

Prayers of the People for Pentecost

Written by participants in the Spring Training Workshop "Creative Approaches to the Prayers of the People" for use by the Episcopal Diocese of Maine on Pentecost (June 9, 2019)

Leader:

In joyful celebration of the Holy Spirit's power among us, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Come, Holy Spirit. Fill every church, this city, this state, the nation and the world. Fill every member with the love of Jesus Christ, empower us to reach out to one another, our neighbors, strangers, and enemies, that they may know that they are loved by you. Come, Holy Spirit, **kindle your fire of love within us.**

Come, Holy Spirit. Bring your solace to refugees, immigrants, and all those displaced by war and natural disaster. Give your strength to all who work towards justice, and sustain us in the care of your creation, that we may come together in peace and understanding. Come, Holy Spirit, **kindle your fire of love within us.**

Come, Holy Spirit. Just as we are one within our church community, so we are united with one another in our local community. We pray for teachers, first responders, and others who give voice to those who cannot speak for themselves, and those in our community whose voices are not heard. Give us voices to share God's word and to speak for justice and peace. Come, Holy Spirit, **kindle your fire of love within us.**

Come, Holy Spirit. We pray for those in authority in our state and nation, that God's spirit of wisdom and compassion might permeate and break through the barriers that divide us. Open our hearts to our fellow citizens across our divides, that the fire of the Spirit might burn away all selfishness and pride, so that we respect the dignity of every human being. Come, Holy Spirit, **kindle your fire of love within us.**

Come, Holy Spirit. Inspire us to be a listening and a comforting presence to those who suffer mentally, physically or spiritually. We pray especially for (*prayer list*) and any we name aloud or in our hearts... Come, Holy Spirit, **kindle your fire of love within us.**

Come, Holy Spirit. Your fire drew Moses to a bush that burned but was not consumed and enlivened those who have gone before us (including those we now name...) Fill us with that same Spirit, that our lives may burn as brightly with your love for the generation to come. Come, Holy Spirit, **kindle your fire of love within us.**

Leader: We lift all these prayers into the swirling power of the Spirit, in Jesus' name. **Amen.**