



VINTAGE ADVENTURE

@ HOME

LIVING IN THE LIGHT OF EASTER

Dear Vintage Friends,

I hope you have been enjoying the lighter evenings and warmer days as we move towards the summer months. Watching the blossom emerge on the trees and a myriad of plants pushing their way through the warming earth is a wonderful reminder of the new life that Easter promises each of us. Our Vintage pack this month explores what it means to live in the light of Easter. I love the post resurrection stories of Jesus meeting with his friends and family, sharing meals with them, even having a BBQ on the beach!

“Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast”. None of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” They knew it was the Lord”

John 21: 12

Jesus gently encourages the disciples to look to the future, reassuring them that although he will not be physically present with them, God will send the Holy Spirit to be their encourager, provider, and enabler.

At Pentecost, churches across the world celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit together, and the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, has written some helpful Pentecost Reflections which we have included for you in this Vintage Adventure. So, we hope and pray that the worship, the prayers, the reflections, and community news will encourage you at this time.

And as we pray together in the opening worship, “Make us ready for Your coming Spirit”, my prayer is that we will all be ready and open to what the Holy Spirit is saying to each of us, as we think about what it means to live in the light of Easter.

Blessings,

Erica

WORSHIP



PENTECOST

Acts 2: 1-4

'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.'

Introduction and Opening Prayer

As we look forward to celebrating Jesus' ascension into heaven and the coming of the Holy Spirit upon those first disciples, along with tens of millions of Christians around the world, let us prepare our hearts before the Lord:

As we wait in silence,
Make us ready for Your coming Spirit.
As we listen to Your word,
Make us ready for Your coming Spirit.
As we worship You in majesty,
Make us ready for Your coming Spirit.
As we long for Your refreshing,
Make us ready for Your coming Spirit.
As we long for Your renewing,
Make us ready for Your coming Spirit.
As we long for Your equipping,
Make us ready for Your coming Spirit.
As we long for Your empowering,
Make us ready for Your coming Spirit.

Almighty God,
Your ascended Son has sent us into the world
To preach the good news of Your kingdom:
Inspire us with Your Spirit
And fill our hearts with the fire of Your love,
That all who hear Your Word
May be drawn to You,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

www.thykingdomcome.global

Hymn

Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity
Mine outward vesture be
And lowliness become mine inner clothing
True lowliness of heart
Which takes the humbler part
And o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing

4 And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till Love create a place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

*Lyricist: [Bianco da Siena \(c. 1350-1399\)](#),
translated by [Richard Frederick Littledale \(1833-1890\)](#)*

Time to Pray

God breathes the Spirit into our hearts, so that we may recognize our Father and have confidence to pray as Jesus did. So let us invite the Holy Spirit to come and help us pray to the Father, in union with Christ, for those things which are on our hearts.....

- Peace and justice among the nations
- Healing and compassion for those who suffer
- Wisdom and faithfulness for the Church with all the challenges it faces in the world today
- Those whom we love and ourselves.

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F
la
me-
dancing
Spirit come:
Sweep us off our
feet and dance us
through our days.
Surprise us with
your rhythms: Dare
us to try new
steps,
explore

new
patterns
and new
partnerships.
Release us from old
routines: To swing in
abandoned joy and
fearful adventure. And
in the intervals: Rest
us
in your
still
centre.
Am-
en.

Adapted from 'Seasons of Grace' by Ann Lewin

What does the Holy Spirit mean to you?

Jesus said:When the Holy Spirit comes, he will convince the world of its sin, and of God's righteousness, and of the coming Judgement. He will guide you into all truth, telling you what he has heard from the Father, he will tell you about the future....

John 16: 5-15

Thoughts people say about the Holy Spirit today:

To me, it means that I can trust God to act in this world, now. I can feel when other people pray for me, a tingling right through my body, and I know when reading and reflecting on bible readings, what new aspect or guidance God is giving me. I am surrounded by people who believe that prayers are answered.

I pray to the three parts of God, our heavenly Father, Jesus who was raised from the dead and sits in heaven with his father, God and the Holy Spirit, the person of God present in our world today. This helps me feel God is present today.

Today, I believe the Holy Spirit is active in our churches, inspiring people about God's words, inspiring people to repent and ask God to forgive them, and then filling their very soul with Joy. He helps us know God's guidance, asking God to help us for us, and acting to bring people and society back towards God.

Teacher ... Advocate
... Counsellor ...
Truth ... Wisdom ...
Peace... Blessing ...

Grace Gifts

With Pentecost came the Holy Spirit and the giving of the various gifts of the Spirit.

We are very fortunate in attending a local church where emphasis is given to developing and using the spiritual gifts that our Father in Heaven gives us through the Holy Spirit.

One such gift is Prophecy. A gift revealed to me many years ago as I searched for God in the Homegroup to which we belonged. We were very fortunate to have a member who was already using her gifts and each week as we prayed, she would encourage us to develop and use the gifts of the Spirit we had received or could receive. It was during one of our prayer times in the group that I received a picture of this lady offloading sacks of provisions from a lorry. She later visited Africa and while there she went from village to village teaching, praying and offering healing ministry thus fulfilling the prophecy.

On another occasion, during a sad time, we had a mother who had come over from the continent to be with her dying student daughter. Whilst she was in the group, I saw a picture of her washing the feet of hundreds of people in a line going up into the hills. Later we found out that she was indeed working hard for the Lord in her local church.

A hard part in using your gifts is believing you have some in the first place. So your friends and others in the church family can be very important in recognising your gifts and encouraging you to use them. Some of us are a bit reserved and hold back. But we have received the gifts for a purpose, to help build up the kingdom of God and to encourage the church. So the encouragement of others can be very important.

A few months ago we had a meeting of the Caraway team and during one meeting someone asked for Prayer for the work they were doing. It was in Covid

times, and they were concerned about getting into people's homes to meet. I had a picture of this person entering a building and using the lift. The lift seemed to stop at each floor without any input from the user. They had to get out time and time again. Many months later we met again, and the person revealed how that picture came to mean so much because of the many doors that have opened up in the ministry they are charged to do. It also was important to me as confirmation that God does indeed reveal to us his plans for other people.

Of course, as we all age it can become harder to use our gifts, especially if becoming housebound. But perhaps we can read the Bible, pray, listen to God, share when we can and encourage others.



Jeu d'esprit

*Flame-dancing Spirit, come,
Sweep us off our feet and
Dance us through our days.
Surprise us with your rhythms,
Dare us to try new steps, explore
New patterns and new partnerships.
Release us from old routines,
To swing in abandoned joy
And fearful adventure.
And in the intervals,
Rest us,
In your still centre.*

Ann Lewin



VINTAGE ADVENTURE EASTER

It was so encouraging to see over forty of us gathered for this Easter service. The comments made by our guests were even more heartening:

"It's the first time I've felt able to come back to church"

"It's like coming home"

As our guests arrived at Highfield Church, our wonderful volunteers welcomed them with big smiles, open hearts and a sparkling elderflower cordial. We worshipped together, with many hymns and readings telling the Easter story.

Following the service, some time for reflection was welcomed with a selection of quiet spaces. Across the aisle, craft stations gave the opportunity to socialise and create. To end the celebrations a wonderful tea of hot cross buns and mini Easter eggs was enjoyed.



You are invited to join us for our next gatherings where we will be celebrating the Queen's Jubilee.

Details for these events are overleaf. We hope you can join us.

Tea Dance



As part of our celebrations for the
Queen's Platinum Jubilee
you are warmly invited to join us

Tuesday 31st May 2022
2-4.30pm

Highfield Church, Highfield Lane, SO17 1RL

relaxed dancing | delicious tea | live music

Book your ticket, £3 each

07535 164014 or caraway@caraway.uk.com
or [pay on the door](#)

A CELEBRATION QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

Join us for a service of thanksgiving for
Queen Elizabeth II as she celebrates 70 years on the throne

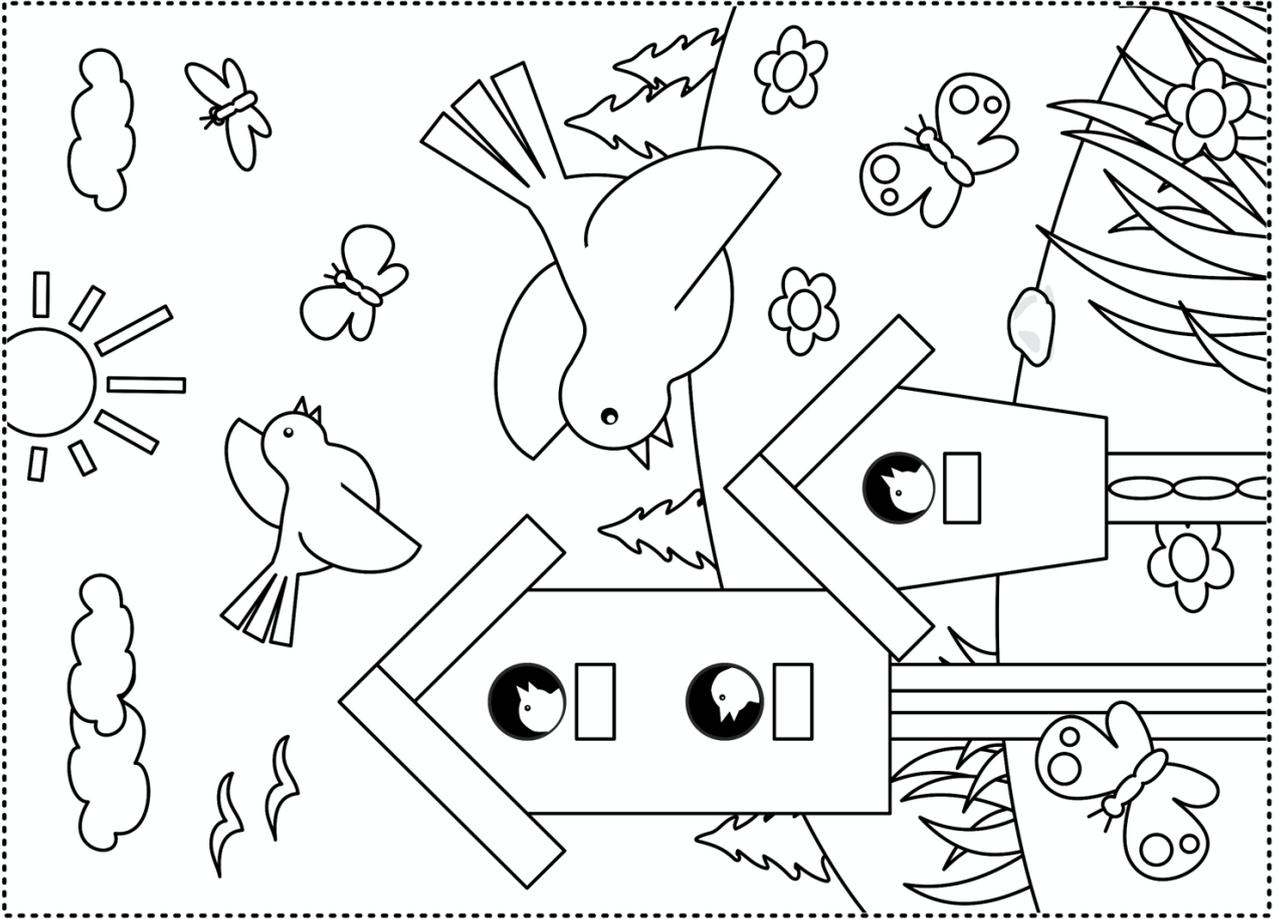
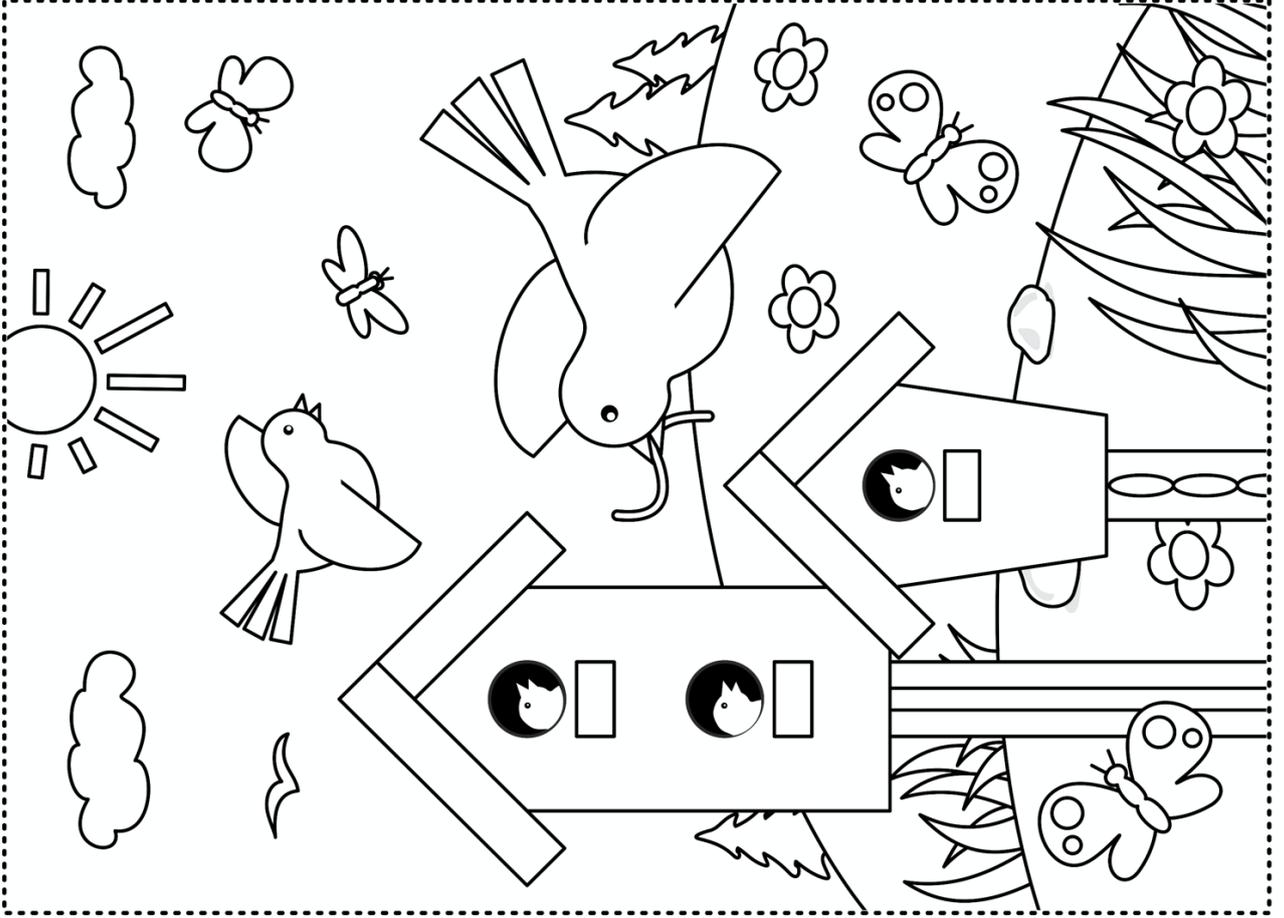
Wednesday 1st June 2022

2pm

Highfield Church, Highfield Lane, SO17 1RL

All are welcome! If you can RSVP It would help us in our preparations - phone 07535 164014 or email jo.ladkin@caraway.uk.com or you can just turn up on the day.

Find 10 differences.



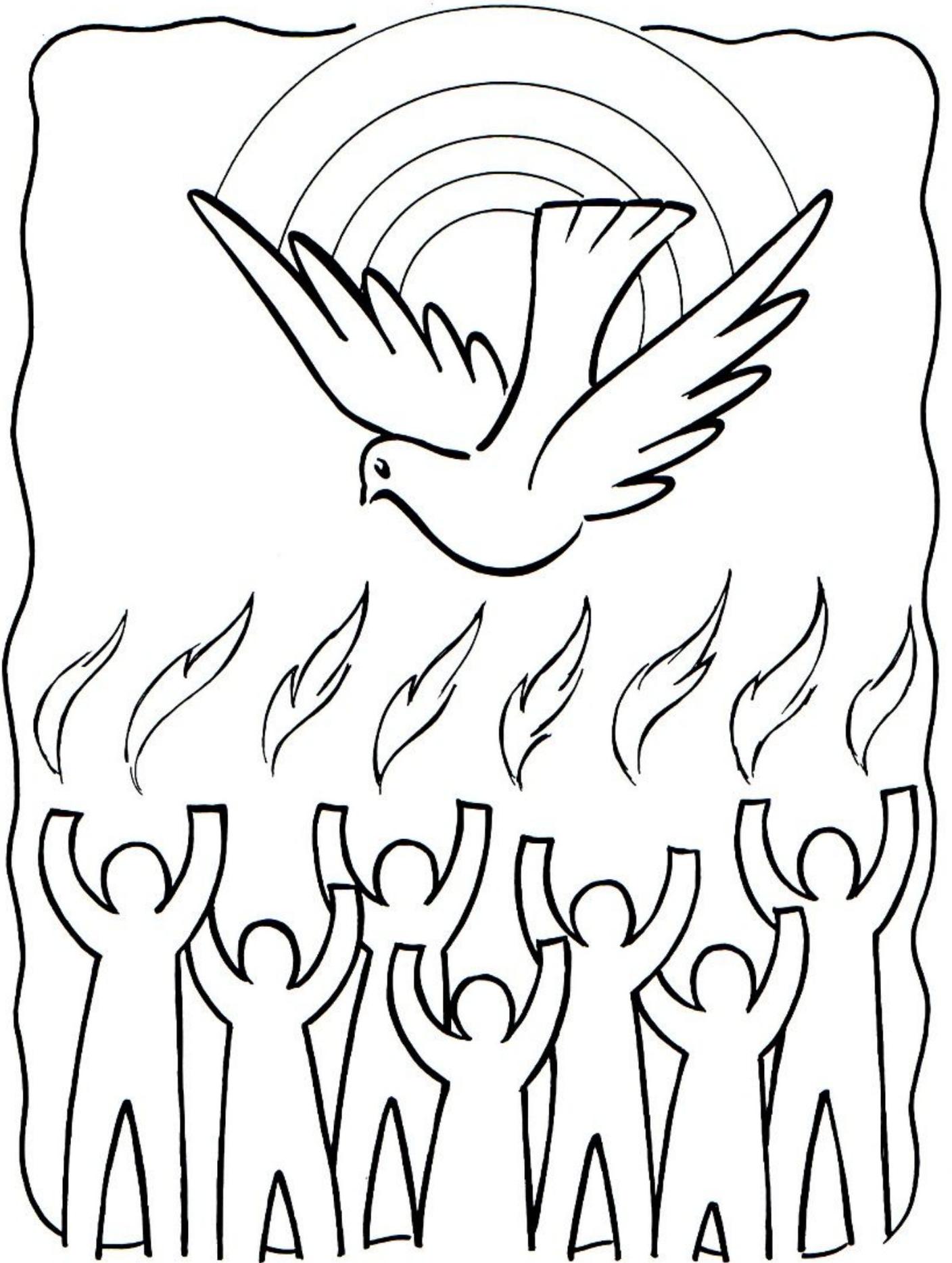
PENTECOST

ACTS 2



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L	O	D	T	O	N	G	U	E	S	D	U	N
O	T	N	E	L	O	I	V	A	E	A	D	T
W	O	U	C	Y	C	N	E	Z	A	K	D	P
I	T	O	A	S	E	P	A	R	A	T	E	N
N	H	S	L	P	T	M	S	E	I	R	N	E
G	E	L	P	I	A	J	P	I	P	F	L	V
C	R	J	E	R	U	S	A	L	E	M	Y	A
W	E	G	N	I	R	A	E	F	D	O	G	E
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L	E	L	P	D	E	L	L	I	F	O	E	T
E	D	N	I	W	O	H	I	U	F	A	I	J

AMAZED	JERUSALEM	SOUND	BLOWING
JEWS	SPEAK	FILLED	ONE PLACE
SUDDENLY	FIRE	OTHER	TOGETHER
GOD FEARING	PENTECOST	TONGUES	HEAVEN
PERPLEXED	VIOLENT	HOLY SPIRIT	RESTED
WHOLE	HOUSE	SEPARATE	WIND



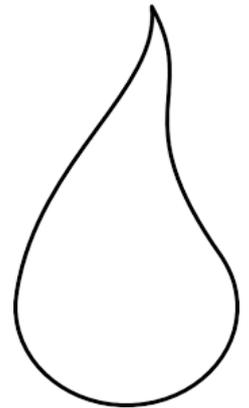
Make your own crown of flames for Pentecost

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ² Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.

Acts 2: 1-3

You can use plain or coloured paper, strips of newspaper or coloured pages from magazines, be inventive!

1. Cut a narrow band of paper that will fit around your head, about 1 inch wide and 24 inches long, and either glue or staple the ends together to make a circle.
2. Using the flame template below, cut out lots of flame shapes in different colours if you can or using plain paper you can colour in each flame.
3. Stick or staple these onto the plain band.
4. Wear your crown of flames!



As an alternative to colouring, you could write different bible verses on each flame that mean something to you.

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