

Prayer for the Spirit

Pentecost Sunday, 2020

Written by Rev. Mark Patrick of Colonial Church in Edina, MN.

Our Lord,

On this Pentecost Sunday we celebrate who you are for us
And all that you have given to us.

Today we are especially grateful for the gift of your Holy Spirit
We are reminded how much we need and value
the comfort of the Spirit's presence in our lives and
in our community

we confess that many things disturb and dishearten us in these days of the pandemic. We look
to you and thank you for the ways you show up for us
And bring your hope

We face daunting challenges these days
We have personal losses and obstacles in life, and
We confront the very human realities of racism,
Discrimination of many kinds, violence and
Hatred, injustice and cruelty.

All the things that polarize our perspectives and
Create tension in our communities.

We pray for our city of Minneapolis and our whole region,
And ask your healing in the death of George Floyd
We long to have understanding and compassion reign
where bitterness, lies, and separation
Seem to continually win out.

May your spirit provide the courage needed
To keep in the fight
To keep hope alive

And to turn our anxiety into action
Will you be the balm that brings your soothing presence
As you show our community how to address
This violence and very real divisions

Give us your justice, your forgiveness, your mercy
And eventually your unity and reconciliation as we confront our sins, both personal and in our
communities

In the past, in the present, and as we move toward
The future.

Only by your spirit can we become who you created us to be

Only by your spirit can we create the faith community

You have always called us to be

Only by your spirit will we be the change you have in mind
For our world.

And so we pray, Let there be peace...and let it begin with us.

Holy spirit, remind us of all Jesus taught us,
Keep all that we've learned front and center
In our minds to the extent that it always
Impacts our choices, our words,
our attitudes and actions.

You who come in the stillness as well as the storm,
In the still small voice as well as the earthquake
In the smallest flame as well as the
Eternal power of resurrection
Be that power for us these days.
Rekindle our hope
Reinvigorate our resolve
And enable us to reimagine our future
As you lead us and as we follow you.

Amen