

## Worship at Home - Sunday 21 August 2022

This short act of worship has been prepared for you to use at home. We invite you to spend a few moments with God, knowing that other people across the Methodist Connexion are sharing this act of worship with you.

### Opening Prayer

We come to God with our longings;  
Our heavenly Father knows them all.  
We come to God with our burdens;  
Our heavenly Father holds them all.  
We come to God alone or together  
The Holy Spirit is here for us all. AMEN

**Hymn: StF175, Light of the World**  
Sing/ Read /pray /proclaim the words  
<https://youtu.be/CBKzCpkXJR4>

Light of the world,  
you stepped down into darkness,  
opened my eyes, let me see  
beauty that made this heart adore you,  
hope of a life spent with you.

So here I am to worship,  
here I am to bow down,  
here I am to say that you're my God,  
and you're altogether lovely,  
altogether worthy,  
altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days  
oh so highly exalted,  
glorious in heaven above.  
Humbly you came  
to the earth you created,  
all for love's sake became poor.

So here I am to worship ...

And I'll never know how much it cost  
to see my sin upon that cross.  
And I'll never know how much it cost  
to see my sin upon that cross.

So here I am to worship ...

*Tim Hughes*

### Let us pray together

Eternal and generous God,  
thank You for Your many gifts to us -  
not least the gift of Your Son

who in turn gave His own life for the life  
of the world.

Help us we pray, to live as generously:  
ready to offer time, energy  
and all we have and are,  
for Your kingdom's sake.  
AMEN

**Today's Reading from the Old Testament**  
Isaiah 58: v 13-14

**Today's Gospel Reading:** Luke 13: 10-17

### Time to Reflect

What is the story from Luke really about?  
Jesus healing on the Sabbath and  
upsetting the synagogue leaders,  
or Jesus healing a woman who had spent  
18 years in pain without being offered  
any help by the synagogue leaders.  
God wants his people to celebrate their  
faith by acting justly in the world,  
whoever they are dealing with , wherever  
they are, and whenever the opportunity  
arises.

Are there people in our community who  
we have known for long periods and  
ignored, as the woman in Luke's story  
had been ignored until Jesus came along?  
As they reach out to us for practical help  
can we identify and try to meet their  
need? Can we achieve a result this week?  
Isaiah suggests that doing just that will  
bring joy both to us and the Lord.

Take a time to sit quietly

### A time of prayer

We pray for those who are in the news  
today, whether willingly or not....  
for those awaiting a home not of their  
choosing, for those fighting a war not of  
their making and for those struggling to

keep a family together around poverty  
not of their creating.

We pray for those who we've met or  
talked to in the last day or so who have  
some important issue to face.  
Especially we pray for any situations  
faced by our own family and friends...

We pray for those who are waiting - for  
something important - a visit, an  
appointment, a word of kindness.  
Especially we pray for anyone who may  
be longing for love, friendship and a way  
out of loneliness.

We pray for those whose lives are not  
content, but who have not yet found  
their home in you. We ask for the gift of  
your faith to be given to them.

Father, every person we have thought of  
in our hearts is known and loved by you  
far more than we can ever imagine. We  
entrust them to you in confidence and  
hope, knowing that you will hear our  
prayers for their healing and well-being.  
We ask these things in the name of Jesus  
Christ who is alive forever with you and  
the Holy Spirit.

**The Lord's Prayer**  
*Our Father .....*

**Hymn: Listen to StF395 Spirit of the  
living God or sing a verse of a hymn  
that comes to mind**  
[Spirit of the living God \(StF 395\)](http://methodist.org.uk)  
[methodist.org.uk](http://methodist.org.uk)

Spirit of the living God,  
fall afresh on me.  
Spirit of the living God,  
fall afresh on me.  
Break me, melt me,  
mould me, fill me.  
Spirit of the living God,  
fall afresh on me.

*Daniel Iverson (1890-1977)*

**A prayer of blessing**

May the grace of God the Father  
Console our hearts,  
May the love of Christ the Son  
surround and uphold us,  
May the breath of the Holy Spirit  
Blow us into passionate fire

and may God the Father, Son and Holy  
Spirit give us strength to do this  
week's work.  
AMEN

Original Materials by Pat Heynes  
All  
Hymns reproduced under CCLi 1144191.  
Local Churches please insert CCCLi No here

We are grateful to all the Ministers and Local Preachers  
from around the Connexion who have contributed to  
Worship at Home. This resource is administrated by  
Ministries: Vocations and Worship in the Connexional  
Team.

For more worship resources see

[The Bible \(methodist.org.uk\)](http://methodist.org.uk)

[Singing the Faith Plus \(methodist.org.uk\)](http://methodist.org.uk)

**Isaiah 58 v13-14**

If you refrain from trampling the sabbath,  
from pursuing your own interests on my holy  
day;  
if you call the sabbath a delight  
and the holy day of the LORD honourable;  
if you honour it, not going your own ways,  
serving your own interests, or pursuing your own  
affairs;  
then you shall take delight in the LORD,  
and I will make you ride upon the heights of the  
earth;  
I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor  
Jacob,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

**Luke 13: 10-17**

**Jesus Heals a Crippled Woman**

Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on  
the sabbath. And just then there appeared a  
woman with a spirit that had crippled her for  
eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite  
unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her,  
he called her over and said, 'Woman, you are set  
free from your ailment.' When he laid his hands on  
her, immediately she stood up straight and began  
praising God. But the leader of the synagogue,  
indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath,  
kept saying to the crowd, 'There are six days on  
which work ought to be done; come on those days  
and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.' But the  
Lord answered him and said, 'You hypocrites! Does  
not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his  
donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give  
it water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of  
Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long  
years, be set free from this bondage on the  
sabbath day?' When he said this, all his opponents  
were put to shame; and the entire crowd was  
rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was  
doing.