

## **Wait on God!**

I absolutely love Pentecost! Of all the festival services in the Christian calendar, Pentecost seems to have the lowest pressure from tradition but arguably the biggest potential in terms of seeing the power of God at work in people's lives. It is a celebration of the spectacular moment when the power of God's Holy Spirit, the same power that raised Jesus to life, filled His disciples with unbelievable effect.

On the first Pentecost, God gave again the gift of Himself. It's a gift He is still giving. That gift and the gifts of the Spirit are completely available to anyone willing to ask for them, willing to open themselves to God's service, and allowing God to work through them.

As we celebrate Pentecost at church, I very much hope that we can offer suitable space and time to wait on God as Jesus' disciples did. It's not something we should be scared of: God is not out to make us all look like fools, but we should be prepared that God can, and will, change us. He needs a people equipped to serve Him in the world today, just as much as He did at the first Pentecost. He needs people who can speak His words in the language of today to a world hungry for His love, for new purpose in their life and a much brighter future.

We celebrate Pentecost on Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> June, the same day as we celebrate Christ Church's Anniversary. This is a great time to recommit ourselves to serving God as one church in South Manchester. We'll borrow some uplifting words from the Methodist Church to help us, and I pray we will come away renewed in our commitment to the path ahead.

Lastly, and sadly, it will be the last service that Lee Battle is with us as Student Minister. It has been brilliant to have Lee with us, a real blessing to me (I will have to do some work now!), but I know a real blessing to you as well! Thank you, Lee! Please do pray for Lee as she moves on to whatever awaits her next in her training.

Whether you make it to our Pentecost Anniversary service or not, I pray that God will fill you with His Spirit every day as you seek to follow Him.

**Andy Hall**