



Worship at Home

PRAYERS READING AND REFLECTIONS TO USE AT HOME WHEN GOING TO CHURCH IS NOT POSSIBLE

Church at Home

By Rev Shuna Dicks

Welcome to our latest Worship at Home sheet. As always, in this Worship at Home Sheet I have included prayers, reflections and readings for each week which I hope speak of the situation we live in and will bring some comfort and peace. Use as many or as few as you like. Opening and closing words are there to help you shape your personal time of worship. You may even want to set aside our usual gathering time of 10.30am on Sunday Morning as this will tie in with the online worship beginning.

We can now gather for worship in the sanctuary. If you feel you would like to join us on a Sunday morning in church, please contact Graeme Robertson on 01224 867260 to reserve a seat. The good news is that we can now sing! The wearing of face coverings, social distancing, use of hand sanitiser and track and trace remain in place as requirements.

In the meantime, if I or we as a congregation can be of any help to you at this time, please do not hesitate to contact me at the Manse. My phone number is 01224 861692.

With love and prayers.

Shuna

Opening Words

Praise the Lord,
with the sound of songs, lyres,
harps, tambourines,
castanets and cymbals.

A rich symphony
of all that God has given us,
with which to lift our praise.

Our words, our time, our energy, and
action.

All given in acknowledgement of God's
gracious,
and benevolent love to us.

Given back to God in lavish faithfulness,
as we care for the world God made,
and all people whom God loves.

Closing Words

May the God of majesty and mystery,
fill us with awe and wonder;
may the God whom even seraphs
worshipped,
guide us in the ways of holiness;
may the God who asks "who will go?",
inspire us to cry, like the prophet:
"Here am I; send me!"
And, may the God who calls,
send us to live into our calling,
and bless us on our way.
Amen

or
God trusts us
to be loving.
God trusts us
to be responsible.
God trusts us
to learn from our mistakes.
We go
in the blessing of God.
Amen

BIBLE READINGS SUNDAY BY SUNDAY

4th July

2 Samuel 6:1-5,12b-19

Psalms 24

11th July

2 Samuel 7:1-14a

Psalms 89:20-37

18th July

2 Samuel 11:1-15

Psalms 14

25th July

2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a

Psalms 51:1-12

DIAL IN TO WORSHIP

To listen to our service call
01224 013222

and you will be able to hear a
recording of the Sunday service from
10.30am each Sunday and throughout
the week. There is a small charge for
this service or it may be free
depending on your telephone
contract.

AN EVERYDAY PRAYER

Loving God,
we ask you to be with us
today and every day
as we seek to learn with you
and with your people;
to grow with you
and with your people.
Help us today
as we try to see you
in all the people that we meet;
help us to understand
what makes us 'us';
help us to be happy
with who we are;
help us to see that
every person is different;
help us, not to judge others,
but to love them
for who they are.
Amen

Prayer

Master builder,
we are created in your image and
have a desire to be builders
from a very young age.
Whether it is wooden bricks
building a tower,
or sand castles,
or whatever material
we can find,
we love to build things.
But you invite us
to build more
than just things,
you want to build
a friendship with us.
You want to talk to us,
and to listen to us,
you want to spend time with us
as we read and play.
May we take time
to be with you today,
may we be content
to sit with you,
where we are, and
enjoy precious time together.
Amen.

Reflective Prayer

Eternal three-in-one,
love flows from one to another:
a circle of never-ending love,
a love that includes the universe,
a love that includes humanity.
Who are we that you love us,
who are we to be included
in this wonderful divine relationship?

A relationship that calls us
to be responsible
for our thoughts, our words,
and our actions.
A relationship that demands

our attention and focus,
and invites us to show others
that all are welcome at the table.

A relationship that understands
our human frailty and faults,
that forgives our mistakes,
that asks us to
accept the consequences
and helps us to bear them.

A relationship that is marked
by love, love that was willing
to give it all up for us even to
death on a cross.

A relationship we want
to enter and dwell within.
So be it.
Amen.

Reflective Prayer

God who calls us to worship
how should we worship you?
Sitting quietly on a pew in solemn reverent?
Gazing at the stained glass window in prayerful
adoration? Dancing down the aisle to
exhilarating music?
It does not matter to you how we worship:
you have created us in your own image;
you have made each one of us unique.
Should we compare and judge other people
who are different to us?
Or should we be humble and celebrate the
differences in our faith communities?
Amen.

Something to think about for 4th July

Think about the possessions you have had
handed down to you from previous generations.

- Where do you keep those possessions?
- What do they mean to you?
- Do they have a living presence for you, or are they solely historical relics?
- Which of these possessions would you take with you if you could only take one?

Something to think about for 11th July

This week each day take a moment to reflect on
buildings that have played a part in your life.
This could vary from houses you have lived in
to schools or universities, churches or places of
work, ballrooms or pubs.

- What makes that building memorable to you?
- With whom do you share that memory?
- Was it a good memory or a painful memory?
- How does that experience shape you today?
- How much do you hanker either to return or to move on?

Something to think about for 18th July

This week as you read or watch the news pay
particular attention to who has done what and
why they did it, who was most impacted by
those actions, and whether there is scope for
justice. Think about how power has been used
or abused in those situations.

- What power do you have over other people?
- How do you use that power?
- In what situations are you tempted to abuse that power?
- What checks do you put in place to regulate your actions?

Something to think about for 25th July

Take a piece of paper and each day spend a
few minutes thinking about times in your life
when you had to face the repercussions of a
bad decision you made. Write something down
on the paper that reminds you of that occasion.
At the end of the week in a moment of prayer
offer these situations to God. Crumple up the
paper, throw it away, and seek from God
forgiveness.

Prayer

God of celebration,
how you rejoice in your love for us:
you take delight in our expression of love
for you;
you encourage us to go forth as your
people of praise;
your joy is our strength;
your grace centred on us;
your glory fills our hearts
and we can celebrate our thanksgiving
in music, singing and dancing.

Forgive us when we hold back
our expression of worship to you
fearful of what other people may think of
us.

Help us not to be a critical observer
in how other people's way of worship affect
us, help us to be a joyful partaker
in worshipping before you sincerely from
our hearts.

Help us to celebrate our fellowship
with you and other people
genuinely, honestly and openly.

Help us praise in our thanksgiving to you
for who you are, our ever-loving God.
We pray to your glory.
Amen.

Reflection

Let us build a house for God to live in.
Which brick shall we choose to build God's
house? Sun-dried? Concrete? Granite?
What colour brick would please God?

Red? Grey? Brown?
What kind of house can we build for God?
Bungalow? Mansion? Castle?
Where can we put down the foundation?
In the City? Out in the country? Up a
mountain?

There are so many choices we have to
make but we will never agree together.
"Are you the one to build me a house to
live in?"

"Let me build your house", said the Lord.
Every stone is collected,
all sorts of colours are used,
any size is acceptable,
everywhere will do:
one house made up of very diverse
stones, one house cemented together by
the blood, one house where God can dwell
right inside our hearts.