

We gather...

Father, you have made our world radiant with the splendour of Jesus Christ, our light. Open our hearts to receive him so that, by our loving witness, we may bring the whole world to the glory of your Kingdom. Amen.

We listen... We reflect... We respond... (2 Tim 6-9; 13-14)

Let me remind you to fan into flame the gift that God gave you when hands were laid upon you. God's gift was not a spirit of timidity, but the Spirit of power, and love, and self-control. So you are never to be ashamed of witnessing to the Lord who has saved you and called you to be holy - not because of anything you yourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. Keep as your pattern the sound teaching you have heard in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. You have been trusted to look after something precious; guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in you.

This is the Word of the Lord.

We ask...

God's spirit is not a spirit of timidity. Fear is the enemy of all Christians.

Spirit of God enlighten the darkness of our fear. Make us people of courage who are able to speak out boldly on behalf of those who are unjustly treated.

God's spirit is a spirit of love. God is love and, as his sons and daughters, we share his life.

Spirit of God enlighten the darkness of our hearts. Make us people of love - a robust love that seeks to alleviate suffering.

God's spirit is a spirit of self-control. We are called to master those things which prevent us from being the best people we can be.

Spirit of God enlighten the darkness of our egotism. Make us people who are sensitive to the needs and feelings of others.

We have been called to guard something precious. We must nurture our faith and grow in holiness.

Spirit of God enlighten the darkness of our apathy and cynicism. Show us how to inspire others and strengthen them in doubts and difficulties.

God's spirit is a spirit of peace. Gentleness and tolerance are the marks of those who live by the gospel.

Spirit of God enlighten the darkness of violence. Bring harmony and peace to our world and to our families.

God's spirit is a spirit of generosity. God's gifts are abundant and various.

Spirit of God enlighten the darkness of our greed and envy. Give us grateful hearts and generous spirits.

We are sent forth...

Father, you have made our world radiant with your Spirit. Open our hearts to receive it so that we may go out with joy to bear witness to your love in our world. Amen.

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