)

Registered charity number 1185772