

E-READ

The General Conference of the New Church **Articles and Letters**

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Suggestions For Pentecost Sunday *by Revd John Elliott*

Passages from Scripture

Acts 2:1-21
or Acts 2:1-31
or Acts 2:1-47

Numbers 11:24-30
John 16:1-15

Teachings of the New Church

It is well known that after the Apostles had been given the Holy Spirit by the Lord, they preached the Gospel throughout much of the world, and spread the news of it by word of mouth and by their writings. They did this of themselves from the Lord; for Peter taught and wrote in one way, James in another, John in another, and Paul in another, each according to his own intelligence. The Lord filled them with His Spirit, but each drew a contribution from that source which was determined by the nature of his perception, and they carried out their duty in a way determined by the nature of their ability to preach. All angels in the heavens are full of the Lord, for they are in the Lord and the Lord is in them; but still all speak and act in accordance with their own mental state, some simply, some wisely, and so with infinite variety, yet all speak of themselves from the Lord. It is the same with every minister of the church, the one who preaches truths as much as the one who preaches falsities; all have

their own mouth and own intelligence, and all speak as they are guided by their own mind, that is, the spirit which they possess.

Part of paragraph 154, slightly amended, of **True Christian Religion** pub 1988 tr John Chadwick

Hymns

50 Come down, O Love divine *tune* Down Ampney 6 6 11 6 6 11

232 Lo, when the Spirit of our Lord came down *tune* St Magnus CM

428 We turn to you, O God of every nation *tune* Intercessor 11 10 11 10

Prayers

Lord Jesus Christ, our heavenly Father, we thank you that everyone has their life from You. You are God-with-us. You are our Counsellor. You are always ready to pour out Your Spirit on all who will accept it. May we this day achieve nothing in thought or will, word or deed, which will prevent this precious gift from being ours. Yours is the life by which we live; may our living be worthy of You.

Lord, we thank You for the presence of Your Holy Spirit with all men and women. To those in distress and pain may Your Spirit be their Comforter, to strengthen them and show them the eternal purpose of Your kingdom amid the sorrow and disorder of the world. To those who fight against falsity and injustice may Your Spirit be their Counsellor, to show them the way of truth and keep them steadfast. To those who strive to live in unselfish service may Your spirit be the Breath of their new life and bring to their remembrance all the purposes of Your love.

Two prayers, slightly altered, from **Book of Worship** published by the General Conference in 1971

Lord Jesus, we thank you that you have fulfilled your promise and given us your Spirit to abide with us for ever; grant us to know his presence in all its divine fullness. May the fruit of the Spirit be growing continually in our lives; may the gifts of the Spirit be distributed among us as he wills to equip us for your service; and may the power of the Spirit be so working in us that the world around may come to believe in you. We ask it, Lord, in your victorious name.

Michael Botting

Committal

To your care and protection, O Lord,
we now commit ourselves.
Of your goodness forgive us;
with your love inspire us;
by your Spirit guide us;
and in your mercy keep us,
now and always.

New Parish Prayers pub 1982

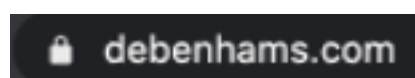
IT Advice Segments - Part Five (Final Part)

by Gemma McLean

General IT Safety Tips

1. Make sure your Home WiFi network is password protected. It should come like this as default but ensure that when you login to your WiFi using a laptop, phone etc, you have to enter a security key. Otherwise, all your neighbours can use your WiFi for free!

2. When purchasing anything online (or entering any personal details such as your address etc), make sure the web site is secure by checking if there is a little padlock icon in the address bar:



3. Make sure you have some form of anti virus software on your computer. This could be the built in Windows Defender, or a third party product.

4. Keep your computer up to date. Windows especially issue new updates all the time and this may seem inconvenient but they are often designed to improve security and keep your computer safe.

5. Beware of scams emails. The best way to do this is to check the senders email address. So if I emailed someone now, I could easily change my display name to "Barclays Bank" and create an email looking professional asking for your pin number. However, by clicking on the sender name (Barclays Bank) it would reveal my email address, which would be gemma.mclean@gcnc.org.uk and give the game away! So always check that the email address is from a valid, official source. Had I been really criminally professional, I may have created an email address such as *barclaysbank@banking654.com* which looks slightly more realistic, but you can see it is not from the official *barclays.com* domain. Important note - banks and other such companies would NEVER ask you for your pin number anyway.