

Order of service for worship at home

As you use this order remember that other people from your church and around the Circuit are also sharing in this act of worship

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You could start by lighting a candle or listening to music.

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Opening prayer

Lord God, Most High,

I am giving you worship with all my life,

I am giving you obedience with all my power,

I am giving you praise with all my strength,

I am giving you honour with all my speech.

I am giving you love with all my heart,

I am giving you affection with all my sense, I am giving you my being with all my mind,

I am giving you my soul,

O most high and holy God.

Praise to the Father, Praise to the Son, Praise to the Spirit, The Three in One.

Adapted from Alexander Carmichael, Carmina Gadelica (1900)

Prayer of thanksgiving and confession

Lord, you are steadfast in your love

and infinite in your mercy; I praise you for what you have done in my life (take a few moments to name the good things)

Thank you for the gift of Jesus who shows us what you are really like.

You welcome sinners and invite them to be your guests. Forgive me when I have felt myself to be better than other people.

I confess my sins,

trusting in you to forgive me. (time of quiet confession)

Thank you that you are a merciful God in whom I may know forgiveness, freedom and new life. Amen

Psalm 121 (or another Psalm)

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills from where will my help come?

²My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

³He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

⁴He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

- ⁵The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand.
- ⁶The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.
- ⁷The LORD will keep you from all harm; he will keep your life.
- ⁸The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

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Words of Jesus

Jesus said these words, read through the list and reflect on any that speak to you today.

My peace I give to you.

Do not be afraid.

Abide in my love.

You are in me and I in you.

Ask and it will be given you.

I will give you rest.

Love others as I have loved you.

Watch and pray.

I am with you always.

Read today's gospel reading (see list at the end)

Some of the readings are quite long passages, you could choose to read part of the passage and spend time focussing on it.

You might like to use the following as a way of being open to the reading

Before you read pray that you will be open to what God wants you to receive from the reading, relax in God's presence

Read the text slowly, look for words or phrases that jump out and stay with them. Turn the phrase or word over in your mind.

Meditate on these questions:-

What does the passage/phrase/word say to me?

How do I feel as I read?

What questions arise for me?

What answers do I give?

Maybe reread the passage

Talk to Jesus about what arises, give time to listen

Rest in God's presence

A time of prayer

God of all hope I call on you today.

I pray for those who are living in fear:

Fear of illness,

fear for loved ones,

fear of other's reactions to them.

May your Spirit give us all a sense of calmness and peace.

I pray for my church family in this time of uncertainty:

For those people who are isolated, especially those living alone,

For those offering support to others,

For courage to find ways of showing God's love and grace in the midst of uncertain and changing times.

Grant us your wisdom, grant your peace

I pray for the suffering and sorrowful and for all who need my prayers.

I especially want to pray for

Holy God,

I remember that you have promised that nothing will separate us from your love – demonstrated to us in Jesus Christ.

Help us turn our eyes, hearts and minds to you.

Eternal God,

through your Son you have filled each person's life with your presence.

Help us in our sufferings and trials and strengthen us in our weakness;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

Closing responses

May the mind of God be in us

May the Spirit of God give us life

May the power of God uphold us

May the love of God prompt our thinking

May the peace of God bless our actions

May the presence of God be with us now and always

Amen

Lectionary Readings

March 22nd John 9:1-41

March 29th John 11:1-45

April 5th Matthew 26:14-27:66

April 12th John 20:1-18

April 19th John 20:19-31

April 26th Luke 24:13-35

May 3rd John 10:1-10

May 10th John 14:10-14

May 17th John 14:15-21

May 24th John 17:1-11

May 31st John 20:19-23