

## Conclusion

### The Lord's Prayer

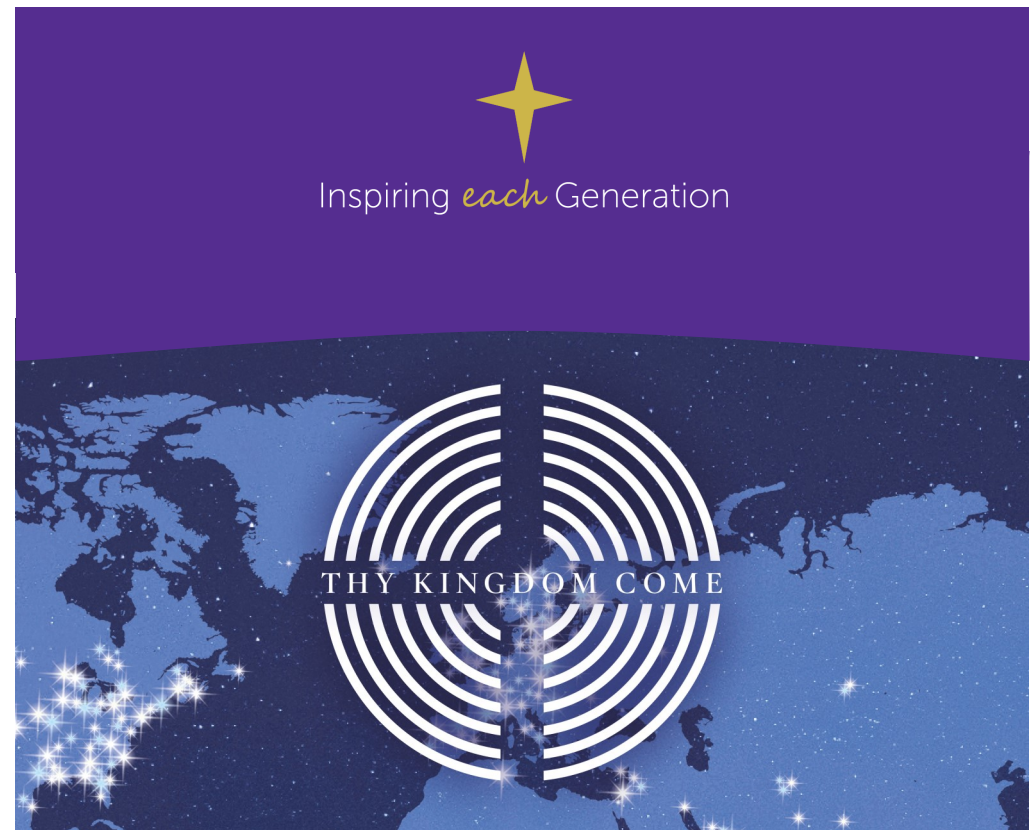
Gathering our prayers and praise into one, as our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

**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.**

### Conclusion

We go into the world  
To walk in God's light,  
To rejoice in God's love And to reflect God's glory.

*Amen.*



## Pilgrimage Walk Booklet

Ascension Day to Pentecost 2023



— Diocese of —  
**Hereford**  
Proclaiming Christ + Growing Disciples

# Message from Bishop Richard

*Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray in whatever way they want, with whoever they want and wherever they can, that others might know Jesus Christ.*

*In this Diocesan Year of Prayer, the 11 days from Pentecost to Ascension Day are a perfect opportunity for our churches to encourage people to gather together to pray for the building of God's kingdom here in the Diocese of Hereford, and indeed throughout the world.*



**The Rt. Revd Richard Jackson**

Bishop of Hereford

For more information on the Year of Prayer, please see the Diocesan website, which includes resources for Churches and Communities, and Young People and Schools:

<https://hereford.anglican.org/our-faith/year-of-prayer-2023/>

# Notes for Organizers

To set up a prayer walk, plan a route around your parish or Benefice. It can be rural or urban, long or short. Think about the people and places you can pray for you as you walk, and about any issues or needs that are at the forefront of the community at this time. Use your local knowledge to inform the prayer route.

A few things to think about when planning your walk:

- Are there safe places where as a group you can stop to pray?
- Could one or more of your churches be open as one of the places of prayer, or to offer refreshments?
- Agree a place and time to start the prayer walk. A small group might stay together for the whole walk, or it might be one where people walk at their own pace. Plan for an ending prayer for people who choose to complete only part of the route.
- If it is a group activity, ask people to read from the selection of scripture readings at various points. You can use all, some or none of the readings suggested.
- Prayer suggestions have been included for you to use. Let the Holy Spirit be at work in you as you walk, and if you feel moved to stop and pray then be guided by God.
- Invite participants to bring a sketch book with them, and to draw anything which catches their attention on their way. Encourage people to look around as they walk, using all their senses.
- Alternatively the booklet could also be used by people to pray one section each day throughout Thy Kingdom Come. There are 11 readings and prayers, one for each day from Ascension through to Pentecost.

# Opening Prayer

Leader Let us worship God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**All Amen.**

Leader The Lord be with you.  
**All and also with you.**

Leader This is the day that the Lord has made.  
**All We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

Leader Draw your Church together, O God,  
into one great company of disciples,  
together following our Lord Jesus Christ  
into every walk of life,  
together serving him in his mission to the  
world,  
and together witnessing to his love  
on every continent and island.  
We pray in the name of Jesus, our Lord.  
**All Amen.**

*A hymn may be sung before the walk begins.*

## Place 1

*When you reach a suitable place, stop and gather together.*

### Reading – Isaiah 6.8

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'

### Prayer

*As you begin the prayer walk, think about your own journey of faith, and how your life has changed since you first came to know Jesus.*

Almighty God, in whose service lies perfect freedom: teach us to obey you with loving hearts and steadfast wills; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Place 2

### Reading - 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

### Prayer

*Reflect on how you can share your love and joy in Christ with your friends or neighbours.*

God of heaven, you send the gospel to the ends of the earth and your messengers to every nation: send your Holy Spirit to transform us by the good news of everlasting life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Place 3

### Reading: Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

### Prayer

*Sometimes our journey takes us through difficult points. Invite people to repeat a word from Psalm 23 in the minds as they reflect on their part or present.*

God of truth, help us to keep your law of love and to walk in ways of wisdom, that we may find true life in Jesus Christ your Son. Amen.

## Place 4

### Reading: Romans 5:6-8

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

### Prayer

*Take a moment to think about what Christ has done for us.*

Creator God, you made us all in your image: may we discern you in all that we see, and serve you in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Place 5

### Reading: Luke 15:1-6

Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.'

So he told them this parable: 'Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost."

### Prayer

*Do you feel lost and are searching for Jesus the Good Shepherd? Are you feeling called to reach out to those in need? Take a moment to reflect on how you feel – and bring those feelings to God.*

Father God, without you we cannot but fall. Keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation. Amen.

## Place 6

### Reading: Jeremiah 6.16

Thus says the Lord: Stand at the crossroads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way lies; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls.

### Prayer

*Take a moment to look around you, paying close attention to your surroundings. After a period of silent prayer, as a group decide together when to move on.*

## Place 7

### Reading - John 3:16-17

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

### Prayer

*Ask everyone to let the Holy Spirit bring to mind anyone who may be in need of God's love or help. Pray for the people you have been thinking about, before gathering up your prayers:*

Lord you are our light and our salvation; help us accept the love that you showed in sending your Son. Open our hearts to your love, and teach us to love more truly. Amen.

## Place 8

### Reading: Mark 1.35-37

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, 'Everyone is searching for you.'

### Prayer

*Find a place with a way-marker or crossroads where you can reflect on the choices we make in life:*

God of our pilgrimage: refresh and sustain us as we go forward on our journey, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Place 9

### Reading: Luke 15: 20-24

So the man set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son." But the father said to his slaves, "Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" And they began to celebrate.

### Prayer

*Jesus reaches out to us where we are, arms wide open in welcome. How can we offer that welcome to those who tentatively come towards God?*

Share a sign of the peace with one another.

## Place 10

### Reading: John 14.1-6

Jesus said, 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

### Prayer

*Where is God calling you, as an individual and as a church, now? Do have worries and concerns about the future? Let a feeling of trust in God come upon as you reflect upon Christ's words.*

Lord God, your Son left the riches of heaven and became poor for our sake: when we prosper save us from pride, when we are needy save us from despair, that we may trust in you alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Place 11

### Reading Acts 2:1-8

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?"

### Prayer

*As the prayer walk comes to an end, reflect on all you have seen, the places you have passed through, and hold them before God. Perhaps discuss how you might continue to prayer for those places and situations going forward as a church.*

God of glory, the end of our searching, help us to lay aside all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom, and to give all that we have to gain the pearl beyond all price. Amen.