

We pray for those who, through sickness, misfortune or abuse, feel that their lives are without meaning or direction; surround them with your love, and give wisdom and patience to all who support and guide them.

Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We thank you for the fullness of life you give us in Jesus Christ, and for all whose lives have been an example of your truth and life for us; may our communion with them, and with all the saints, nourish and support us on our earthly pilgrimage.

Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

A prayer for Growth

God of mission,
who alone brings growth to your Church:
send your Holy Spirit to give
vision to our planning,
wisdom to our actions,
and power to our witness.
Help our church to grow in numbers,
in spiritual commitment to you,
and in service to our local community;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence
as our Saviour has taught us

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Conclusion

May the grace of the Holy Spirit
enlighten our hearts and minds.

All **Amen.**



THY KINGDOM COME

Thursday 30 May - Ascension Day

In these days leading up to Pentecost we are meeting to pray for the people of England and that Christ's name may be known and honoured in our land.

Preparation

My brothers and sisters,
our help is in the name of the eternal God,

All **who is making the heavens and the earth.**

Eternal Spirit,
flow through our being and open our lips,

All **that our mouths may proclaim your praise.**

Let us worship the God of love.

All **Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Praise

Hymn: 130 Hail the day that sees him rise

Hail the day that sees him rise Alleluia!
glorious to his native skies; Alleluia!
Christ, awhile to mortals given, Alleluia!
enters now the highest heaven! Alleluia!

There the glorious triumph waits; Alleluia!
lift your head, eternal gates! Alleluia!
Christ hath vanquished death and sin; Alleluia!
take the King of glory in. Alleluia!

Lord, though parted from our sight, Alleluia!
far above yon azure height, Alleluia!
grant our hearts may thither rise, Alleluia!
seeking thee beyond the skies. Alleluia!

There we shall with thee remain, Alleluia!
partners of thine endless reign; Alleluia!
there thy face unclouded see, Alleluia!
find our heaven of heavens in thee. Alleluia!

Prayer

Risen, ascended Lord,
as we rejoice at your triumph,
fill your Church on earth with power and
compassion,
that all who are estranged by sin
may find forgiveness and know your peace,
to the glory of God the Father.

All **Amen.**

The Word of God

Psalm 93

- 1 The Lord is king, he is robed in majesty;
the Lord is robed, he is girded with strength.
He has established the world;
it shall never be moved;
- 2 **your throne is established from of old;
you are from everlasting.**
- 3 The floods have lifted up, O Lord,
the floods have lifted up their voice;
the floods lift up their roaring.
- 4 **More majestic than the thunders
of mighty waters,
more majestic than the waves of the sea,
majestic on high is the Lord!**
- 5 Your decrees are very sure;
holiness befits your house,
O Lord, for evermore.

**All Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Bible Reading: Luke 24.45-end

Jesus opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.'

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Responsory

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your people
All and kindle in us the fire of your love.

All who are led by the Spirit of God
are children of God and fellow-heirs with Christ.

All Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your people.

Renew the face of your creation, Lord,
pouring on us the gifts of your Spirit,

All and kindle in us the fire of your love.

For the creation waits with eager longing
for the glorious liberty of the children of God.

**All Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your people
and kindle in us the fire of your love.**

Prayers

Today - as well as being Ascension Day - is also the National Day of Prayer for the Police. We pray for the safety of Police officers and the wider policing family, for innovative, compassionate and courageous solutions to policing issues and for help in making difficult resourcing decisions.

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women in law enforcement in our neighbourhoods, villages, towns, cities, and on our roads. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; protect their families; strengthen them in their trials; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

We pray for all who follow the Way of Christ and for the unity of all Christian people; break down that which separates us from one another and from you, that knowing your forgiveness we may share your love with a needy world.

Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for those who hold positions of responsibility and power both internationally and in our local communities; may your Holy Spirit guide them in their decision-making, so that paths of truth and justice may be open to everyone.

Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

We give you thanks and pray for all who support and care for us as we follow the Way of Christ, our families and friends, and our fellow pilgrims along the way; nourish us all with the words of life and the bread of heaven, that we may worship you joyfully, listen to you willingly and serve you gladly.

Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.