

Thy Kingdom Come – devoting ourselves to prayer.

It is said that more people are praying, as we continue to feel our way through the uncertainty of Covid 19. I love helping people to pray! What I love about prayer is that everyone can pray, in their own way – just as they are. I wrote the poem, 'A Wave of Prayer' when I was a youth leader at my local church, in 2009 (see back of the Readings sheet).

We found lots of fun and profound ways of expressing the meaning of the poem in drama, dance and song. I had no idea that God had a plan for me to become a vicar. But I knew, then and I know now that I was - and I am still - called to 'a life of prayer'. To help people meet with God in their own way - to hear his voice, feel his presence, know of his deep love for each one of us and to respond to his call upon each of our lives.

There are so many powerful words that can be turned into our own prayers in our readings this week. The 'priestly' prayer of Jesus in John 17; the 'upper room' prayers of the disciples in the first chapter of Acts; the prayer of I Peter to cast all our anxiety on God, because he cares for us; and the Collect – reminding us that Jesus, the King of Glory, will not leave us comfortless, as we cry 'Come Holy Spirit Come'!

The 21st of May 2020 is Ascension Day and the beginning of 'Thy Kingdom Come'. This global wave of prayer will be in its fifth year. It's explicitly ecumenical and last year was celebrated by Christians in 85 countries across the globe. There will be lots of ways for all of us to join in with prayer opportunities, at home, online, in our gardens, out into the night sky, in song, in silence and in the cry for healing of our world.

It is a great opportunity for some of us perhaps to pray for the first time or to grow in familiar and new ways of listening and speaking to God. I love the idea of a global wave of prayer for the healing of our world. So, we pray for the Holy Spirit to wash over us all, filling our homes and hearts with the hope of those powerful words from the Lord's prayer; Thy Kingdom Come, Thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven. **Amen.**



Written by Leisa May 2020