

We offer our whole being to the service of your Word

(Pause) Come Holy Spirit: **Thy Kingdom Come**

We bear before you those who long for your Word to bring healing and wholeness, thankfulness and praise

(Pause) Come Holy Spirit: **Thy Kingdom Come**

We wait upon the work of your Spirit as we say the Lord's Prayer together:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

Come Holy Spirit: **gift us with love, joy, and peace**

Come Holy Spirit: **gift us with patience, kindness, and goodness**

Come Holy Spirit: **gift us with faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control**

Come Holy Spirit: **gift us with yourself.**



Diocese of Canterbury
CHANGED LIVES ⊕ CHANGING LIVES



NINE DAYS OF PRAYER 2019

CHANGED LIVES ⊕ CHANGING LIVES

DAILY WAITING

Jesus ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. Acts 1:4

This service is for use by individuals or groups and can be adapted to suit your context. Hymns, worship songs and additional prayers may be added as you wish. Italic text is intended as an instruction, plain text is to be read by a leader, bold text is to be read together.

GATHERING

As you begin your time of prayer, take a moment of silence to remember and delight in the promise of the Holy Spirit Jesus gives to all his disciples. Read the following from John 14 together:

I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you forever - the Spirit of truth... On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.

Make a sign of being present to God and one another – light a candle, open a Bible, share the peace...

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

Come, Holy Spirit, be with us as we pray
And leave us not as orphans.

Come, Holy Spirit, renew us in body, mind and spirit
And send us out to be your presence in your world.

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

Optional hymn or worship song.

DAY 2: THANKS

LISTENING

And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?

(Matthew 6:28-30)

REFLECTING

(The image for this text can be found in the Novena booklet or on www.canterburydiocese.org/novena)

What is the smallest thing in your life you can give thanks to God for? We can overlook the small, when often it is the small that holds all things together. The tiny screw holding the phone together, the washer holding back the drip in the tap, the hinge on a door, the stalk on a flower, the ring on a set of keys...

Perhaps the smallest things in our lives are more personal, the things unseen by anyone but God. What is the smallest thing in your life you can give thanks to God for? The daily miracle of just being able to get out of bed in the morning, getting the kids to school on time, meeting that deadline, or just having a moment to yourself, remembering to finish that cup of tea you made three hours ago.

Small things also worry us. But when we realise that it is the small things that hold us together, we need to push ourselves to remember to be thankful for them. Out of a tiny seed grows an enormous faith, and it is for this we can be thankful - not the devices and illusions of this world - but that the small things keep our dependency in and on God. Giving thanks daily for those small blessings is inviting a daily miracle.

As time allows, share your insights with another.

A Song of Praise

- 1 You are worthy, our Lord and God, ♦
to receive glory and honour and power.
- 2 For you have created all things, ♦

and by your will they have their being.

- 3 You are worthy, O Lamb, for you were slain, ♦
and by your blood you ransomed for God
saints from every tribe and language and nation.
- 4 You have made them to be a kingdom and priests
serving our God, ♦
and they will reign with you on earth.

Revelation 4.11; 5.9b,10

**To the One who sits on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honour and glory and might,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

PRAYING

We wait upon the Holy Spirit to gift us with renewing grace.

O God of all creation
before whom all the flowers of the field bow down,
as with gratitude we recognise
your provision and possibility for all on earth,
clothe us in your humble beauty
and draw us to the new simplicity
that Jesus reveals within us.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

We meet your Word in thankfulness

(Pause) Come Holy Spirit: **Thy Kingdom Come**

We express our thanks that your Word is open to us

(Pause) Come Holy Spirit: **Thy Kingdom Come**