

Worship at Home - Sunday 13 November 2022 Remembrance Sunday

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.

Call to worship

And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God
(Micah 6 v 6)

Hymn: StF132 O God our help in ages past

Sing/ Read /pray /proclaim the words or listen to it here [O God, our help in ages past \(StF 132\) \(methodist.org.uk\)](https://www.methodist.org.uk/stf132)

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.

Under the shadow of thy throne
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

The busy tribes of flesh and blood,
with all their cares and fears,
are carried downward by the flood,
and lost in following years.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all its sons away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,

our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while life shall last,
and our eternal home.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Let us pray together

Creator God, you walk with us in our world, and have done so in times of conflict as well as in times of peaceful cooperation. We thank you for the inspiration that Jesus shares with us, as he reached out to individuals to bring peace in their lives. Today we pray especially for those whose gave their lives in the service of others in the conflicts of our age. We pray for them, for their families and friends, for all who mourn their loss. We pray for our world today and as we remember all those caught up in the conflicts of our present age, may we continue to work for peace, justice and hope in today's world. We bring our prayer in the name of Jesus Christ, the prince of peace. Amen.

Today's Reading from the Old Testament

Micah 4 v 1 - 4

Today's Gospel Reading: John 15 v 9 - 17

Time to Reflect

Today is an important day in the nations calendar. It is a time when we remember the story of those who served their country in the conflicts of the last Century and this, remembering especially those who did not come back home to their families and friends and whose names are recorded on War memorials across the nation and around the world. Today we reflect on the way that war has led to, and continues to lead to, deep

uncertainty for individuals, families, communities and nations. We see that in the stories of the conflicts of the 1st and 2nd world wars, brought to mind perhaps in the story of the Late Queen Elizabeth, who for many years led the national service of remembrance at the Cenotaph in London. The effects of conflict resonate through the ages and the impact of conflict has moulded and shaped the way that community is formed. At the end of conflict and following the deep sacrifices of many, including those who gave their lives for others, there is a renewed hope as communities reestablish and people explore ways of living which seek to grasp a greater peace. The prophet Micah sought the same vision when he looked forward to a time when 'they will beat their swords in to ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks', when a time would be established where, 'nation will not take up sword against nation, neither will they train for war any more'. Of course this vision remains but it is often hidden. To find the peace that Jesus talks of is to find in our lives the way that peace can flow. By what we say and by how we act, we can make a difference to the way that our world is. Small steps indeed, but small steps grow into something significant. Jesus said that the greatest gift that could be offered was to lay down your life for your friends. We are not usually called to do so, but today we remember those who did, and remember Jesus too who through his teaching, work and example give us a new vision of peace. As we follow the one who gave his life not just for his friends but for the whole world, may we work for that peace, justice and hope which one day may be established on the earth.

Take a time to sit quietly

A time of prayer

We pray for our world, in all of its diversity. We pray that we may listen to each other, seek what is good and just and walk together so as to find peace, hope and blessing in our world today.

We pray for our faith, for our journey with God and with members of our church family. We give thanks for the way that God has called us, and continues to call us, as disciples of Jesus.

We pray for those who are ill, for those whose loves are challenged by illness. We remember all those who mourn, and on this remembrance Sunday we pray for all who remember loved ones who were, and continue to be, caught up in the conflicts of our world.

We remember those who have died, giving thanks for times shared together. May we, together with all the Communion of Saints be blessed as we are held in God love.

We bring our prayers in Jesus name. Amen

On this Remembrance Sunday we share in the silence – now or at 11.00 am

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.

We will remember them

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father

Hymn: Listen to StF712 Put peace into each others hands

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VI_sd5A-h8

or sing a verse of a hymn that comes to mind

Put peace into each other's hands
and like a treasure hold it,
protect it like a candle-flame,
with tenderness enfold it.

Put peace into each other's hands
with loving expectation;
be gentle in your words and ways,
in touch with God's creation.

Put peace into each other's hands
like bread we break for sharing;
look people warmly in the eye:

our life is meant for caring.

As at Communion, shape your hands
into a waiting cradle;
the gift of Christ receive, revere,
united round the table.

Put Christ into each other's hands,
he is love's deepest measure;
in love make peace, give peace a chance,
and share it like a treasure.

Fred Kaan (1929-2009)

A prayer of blessing from the Baptist Peace Fellowship

Send us out to be beacons of peace
in a dark world of conflict.
Make us instruments of peace
for whoever we meet
and wherever we go,
In the name of the Prince of Peace,
Our Lord and saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen

May God bless us, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen

Original Materials by Rev Philip Wagstaff, Superintendent Minister of the Hastings Bexhill and Rye Circuit

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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 and will end at the end of 2022.

For more worship resources see

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

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

Micah 4 v 1 - 4

4In days to come
the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised up above the hills.
Peoples shall stream to it,

² and many nations shall come and say:
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
³ He shall judge between many peoples,
and shall arbitrate between strong nations far
away;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more;
⁴ but they shall all sit under their own vines and
under their own fig trees,
and no one shall make them afraid;
for the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken.

John 15 v 9 - 17

⁹As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you;
abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my
commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I
have kept my Father's commandments and abide
in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that
my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be
complete.

¹² 'This is my commandment, that you love one
another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater
love than this, to lay down one's life for one's
friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I
command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any
longer, because the servant does not know what
the master is doing; but I have called you friends,
because I have made known to you everything that
I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose
me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and
bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will
give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am
giving you these commands so that you may love
one another.