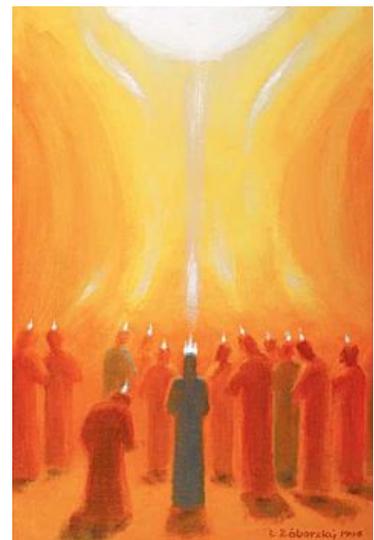


Parish of Preston Plucknett, Yeovil St James' and St Peter's

“Thy Kingdom Come”



Praying from Ascension to Pentecost May 21st - 31st 2020





#PRAYERANDCARE

THY KINGDOM COME 2020

Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus.

Since its launch by the Church of England in May 2016, God has grown ***Thy Kingdom Come*** into a worldwide movement for all Christian churches of every denomination. In 2019 Christians from 172 countries took part in praying 'Come Holy Spirit', so that friends and family, neighbours and colleagues might come to faith in Jesus Christ.

At **St James'** and **St Peter's** we would love every member of our churches to take part in ***Thy Kingdom Come***. Last year we invited people to come to St James' to pray. This year will be different, as we cannot go inside our church buildings to pray, but we know that *Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever* (Hebrews 13:8). We will still be able to pray at home and also outdoors on our individual walks!

This booklet offers a prayer activity for each of the 10 days and a scripture reading and prayer from *Common Worship Daily Prayer*. You may also like to come and **peg a prayer** to the 'prayer washing line' on the outside of the windows of St James' Church Room.

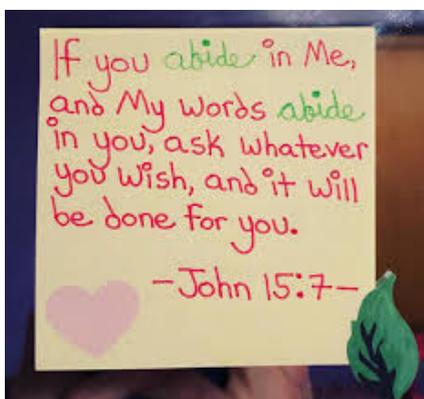
Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18

Prepare a prayer corner or prayer wall



Why not have an area in your home or garden as your *Thy Kingdom Come* prayer corner? It could be as creative or as simple as you wish. You might like to include a cross, a bible or a candle in your prayer corner. You could have some pens and paper to write or draw your prayers.

If you are feeling creative, you could also make a 'prayer wall' to use during the 10 days of *Thy Kingdom Come*. All you need is a flat surface and something to write on, such as a display board, post-it notes, or just a few sheets of paper.



'Praying for five' is a key part of *Thy Kingdom Come* - five people on your heart who don't yet have a relationship with Jesus. You could write their names in this booklet or put their names on your prayer wall to help you remember to pray for them every day.

At the end of the 10 days it will be good to look back over the prayers on our 'prayer wall' and also to thank God for His answers to our prayers. We would love you to share your experiences with us. It will be very encouraging for the wider church to hear about what God has been doing and saying to us during this season. You can email any messages you would like to share to Mark on mfelstead13@icloud.com. If you are not on email you are very welcome to ring Mark on 01935 478458 to share messages, prayer requests and answers to prayer.

If you would like us to arrange someone to pray with you over the phone, please do ring Mark or one of the clergy.

Why not take a photo of your prayer space and 'before' and 'after' photos of your prayer wall and share them with us? We would love to see your pictures! Send them to mfelstead13@icloud.com

One of the things we might discover as we think about the **#PrayerAndCare** theme of *Thy Kingdom Come* this year is how God wants to use us, His people, as the answers to our prayers for others.

Day 1 Ascension Day (Thursday)

Prayer activity: 3 x 3 prayers

Design a 3 x 3 grid on a prayer topic - the one here is on 'professions'.
Say or write down a short prayer for each of the boxes.

Teachers	Stay-at-home carers	Lunchtime supervisors
Office workers	Doctors and Nurses	Shop assistants
Bus Drivers	Dentists	Refuse collectors

Other topics could include:

people
places
problems
praise and positives

From Common Worship Daily Prayer

SCRIPTURE READING

Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf.
(Hebrews 9.24)

PRAYER

*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your people.
Renew the face of your creation, Lord,
pouring on us the gifts of your Spirit,
For the creation waits with eager longing
for the glorious liberty of the children of God.*

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

Day 2 (Friday)

Prayer activity: paper hearts

Draw and cut out five paper hearts. Find, make or draw a small cross for the prayer space.

Create a prayer space by spreading out a cloth on the table. Put the cross and a tea light in the centre of it.

Choose five people you would like to pray for, such as friends, family members or neighbours, people at school, college or work.

Write the names of the people you will pray for on the paper hearts - one name on each. Place the hearts in a circle around the cross in your prayer space.

You could pray a simple prayer like this: 'Dear God, please may [Name] come to know Jesus' love.'



From Common Worship Daily Prayer

SCRIPTURE READING

I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. Even on the male and female slaves, in those days, I will pour out my spirit.
(Joel 2.28,29)

PRAYER

*O King enthroned on high,
Comforter and Spirit of truth,
you that are in all places and fill all things, the treasury of blessings and the giver of life, come and dwell with us,
cleanse us from every stain
and save our souls, O gracious one. Amen.*

Day 3 (Saturday)

Prayer activity: garden prayer

Choose a plant in the garden to concentrate on or take five seeds in the palm of your hand. Pray for God's kingdom to grow in your area and through your family to your friends and neighbours. If you have some seeds in your hand, each seed might represent a different person that you know.



From Common Worship Daily Prayer

SCRIPTURE READING

I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

(Romans 8.38,39)

PRAYER

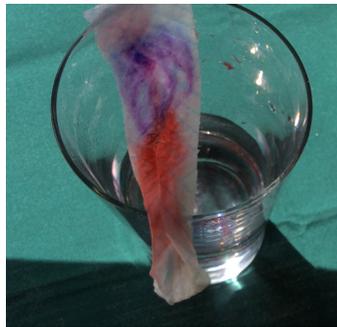
*As Christ was raised by your glory, O Father,
so may we be raised to new life
and rejoice to be called your children, both now and for ever.
Amen.*

Day 4 (Sunday)

Prayer activity: spreading hearts prayers

You will need: a cup with about 2cm of water at the bottom; strips of kitchen roll; felt-tip pens (not permanent markers—you need the ink to run).

Draw a heart about 4cm up the strip and colour in with felt-tip pen. Slightly above and outside of the heart you have drawn, write the initials of someone (or draw a face of someone) that you would like to get to know Jesus. Put the end of the strip in the water and pray that they will come to know that Jesus loves them. Watch as the water slowly climbs up the strip, and the ink in the heart spreads out to cover and absorb the initials/face.



From Common Worship Daily Prayer

SCRIPTURE READING

On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, ‘Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, “Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water.”’ Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive.
(John 7.37-39)

PRAYER

*Through Christ, who ever lives to make intercession for us, let us pray to the Lord:
Lift up our hearts to the heavenly places
and inspire us to serve you as a royal priesthood
Let all peoples acknowledge your kingdom and grant on earth the blessing of peace
Send down upon us the gift of the Spirit
and renew your Church with power from on high
May peace abound and righteousness flourish, that we may vanquish injustice and wrong
Help us to proclaim the good news of salvation, and grant us the needful gifts of your grace
Let us commend the world, for which Christ prays, to the mercy and protection of God.
Amen.*

Day 5 (Monday)

Prayer activity: prayer map

Draw a simple map of your neighbourhood to help you pray for the people in it. Think or talk about the people who live around you. Pray for them to come to know Jesus by placing your hand on the place on the map where they live or work, saying, 'Please help [Name] know Jesus' love'.



From Common Worship Daily Prayer

SCRIPTURE READING

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. (Isaiah 40.28-end)

PRAYER

*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.*

Day 6 (Tuesday)

Prayer activity: question and answer prayers

What are you most thankful for today?
What are you least thankful for today?
When did you show love today?
When weren't you kind today?
What would you like to say to God about today?

If you have a 'prayer wall', why not write down your answers and put them up on the 'wall'.



From Common Worship Daily Prayer

SCRIPTURE READING

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.
(1 Corinthians 12.4-7)

PRAYER

*Come, O Spirit of God,
and make within us your dwelling place and home. May our darkness be dispelled by your light,
and our troubles calmed by your peace;
may all evil be redeemed by your love,
all pain transformed through the suffering of Christ, and all dying glorified in his risen life.
Amen.*

Day 7 (Wednesday)

Prayer activity: prayer walk

You might be able to do this individually or as a household as 'daily exercise' during this time of social distancing.

As you walk around your neighbourhood pay attention to everything you hear and see. Give thanks for anything beautiful. Pray for the people in the houses, and pray for any shops, schools, or other places of work that you pass, asking that God's Kingdom will come in all these places



From Common Worship Daily Prayer

SCRIPTURE READING

As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to human beings, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings.
(Hebrews 2.8-10)

PRAYER

*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.*

Day 8 (Thursday)

Prayer activity: small stones

Find five small stones and write each of the people on your list onto each of the stones. Place them on your desk, bedside table or fireplace as a reminder to pray. Alternatively, you could place each stone in a different room of your home and pray for each person as you enter or leave the room.



From Common Worship Daily Prayer

SCRIPTURE READING

Jesus said, 'Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!' (Luke 11.9-13)

PRAYER

*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.*

Day 9 (Friday)

Prayer activity: gratitude prayers

The Bible shows us that God is a good God. The pandemic has not changed that. So today, how could you celebrate the life you have? Write a list of the things you love or are grateful for today.

Thank you Lord
for all your blessings to me and my family.
For the strength you give me each day,
for my friends
and for all the people around me,
who make life more meaningful.
Thank you God. Amen.

PrayRay.com

From Common Worship Daily Prayer

SCRIPTURE READING

In Christ every one of God's promises is a 'Yes'. For this reason it is through him that we say the 'Amen', to the glory of God. But it is God who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us, by putting his seal on us and giving us his Spirit in our hearts as a first instalment. (2 Corinthians 1.20-22)

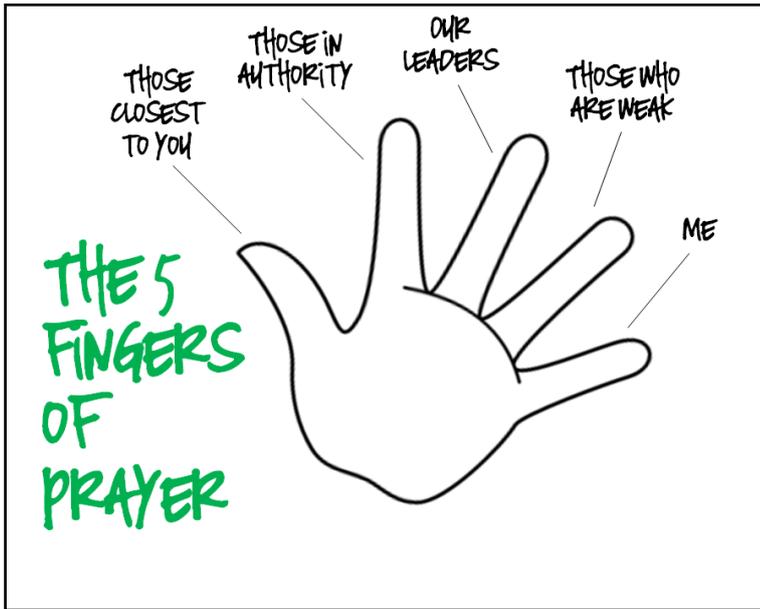
PRAYER

*Blessed are you, the God of our ancestors, worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.
Blessed is your holy and glorious name, worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.
Blessed are you, in your holy and glorious temple, worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.
Blessed are you who look into the depths, worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.
Blessed are you, enthroned on the cherubim, worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.
Blessed are you on the throne of your kingdom, worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.
Blessed are you in the heights of heaven, worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.
Amen*



Day 10 (Saturday)

Prayer activity: five finger prayer



From Common Worship Daily Prayer

SCRIPTURE READING

The Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit. (2 Corinthians 3.17,18)

PRAYER

*As Christ was raised by your glory, O Father,
so may we be raised to new life
and rejoice to be called your children, both now and for ever.
Amen.*

Sunday, the day of Pentecost



Set aside some time today to look back on your prayers and what God has been saying over the last 10 days.

Please do share with us anything that has been important to you during this season of prayer. We would love to hear from you. (Contact Mark on mfelstead13@icloud.com or 01935 478458.)

SCRIPTURE READING

Jesus said, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'
(John 20.21,22)

PRAYERS

*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.*



*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.*

A space for you to write down thoughts and
scripture verses

Praying for five ... write their names here

LORD I PRAY THAT
YOU WILL LEAD...

TO YOU, AMEN

www.thykingdom.co.uk