

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

This short act of worship has been prepared for you to use whilst we are unable to use Methodist Church premises. If you are well enough why not spend a few moments with God, knowing that other people are sharing this act of worship with you.

**Opening Affirmation**

Disciples and doubters,  
foolish and fearless,  
Is there hope for the sinner? In faith draw  
near and humbly seek the saviour of our  
souls.

**Hymn: Shine Jesus shine**

Lord, the light of your love is shining,  
In the midst of the darkness, shining;  
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us;  
Set us free by the truth you now bring us,  
Shine on me, shine on me.

*Chorus:- Shine, Jesus, shine,  
Fill this land with the Father's glory;  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze,  
Set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow,  
Flood the nations with grace and mercy;  
Send forth your word,  
Lord, and let there be light!*

Lord, I come to your awesome presence,  
From the shadows into your radiance;  
By the blood I may enter your brightness,  
Search me, try me, consume all my  
darkness.  
Shine on me, shine on me.

*Chorus*

As we gaze on your kingly brightness  
So our faces display your likeness.  
Ever changing from glory to glory,  
Mirrored here may our lives tell your  
story.  
Shine on me, shine on me.

*Chorus*

**Let us pray together**

Lord You created the world, a universe  
full of planets and stars and yet you  
stepped into Your own creation, taking on  
flesh and dwelling amongst us.  
May we have the grace to follow and  
shine like Him in our witness and faith.  
**Amen**

Loving God, we are sorry  
for wandered far from You.  
when we have not listened to Your voice  
listening instead to other voices -  
the voices of greed, selfishness,  
doubters, comforts and pleasures.  
You have offered us abundance of life,  
but we have settled for so much less,  
Lord have mercy upon me and  
Forgive me, renew a right spirit within  
me and renew my heart to follow You  
aright.

**Assurance of pardon**

In Jesus when we seek God in true  
humility and repentance in faith we have  
been forgiven  
So let us live as one who is forgiven,  
in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

**Gospel Reading: - Matt 18:21-35**

Read Rev. Ken's Sunday Sermon: - How  
many times!!!!

**Take a time to sit quietly**

**A time of prayer**

Loving and forgiving God  
We pray for our world today.  
Help and guide Prime ministers,  
Presidents, Kings and Queens, all types of  
workers around the world  
Parents and children that they seek the  
ways of God in their lives.

We continue to pray for all who have lost loved ones, may they feel your love this week as they go about their work. Amen

In a quiet time of reflection make your own prayers. Sit quietly before God and see if you can commit at least 30 minutes sitting in the presence of Almighty God in quiet prayer.

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

**Hymn: Listen to 'Lord I come to you'**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CL1POv2eY04>

Lord I come to You,  
Let my heart be changed, renewed  
Flowing from the grace  
That I've found in You  
Lord I've come to know  
The weaknesses I see in me  
Will be stripped away  
By the power of Your love

*Chorus - Hold me close  
Let Your love surround me  
Bring me near  
Draw me to Your side  
And as I wait  
I'll rise up like the eagle  
And I will soar with You  
Your Spirit leads me on  
In the power of Your love*

Lord unveil my eyes  
Let me see You face to face  
The knowledge of Your love  
As You live in me  
Lord renew my mind  
As Your will unfolds in my life  
In living every day  
By the power of Your love

*Chorus*

*Offering: What will you offer the Lord today for His blessings to you?*

**A prayer of blessing**  
StF771

May the love of the Lord rest upon your soul

May his love dwell in you throughout every day  
May his Countenance shine upon you and be gracious to you  
May His Spirit be upon you as you leave this place. Amen

Amended Original Materials by Linda Ashworth

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**Matthew 18:21-35**  
**Forgiveness**

Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.'

**The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant**

'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'