Behold: Fire and Spirit in the womb that bore you;

Behold: Fire and Spirit in the river where you were baptized.

Fire and Spirit in our baptism:

In the Bread and the Cup, Fire and Holy Spirit.

In your Bread is hidden a Spirit not to be eaten,

In your Wine dwells a Fire not to be drunk.

Spirit in your Bread, Fire in your Wine,

A wonder set apart, yet received by our lips.

How wonderful your footsteps, walking on the waters!

You subdued the great sea beneath your feet.

Yet to a little stream you subjected your head,

Bending down to be baptized in it.

The stream was like John who performed the baptism in it,

In their smallness each an image of the other.

To the stream so little, to the servant so weak,

The Lord of them both subjected himself.

Common Worship: Daily Prayer, material from which is included here, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2005 and published by Church House Publishing.

Join us in Daily Prayer
Join us in Daily Prayer

Buy the Book

Daily Prayer is available from Church House Publishing

Download the Reflections for Daily Prayer app

Source URL: https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship/daily-prayer/canticles-daily-54