

Sunday 25th October 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.

Call to worship

Wherever we worship, whether alone or with others; whether in chapel, at home or elsewhere; whether we are full of joy or overwhelmed by fear and despair; we are thankful that we worship together as a community of Christ. Amen.

Hymn 503 (StF): Love divine

Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation,
perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise!
Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Prayers of adoration, thanks and confession

We pray together

Holy God,
creator of all things and source of all holiness,
we praise You for all that you provide for us materially and spiritually;
we give thanks for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ, who showed to us that perfect example of human love;
we praise you for Your Holy Spirit, who empowers us to share that love with others.

We give thanks for our local Christian communities and the worldwide church to which we belong; may we praise You with one voice.
God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
accept our praise and adoration. Amen.

We confess our sins to God.

Silence

We confess that we have not loved You with heart, soul and mind. We have failed to love our neighbours as ourselves. Help us to become the loving people You want us to be. Amen.

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. This is his gracious word:
"Your sins are forgiven."
Amen. Thanks be to God.

Reading Matthew 22:34-46

Read Rev. Ken's Sermon

Time to Reflect

Prayers of intercession

Loving God,
as we mediate on Christ's commandment
to love,
we pray for the church throughout the
world;
for justice and peace between and within
nations;
for political leaders and all in authority;
for the communities in which we live;
for people who suffer in any way;
and for all those on our minds today.

Silence

May the presence of your love be felt in
every situation.

We give thanks for those who have died,
especially those who have lived in the
love of Christ.

May we be united with them in your
eternal kingdom. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father...

**Hymn: Choose a hymn to sing which the
Holy Spirit brings to mind having
reflected on today's reading and
sermon.**

A prayer of blessing

May everything we do be guided by the
law of Christ's love; and now may the
blessing of God: the Father, the Son and
the Holy Spirit, be with us this day and
forevermore. Amen.

Amended Original Materials by Tom Ferguson

Matthew 22:34-46

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that he had
silenced the Sadducees, they gathered
together, ³⁵ and one of them, a lawyer,
asked him a question to test
him. ³⁶ 'Teacher, which commandment in
the law is the greatest?' ³⁷ He said to
him, "'You shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart, and with all your
soul, and with all your mind.'" ³⁸ This is
the greatest and first
commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it:
'You shall love your neighbour as
yourself.'" ⁴⁰ On these two
commandments hang all the law and the
prophets.'

⁴¹ Now while the Pharisees were gathered
together, Jesus asked them this
question: ⁴² 'What do you think of the
Messiah?^[a] Whose son is he?' They said to
him, 'The son of David.' ⁴³ He said to
them, 'How is it then that David by the
Spirit^[b] calls him Lord, saying,

⁴⁴ "The Lord said to my Lord,
'Sit at my right hand, until I put your
enemies under your feet'?"

⁴⁵ If David thus calls him Lord, how can
he be his son?' ⁴⁶ No one was able to give
him an answer, nor from that day did
anyone dare to ask him any more
questions.

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