

Worship at Home – Sunday 24 July 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

Ps 85

⁸ Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful, to those who turn to him in
their hearts.

⁹ Surely his salvation is at hand for those who
fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.

Hymn: StF110 In the wonder of creation

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X-DT0f3xiM&list=PLfJKMN-CtuWCeWWWKYxMLY_81soj1dufJ&index=18

Andrew T. Murphy (b. 1981)

Let us pray together

Lord God your love goes on. Your creation
was born from your love and you saw that it
was good. You led your people in love and
when they were disobedient you sought ways
to bring them back to your way.

In Jesus you showed the height and length
and breadth and depth of your love as he
gave himself for us on the cross.

You continue to show us your love through
the gift of the Holy Spirit.

We praise and thank you for your love and
we become aware of how we have taken your
love for granted or refused to receive that
love. We are sorry and ask your forgiveness
which you offer out of love. As we receive
that forgiveness help us to receive your spirit
that we may sin no more.

In Jesus name we pray. Amen

Today's Reading from the Old or New Testament Genesis 18:20-32

Today's Gospel Reading: Luke 11: 1 - 13

Time to Reflect

Lord, teach us to pray.

What is prayer? At its most basic –
communication with God. Prayer is not
complicated – it is simple yet we can feel so
inadequate when we begin to pray. We may
have total understanding of the disciples who
asked Jesus to teach them. We spend our lives
in the discovery of what prayer means. Prayer
is not easy yet at the same time it is the
easiest thing in the world. It is acknowledging
the presence of God with us and joining with
God in conversation. It is basic to Christian life
and the disciples recognise this in asking Jesus
to teach them. John Wesley in his “Notes on
the New Testament” says, “this prayer
uttered from the heart, in its true and full
meaning, is the badge of a real Christian”

We pray it as it stands but it is also a blue
print for all our praying, a template to copy
and a framework to base all our prayers on. It
is elegant in its simplicity starting with praise
for God and for God's will to be done before
moving to please for human need and finally
moving back to God to acknowledge his
power and glory.

There are 2 other passages of teaching in our
reading – their theme is perseverance in
asking for what you need rather than what
you simply want and the assurance of prayer
answered.

“You think it’s just ask and have” I can think of many times when my mum said that to me. Yet isn’t that also how we sometimes approach prayer, we ask and expect God to give us what we want immediately, not thinking that what we want isn’t necessarily what we need and now is not the right time. Then we are irrationally disappointed. God knows what we need and like any loving parent provides what we need.

Disciples throughout all time ask “Lord teach us to pray”. Jesus said – “Pray like this”.

Take a time to sit quietly

A time of prayer

O God, give us your Spirit to keep us asking for what is good.

to keep us seeking for what is true.

to keep us knocking, until the door opens to show us the way. **Amen.**

For those who need bread
because they starve during the daytime and
go to bed hungry,
because they lack the means to provide for
their families and communities,
because greed enables some to have what
they want while others do not get what they
need.

Your Kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven

For those who seek justice and kindness yet
find only ill treatment cruelty and injustice, in
the place of tenderness.

Your Kingdom come on earth as it is in
heaven.

For those who seek a place to call home, a
place where they can have a secure life
and the opportunities we so take for
granted...

Your Kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven

For those who this week have suffered from
peoples inhumanity.

Your Kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven

For those who are ill in body, mind and spirit
and those who mourn.

Your Kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven

Lord we bring these our prayers to you in the
faith that you hear and respond. Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father

Hymn: Listen to StF524 Listening God, you
hear us when we cannot speak
or sing a verse of a hymn that comes to mind
Sing/ Read /pray /proclaim the words or listen
to it here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vlpSOWGlePI> *Marjorie Dobson (b. 1940)*

A prayer of blessing

Generous God, bless us now with your grace
that gives and gives again. In the name of
Jesus Christ we pray. Amen

Original Materials by *insert your name here*

All

Hymns reproduced under CCLi 1144191.

Local Churches please insert CCCLi 202443

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))