



The **Methodist** Church

Welshpool & Bro Hafren Methodist Circuit

Home Worship Sheet – 10th May

This short act of worship has been prepared and written
for you by Mr Graham Smith.

Call to Worship:

God of grace and power
grant to us all, peace in this time of dramatic change;
grant us the wisdom to get the best out of each day
grant us love beyond measure,
so that we can return to others a large portion of the love
they each have shown to us.

Protect those we love,
remind us each day that we are your children
and so precious in your sight.

Hold us in your eternal love and shield us from
all that would seek to harm us,
bring us wholeness and strength to endure,
and grant us the knowledge that in you
all will be well

Amen

Hymn: In Christ alone

To listen to this hymn in a new tab: press Shift and Ctrl together and click [here](#). Close the tab
after the hymn.

1 In Christ alone my hope is found,
 he is my light, my strength, my song;
 this Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
 firm through the fiercest drought and storm.

**What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
here in the love of Christ I stand.**

**2 In Christ alone! — who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones he came to save:
till on that cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied
for every sin on him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.**

**3 There in the ground his body lay,
light of the world by darkness slain:
then bursting forth in glorious Day
up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory,
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
for I am his and he is mine —
bought with the precious blood of Christ.**

**4 No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the power of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
can ever pluck me from his hand;
till he returns or calls me home,
here in the power of Christ I'll stand!**

Prayer

**Listening God,
hear our silence and our fear of praying:
we worry that we will use the wrong words;
we cannot find words that begin to express how we feel;
we feel too small when faced with your greatness.
So hear our silence
and send your Spirit to pray for us with sighs too deep for words.**

Silence

**Loving God,
we know that all things work together for good for those who love
you;
yet we forget the extent of your love.
You are for us! Who can be against us?
Why do we worry, is our faith so weak?
Remind us again that you did not withhold your own Son
but gave him up for all — even us.**

Silence

**Living God,
nothing in all creation can separate any of us
from your love in Christ Jesus.
Nothing — not a thing.
We turn away from even small problems,
we hate to be uncomfortable or inconvenienced;
we give in so easily.
Help us to believe the promise of your abiding,
eternal love which is present through death, through life,
through past, present and future.
Grant us the gift of faith which allows us to be truly 'faith-full',
to be effective disciples and willing storytellers,
proclaiming the gospel of Christ in whose name we pray.**

Amen.

Romans 8:26-39

To listen to this reading, by David Suchet from BibleGateway, in a new tab press Shift and Ctrl together and click [here](#). Close the tab after the reading.

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

JOHN 14: 1 - 14

To listen to this reading, by David Suchet from BibleGateway, in a new tab press Shift and Ctrl together and click [here](#). Close the tab after the reading.

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.”

Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us."

Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

New International Version

Reflection

27th March 1966 - Temple Street Methodist Church. Llandrindod Wells:

**"I resolved, by God's help, to follow Jesus as my Lord
and to trust Him as my Saviour"**

1975 – Welshpool Methodist Church:

accepted as a Local Preacher

1994 – Methodist Cliff College, Derbyshire:

seeking a way forward in my faith.

Prayed for by Rev Steven J Wild whose guidance grew into a great blessing as I received, what I needed, the power of the Holy Spirit, as my guide. I experienced the full meaning of the Way, the Truth, the Life. My journey of Faith dramatically changed from then on.

1994 – Holy Trinity Church, Brompton Road, London

**First experience of ALPHA
– a lovely way of "Celebrating and sharing God's Love"**

Steve Wild's inspired guidance soundly confirmed – a huge blessing ever since.

I have experienced and shared the Comfort of John chapter 14 many times and the promise of Romans Chapter 8.

God is confirming His eternal love for us, his children by telling us **WHERE** our future with Him will be and **HOW** He will get us there!

“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

These passages of scripture are there to strengthen our faith. They are there to encourage us into a personal relationship with God through his son Jesus Christ. This we can do because the Christian faith is the only faith that has a **LIVING SAVIOUR**. You cannot have a meaningful relationship with a dead hero!

In these so challenging times in our world, when people everywhere are living in fear of the unknown and suffering grief and loss in so many ways – the confidence of our faith can be a great comfort to others.

“Come near to God and he will come near to you” (James 4:8) may be all that someone needs to find a path made for them to follow.

Jesus alone can bring comfort, peace and joy.

Do you believe that your car will take you home?

Just believing that your car will take you home won't get you home.

You believe in your car so much that you commit yourself to your car, you get into it, and you trust that it will get you home.

When you believe in Jesus, and you trust and commit yourself to Him you open the door to all the blessings that a loving heavenly Father has to offer.

The God I believe in at the depths of my being is a God who longs for wholeness and healing for all people. Those of us who share this hope cannot ignore our responsibility to work for and call for change in our world. There is no soft or comfortable option; we are called to make a difference — through our prayers and through our actions. We do not

know how all will be well, but like Julian of Norwich we do know that 'all manner of things will be well'.

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him (Romans 15:13)

The Lord's Prayer

***Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.***

And now we sing - The (old) Hymn 525 from the Methodist Hymn book was chosen when Anne and I married in December 1968. A hymn of hope and a simple faith. God has seen us through the inevitable ups and downs – we trust Him to continue to walk with us as we face the challenges of a troubled world.

Hymn: Through the love of God our Saviour

To listen to this hymn in a new tab: press Shift and Ctrl together and click [here](#). Close the tab after the hymn.

**1 Through the love of God our Saviour,
All will be well,
Free and changeless is His favour;
All, all is well.
Precious is the blood that healed us,
Perfect is the grace that sealed us,
Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us,
All must be well.**

2 **Though we pass through tribulation.
All will be well,
Christ hath purchased full salvation;
All, all is well.
Happy, still in God confiding,
Fruitful, if in Christ abiding,
Holy, through the Spirit's guiding,
All must be well.**

3 **We expect a bright to-morrow;
All will be well,
Faith can sing through days of sorrow,
All, all is well.
On our Father's love relying,
Jesus every need supplying,
Then in living, or in dying,
All must be well.**

Mary Peters 1813-56
Reproduced from Methodist Hymn Book, number 525

Closing Prayer

Grant us the Grace to Think and Do such things as are Right and True

And since we can do nothing without Thee, give us the help of thy Spirit

That we may live according to thy Will.

Send us away from this Service to make the world around us Happier and Better because of our presence in it.

Amen

