

Worship at Home - Sunday 21 August 2022

This short act of worship has been prepared for you to use at home. We invite you to spend a few moments with God, knowing that other people across the Methodist Connexion are sharing this act of worship with you.

Opening Prayer

We come to God with our longings:
Our heavenly Father knows them all.
We come to God with our burdens;
Our heavenly Father holds them all.
We come to God alone or together
The Holy Spirit is here for us all. AMEN

Hymn: StF175, Light of the World

Sing/ Read /pray /proclaim the words

<https://youtu.be/CBKzCpkXJR4>

Light of the world,
you stepped down into darkness,
opened my eyes, let me see
beauty that made this heart adore you,
hope of a life spent with you.

So here I am to worship,
here I am to bow down,
here I am to say that you're my God,
and you're altogether lovely,
altogether worthy,
altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days
oh so highly exalted,
glorious in heaven above.
Humbly you came
to the earth you created,
all for love's sake became poor.

So here I am to worship ...

And I'll never know how much it cost
to see my sin upon that cross.
And I'll never know how much it cost
to see my sin upon that cross.

So here I am to worship ...

Tim Hughes

Let us pray together

Eternal and generous God,
thank You for Your many gifts to us –
not least the gift of Your Son
who in turn gave His own life for the life of
the world.

Help us we pray, to live as generously:
ready to offer time, energy
and all we have and are,
for Your kingdom's sake.
AMEN

Today's Reading from the Old Testament

Isaiah 58: v 13-14

Today's Gospel Reading: Luke 13: 10-17

Time to Reflect

What is the story from Luke really about?
Jesus healing on the Sabbath and upsetting
the synagogue leaders,
or Jesus healing a woman who had spent 18
years in pain without being offered any help
by the synagogue leaders.
God wants his people to celebrate their faith
by acting justly in the world, whoever they are
dealing with , wherever they are, and
whenever the opportunity arises.
Are there people in our community who we
have known for long periods and ignored, as
the woman in Luke's story had been ignored
until Jesus came along?
As they reach out to us for practical help can
we identify and try to meet their need? Can
we achieve a result this week?
Isaiah suggests that doing just that will bring
joy both to us and the Lord.

Take a time to sit quietly

A time of prayer

We pray for those who are in the news today,
whether willingly or not.....

for those awaiting a home not of their
choosing, for those fighting a war not of their
making and for those struggling to keep a
family together around poverty not of their
creating.

We pray for those who we've met or talked to
in the last day or so who have some important
issue to face.

Especially we pray for any situations faced by
our own family and friends...

We pray for those who are waiting – for
something important – a visit, an
appointment, a word of kindness.

Especially we pray for anyone who may be
longing for love, friendship and a way out of
loneliness.

We pray for those whose lives are not
content, but who have not yet found their
home in you. We ask for the gift of your faith
to be given to them.

Father, every person we have thought of in
our hearts is known and loved by you far
more than we can ever imagine. We entrust
them to you in confidence and hope, knowing
that you will hear our prayers for their healing
and well-being.

We ask these things in the name of Jesus
Christ who is alive forever with you and the
Holy Spirit.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father

**Hymn: Listen to StF395 Spirit of the living
God or sing a verse of a hymn that comes to
mind**

[Spirit of the living God \(StF 395\)
\(methodist.org.uk\)](http://methodist.org.uk)

Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.

Break me, melt me,
mould me, fill me.

Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.

Daniel Iverson (1890-1977)

A prayer of blessing

May the grace of God the Father
Console our hearts,
May the love of Christ the Son
surround and uphold us,
May the breath of the Holy Spirit
Blow us into passionate fire
and may God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit
give us strength to do this week's work.
AMEN

Original Materials by Pat Heynes

All

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We are grateful to all the Ministers and Local Preachers from
around the Connexion who have contributed to Worship at
Home. This resource is administrated by Ministries: Vocations
and Worship in the Connexional Team.

For more worship resources see

[The Bible \(methodist.org.uk\)](http://The Bible (methodist.org.uk))

[Singing the Faith Plus \(methodist.org.uk\)](http://Singing the Faith Plus (methodist.org.uk))

Isaiah 58 v13-14

If you refrain from trampling the sabbath,
from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;
if you call the sabbath a delight
and the holy day of the LORD honourable;
if you honour it, not going your own ways,
serving your own interests, or pursuing your own
affairs;
then you shall take delight in the LORD,
and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth;
I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Luke 13: 10-17

Jesus Heals a Crippled Woman

Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the
sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a
spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was
bent over and was quite unable to stand up

straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, 'Woman, you are set free from your ailment.' When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, 'There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.' But the Lord answered him and said, 'You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?' When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.