



# The **Methodist** Church

## Welshpool & Bro Hafren Methodist Circuit

Home Worship Sheet – 7<sup>th</sup> June

This short act of worship has been prepared and written for you by Mrs Eleri Williams.

### Opening Prayer

We ask you Lord, that now and every time we come to you to worship and pray, that we will be aware of your presence, be conscious of your power, and sense your protection over us, and know in our hearts and minds the wonder and grace of your never ending peace. Amen

### Hymn: Blessed Assurance Jesus is mine

To listen to this hymn in a new tab: press Shift and Ctrl together and click [here](#). (I wrando ar yr emyn yn Gymraeg, pwyswch Shift a Ctrl a chliciwch [yma](#).) Close the tab after the hymn.

- 1        **Blessèd assurance, Jesus is mine:  
O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God;  
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood:**  
  
          **This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Saviour all the day long.  
This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Saviour all the day long.**
  
- 2        **Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
visions of rapture burst on my sight;  
angels descending bring from above  
echoes of mercy, whispers of love:**  
  
          **This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Saviour all the day long.  
This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Saviour all the day long.**

**3 Perfect submission, all is at rest,  
I in my Saviour am happy and blest —  
watching and waiting, looking above,  
filled with his goodness, lost in his love:**

**This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Saviour all the day long.  
This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Saviour all the day long.**

Frances Jane van Alstyne, (Fanny Crosby) (1820–1915)  
Reproduced from Singing the Faith Electronic Words Edition, number 548

### **Ecclesiastes 3 v 1-15**

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.

**There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:**

**a time to be born and a time to die,  
a time to plant and a time to uproot,  
a time to kill and a time to heal,  
a time to tear down and a time to build,  
a time to weep and a time to laugh,  
a time to mourn and a time to dance,  
a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,  
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,  
a time to search and a time to give up,  
a time to keep and a time to throw away,  
a time to tear and a time to mend,  
a time to be silent and a time to speak,  
a time to love and a time to hate,  
a time for war and a time for peace.**

**What do workers gain from their toil? I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race. He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can**

fathom what God has done from beginning to end. I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil – this is the gift of God. I know that everything God does will endure for ever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it. God does it so that people will fear him.

Whatever is has already been, and what will be has been before; and God will call the past to account.

New International Version

## **Prayer**

Almighty Father we come into your presence to offer you our thanks, we come to ask you to listen to our prayers, we come to offer ourselves to your service and your work, we come with open hearts and minds.

As we come closer to you, **we ask you to come closer to us.**

We come as we have many times in the past, but not as a ritual, but a need for our soul. We come to you Lord in joy and ready to hear your word in our lives.

As we come closer to you, **we ask you to come closer to us.**

Your love for us is always new,  
your purpose in our lives is always fresh,  
Your guiding hand is always creative,  
your voice is always encouraging.

Make our worship time worthy of your time.

As we come closer to you, **we ask you to come closer to us.**

Hold our imagination, fire our hearts, fill our whole being,  
That we can come to you today and every day and find that new vision.

A vision of new life, of new truths, and knowing that your blessings on our lives will make us better.

As we come closer to you, **we ask you to come closer to us.**

**Our Loving father, we come to you now,  
Speak to us, comfort us, and show us that we can use our time wisely  
to do your will, teach us to share your love with others.**

**As we come closer to you, [we ask you to come closer to us.](#)**

**We ask this in Jesus name.**

**Amen**

### **Reflection**

**“Everything thing that happens in this world happens at the time  
God chooses”.**

**The first question would be” what is a wise way to spend your  
time”? St Paul advised the Ephesians “Be careful how you live, not  
as unwise people but as wise...” He is telling us to use the time we  
have sensibly, not wasting what God has given us. As some of you  
know, I do a lot of sewing and quilting and when we were told we  
would have to stay home, I was really pleased, I could sort out my  
sewing room, which I did. I found lots of pieces of work, started but  
not finished, I filled a box of these “UFO’s” (unfinished objects),  
now I have emptied the box and finished the items, and have now  
started new pieces, time well spent as far as I am concerned. My  
garden has never been weed-free, it is now! “You are nearer to God  
in a garden, than anywhere else on earth” I am no ”domestic  
goddess” but my house is cleaner than ever!**

**You are all wondering what I am trying to say- we now have plenty  
of time, we can only go out for necessities, for exercise, but all this  
“free” time has given many of us time to think seriously about the  
direction our lives was taking, were we giving any time to God and  
his purpose in our life.**

**Bonaventure said “heaven is not divided by the number of those  
who reign, nor diminished by being shared, nor disturbed by the  
multitude of those there, nor changed by motion, nor measured by  
time”**

**God does and never has measured time like us, it is us as humans who have tried to measure time, and then tried to manipulate it for our own benefit.**

**We need to be grateful for the time God has given us, however long or short that is. Time is meant to be our servant, but too often we become the slave of time. We need God's wisdom to take back our time from the hustle and bustle of our busy hectic lives, to set free our hours and days and enjoy every minute God gives us.**

**If we have learnt anything from the past few months, we need to consider what is important, have we been leading the life God planned for us, or have we been "killing time" instead of using time wisely to thankfully and purposefully serve God.**

**Periodically we all need to evaluate time and establish our priorities, so that we have adequate time for rest, relaxation and spiritual growth.**

**"He has set the right time for everything". Ecclesiastes 3.**

**I finish with the hymn by Isaac Watts**

**"Time, like an ever-rolling stream, will bear us all away;  
We fade and vanish as a dream dies at the opening day."**



## **Prayer**

**We pray today for our fractured world, a world that is so full of doubt, where we are all living under a threat we cannot see, where we fear everything.**

**This is the world you created, and we your children have damaged it, you gave us the power to use the resources for food and to create goodness, but we have exploited it.**

**You are calling us now to give our time to repair your world.**

**Give us the will to respond to your call.**

**We bring before you our feelings of doubt and hopelessness in the face of all that surrounds us. We are aware how little we are able, or even want to do to make matters better. How little we try to influence the situation, because we are too busy, or do not care.**

**Give us the will to respond to your call.**

**You are calling us today to answer your call, in whatever way we can, By praying, by giving, by serving, and to sacrifice our time for your kingdom.**

**Help us to become true and faithful servants to you, to give the time we have sensibly, to offer your love without restraint.**

**When we see suffering, to offer comfort, when we see injustice, that we stand up for justice, that we are not afraid to question judgements.**

**You are asking us to become your servants and help to repair our fractured world**

**Give us the will to respond to your call.**

**Be with each of us today and always.**

**Amen**

## ***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***

## **Hymn: Immortal Invisible God only wise.**

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

- 1**      **Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**
  
- 2**      **Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might —  
thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.**
  
- 3**      **To all life thou givest, to both great and small;  
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;  
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,  
and wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.**

4        **Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
all laud we would render: O help us to see  
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.**

Walter Chalmers Smith (1824–1908)

### **Closing Prayer**

**Eternal God and Father, help us to entrust the past to your mercy,  
the present to your love, and the future to your wisdom,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who is the same yesterday,  
today and for ever.**

**Amen.**

