

God's promised kingdom, announced both to King David in ancient times and to Mary by the angel Gabriel, will go on for ever.

Gathered as the Church of God in this place, let us pray together for the coming of the kingdom.

The congregational response, as printed in to-day's bulletin:

Living God: **let your kingdom come.**

Lord of heaven, may the Church be quiet enough to hear your voice, humble enough to move your way, and excited enough to spread the good news. (pause)

Living God: **let your kingdom come.**

Lord of heaven, bless all who lead with integrity and respect for others; bless all in positions of authority with humility and a sense of right; may unjust practices be changed for good and conflicts of great tension be peacefully resolved. (pause)

Living God: **let your kingdom come.**

Lord of heaven, make our homes places of loving acceptance and developing faith; teach us in all our friendships to grow in generosity of spirit. (pause)

Living God: **let your kingdom come.**

Lord of heaven, give patience and courage to all who have to wait, when the waiting is long and painful; bring healing to all who are wounded, whether physically or emotionally, and give them assurance of your presence. (pause)

Living God: **let your kingdom come.**

Lord of heaven, welcome into your eternity those who have died to this life and whose hope is in you. Comfort those who mourn them and reach into their pain with your love. (pause) Living God: **let your kingdom come.**

Lord of heaven, we thank you for your faithful promise to us, fulfilled in the coming of Jesus. We welcome his kingship in our lives.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**