

Welshpool & Bro Hafren Methodist Circuit

Home Worship Sheet for 4th June 2023

This short act of worship has been prepared and written for you by Rev Jacquie Evans

Call to Worship

The grace, love and fellowship of God surrounds us today and always.

So, come, let us journey together in the wonderful adventure of worshipping God, the holy 'three in one'.

Hymn SF 20 Be still, for the presence of the Lord

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

Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One, is here;
come bow before him now
with reverence and fear:
in him no sin is found ---
we stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One, is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around;
he burns with holy fire,
with splendour he is crowned:
how awesome is the sight ---
our radiant King of light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place;
he comes to cleanse and heal,
to minister his grace:

no work too hard for him ---
in faith receive from him.

Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.

In him no sin is found,
we stand on holy ground.

Be still, for the presence of the Lord
is moving in this place.

David J Evans (b. 1975)

Prayer of Approach

Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
we come before you now to worship,
to marvel at your being,
to focus on your calling to us,
to know your love,
and to seek your truth.

Amen.

Prayer of Confession

The oceans cannot cry out when they are polluted, but we can.

Creator God, forgive us when we are silent.

Animals cannot protect themselves from cruelty and abuse,
but we can.

Creator God, forgive us when we do nothing.

The rainforests cannot stand up to bulldozers and axes,
but we can.

Creator God, forgive us when we turn away.

Forgive us, empower us, and bless us with urgency, compassion, and
courage, that those who come after us may look on your creation,
see that it is good, and rejoice.

Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

The journey of life has its ups and its downs
and God travels with us,
waiting for us to turn and confess,
offering warmth, welcome and assurance that,
when we repent, we are forgiven,
cleansed, renewed, released, set free.
Thanks be to God.

Amen.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 28: 16 – 20

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said,

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Hymn

StF 446

I will offer up my life

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

I will offer up my life in spirit and truth,
pouring out the oil of love as my worship to you.
in surrender I must give my every part;
Lord, receive the sacrifice of a broken heart.

*Jesus, what can I give, what can I bring
to so faithful a friend, to so loving a King?
Saviour, what can be said, what can be sung
as a praise of your name for the things you have done?
O, my words could not tell, not even in part,
of the debt of love that is owed by this thankful heart.*

You deserve my every breath for you've paid the great cost
giving up your life to death, even death on a cross.
You took all my shame away, there defeated my sin
opened up the gates of heaven and have beckoned me in.

Reflection

The reading this week is commonly referred to as 'The Great Commission' when the disciples were charged with taking the good news out into the world.

The disciples have gathered at the mountain. Some are still trying to grasp what has happened – they 'doubted' – but most respond in the only way they can: worship. The command here is not 'go' but 'make'. Going is inevitable; they cannot stay on the mountain. It is what they do that matters. And it implies that we who are disciples ourselves must do the same: disciples make disciples. Simply put, a disciple is a learner, someone who models themselves on their teacher. This is not just about knowing things but about our lifestyle, walking the way the master walks and doing what he does. This is a life-time's journey.



In the well-known Rublev icon: The Trinity (also called 'The hospitality of Abraham') you see three identical people seated at a table, extending an invitation to a fourth person – the viewer – to join them. It is fruitful to explore the Trinity as a community of love, and how this is the basis on which we build community in our churches and neighbourhoods. And it is worth noting how the Trinity is involved in the creation of this community, as we see in 2 Corinthians 13:13 – the Father's love, the Son's grace, the Spirit's power and participation in our common life. How do these things work together in our lives?

The Trinity is a community of beings who have been with each other for eternity, a perfect communion of love and welcome and acceptance. Because this is the God who calls us, this is also our call: to be with our God). What does it mean to be with God, with one another, and with our neighbourhood in the grace and love of this inviting Trinity? What will this mean for our life together and our mission in the world? Does it mean that what we are called to be and do, we can really, truly, be and do – because the Trinity is invested in it?

What adventures might God be calling us to? How do we obey God in our everyday lives? Do we sometimes feel it is too big and too scary? Are we living our best life for God, or does it all feel too much? Does adventure scare us? Are we happy to settle for the quiet life? How can we work together better to further God's kingdom?

There are no doubt many challenges in our lives that we face with relish and excitement (and maybe some that we don't, but let's leave them to one side for now). Being part of God's adventure should surely be one of them, perhaps the most exciting of them all. But where to start? How do we join in? It might sound daunting, but – as the saying goes – every journey starts with the first step. And that step could be as simple as pondering, every day, 'How can I share God's love with someone today?' What examples of how you might do this come to your mind?

Prayer of Praise and Thanksgiving

Colourful, creator God,
we give you thanks for the times
when through the beauty of creation
we have glimpsed the true nature of the Trinity;
the times when through another's love
we have glimpsed the inclusiveness of the Trinity.
Deepen our appreciation of all that is around us
and increase our sense of mutual dependence,
that we may celebrate diversity, delight in difference
and be drawn into life-giving relationships
that honour all you have made and all that we are.

Amen.

Hymn

StF 6

Father, we love you

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

Father, we love you,
we worship and adore you:
glorify your name in all the earth.

Glorify your name,
glorify your name,
glorify your name in all the earth.

Jesus, we love you,
we worship and adore you:
glorify your name in all the earth.

Glorify your name,
glorify your name,
glorify your name in all the earth.

Spirit, we love you,
we worship and adore you:
glorify your name in all the earth.

Glorify your name,
glorify your name,
glorify your name in all the earth.

Donna Adkins (b. 1940)

Prayers of Intercession

Where there is conflict between nations and within nations;
where people live in fear of the bullet and the bomb;
when parents weep for children who have been killed:

God of peace,
[may your peace be known.](#)

In homes filled with anger, cruelty and neglect;
where there are no safe places;
where poverty and addiction bring suffering and pain:

God of peace,
[may your peace be known.](#)

To those whose minds are tormented by depression;
to those whose hold on life is fragile;
to those whose lives are filled with stress:

God of peace,
may your peace be known.

To those who are nearing the end of life;
to those who love and care for them:
God of peace,
may your peace be known.

May your peace be known to us,
and may we be bearers of your peace in our world.
Amen.

The Lords 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 StF 15 The splendour of the King

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

The splendour of the King,
clothed in majesty;
let all the earth rejoice,
let all the earth rejoice.
He wraps himself in light
and darkness tries to hide,
and trembles at his voice,
and trembles at his voice.

*How great is our God, sing with me,
how great is our God, and all will see
how great, how great is our God.*

And age to age he stands,
and time is in his hands;
beginning and the end,
beginning and the end.
The Godhead, Three in One
Father, Spirit, Son,
the Lion and the Lamb,
the Lion and the Lamb.

*How great is our God, sing with me,
how great is our God, and all will see
how great, how great is our God.*

Name above all names,
worthy of all praise;
my heart will sing:
how great is our God.
Name above all names,
worthy of all praise;
my heart will sing:
how great is our God.

*How great is our God, sing with me
how great is our God, and all will see
how great, how great is our God.*

Chris Tomlin (b. 1972), Ed Cash & Jesse Reeves

Blessing

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be your strength,
wherever you go;
may the love of God be your joy, whatever your
circumstances;
and may the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be your inspiration,
whatever you do.

Amen.