

# Church at Home for Abridge

31<sup>st</sup> May 2020

## Activities for the whole family

Acts 2: 1 – 21



1. Here is a catchy [song about the story of Pentecost](#) from John Hardwick
2. Here is a shadow theatre [presentation of the story of Pentecost](#)
3. **Creative ideas** to explore Pentecost together as a family:

- a. **Bunting** You will need: pencil or pen; card; paper or fabric; collage bits and bobs in red, orange and yellow; scissors; glue; string or wool; stapler (If you want to make proper bunting, there are many online sets of instructions and videos. Here, we're just making something temporary and quick.) Make a triangle template – take a square of card and fold it in half, then cut from the fold to the top corner and open it out. Use this to draw round paper or fabric for as much bunting as you need. Decorate each triangle with coloured scraps and patterns on a fire or flame theme. Staple them to the string and hang up the cheerful finished bunting.

**Talk about** the exciting, party feel to this time of year, when we celebrate the birthday of the church! Jesus' first disciples were praying when they saw something like flames above everyone's heads and knew it was Jesus' Holy Spirit coming to be with them and fill them up to make them more like Jesus.

- b. **Paint splatter flames** You will need: drinking straws; runny red, orange and yellow paint; paper; pens; glitter and glue (optional). Draw a person's head at the bottom of the paper. Then put a teaspoon of runny paint above the head and blow through the straw so the paint splatters up the paper and makes a flame shape. Add a dollop of a different colour and blow again until your wildfire looks very cool. Add glitter if you want to.



**Talk about** the first Christians seeing the Holy Spirit of Jesus come to them as 'something like flames' resting on each other's heads, and hearing the sound of a mighty wind in the room where they were praying. What noise did your breath make as you blew down the straw? What do you think God's breath sounds like?

- c. **Peace be with you** You will need: the words and actions for 'hello' and 'peace' in different languages ([from ideas.brf.org.uk](http://ideas.brf.org.uk)); paper; coloured pens. If you have enough people to divide into two teams, see how many of these words and actions you can learn in five minutes, then 'test' the other team and see which team can remember most. Turn the words for peace into a piece of art, shaped like a dove – another symbol for the Holy Spirit.



**Talk about** how amazing it must have been on that first day when the Holy Spirit came, to be able to speak and understand other languages! It brought people together in a new and different way.

## Discussion

A question for adults to ask children  
*What does this story teach us about what the Holy Spirit is like?*

It must have been amazing to experience the Holy Spirit at Pentecost – the arrival is described as a strong wind and the Holy Spirit appeared like flames on people’s heads.

The story also tells us a lot about what it is like to be filled with the Holy Spirit and the different gifts that the Holy Spirit can give us. People spoke in many languages, Peter received wisdom and the ability to teach and share clearly. Peter also spoke about the promises that God had made to the prophet Joel – that the Holy Spirit would give people the gifts of prophecy and was available to all kinds of people.

A question for children to ask adults  
*Can you share a time when you had your own experience of the Holy Spirit at work?*

### A prayer to say together

Dear God,

Thank you for the story of Pentecost! Thank you that you did not leave us alone on our mission for you, but that you sent a helper, the Holy Spirit.

Thank you for the wonderful gifts of the Spirit which help us to live for you and to share your love with others.

We ask that just like at Pentecost that people today would see your Spirit at work in your church and come to know you.

Amen

Can you use the code to reveal the message?

a	b	c	d	e	f
g	h	i	j	k	l
m	n	o	p	q	r
s	t	u	v	w	x
y	z				



Can you find all these Pentecost related words in the word search?

Colour the stained-glass window... colour all the shapes with a dot in the same colour.

- wind
- fire
- Peter
- heaven
- Pentecost
- Jerusalem
- Holy Spirit
- disciples
- languages
- flames

There are 10 flames hidden on the page.

