



Worshipping at Home during the coronavirus pandemic **for families**

This order of service is designed to help families who are self-isolating or unable to come to church on a Sunday to worship at home.

Prayer is never something which is done alone. Whenever we pray, we do so *in communion*. We pray in communion with the Church throughout the world, and we are united with our brother and sister Christians everywhere. And when we pray we do so in communion with heaven, with the saints who worship God face to face.

We suggest using this service at the same time as the Sunday service you usually attend. We hope that, by using prayers and texts in common with those who are praying in church, that you will feel a special union with your friends at St Paul's. Please know that we are praying for you, as you pray with us.

In addition to this booklet, you will need a Bible (bible.oremus.org) for this service. You might also like to light a candle, and place a crucifix, cross, or icon on a table, as a focus for your prayers.

At the end of this booklet you will find some other resources to help you worship while you are unable to come to church.

*Nominate one person to lead the service (saying the words in normal type) while everyone else says the words in **bold type**.*

The Introduction

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord is here.

His spirit is with us.

From Easter Day to Pentecost this acclamation follows

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

*We say the **Confession**:*

Let us call to mind our sins,
and ask for God's mercy and forgiveness.

In the wilderness we find your grace;
you love us with an everlasting love.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

There is none but you to uphold our cause;
our sin cries out and our guilt is great.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Heal us, O Lord, and we shall be healed;
restore us and we shall know your joy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy upon us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

Amen.

Sharing the Word

Read the **Gospel reading** set for the day. (bible.oremus.org).

If you have small children you might want to use just a portion of the Gospel reading set. If it is useful to have the story illustrated, search for the reading on www.freebibleimages.org or www.bricktestament.com

Sunday 22 March (Lent 4)
Sunday 29 March (Lent 5)
Sunday 5 April (Palm Sunday)

John 9.1-41
John 11.1-45
Matthew 21.1-11
and Matthew 27.11-54

Maundy Thursday
Good Friday
Sunday 12 April (Easter Day)
Sunday 19 April (Easter 2)
Sunday 26 April (Easter 3)
Sunday 3 May (Easter 4)
Sunday 10 May (Easter 5)
Sunday 17 May (Easter 6)
Ascension Day
Sunday 24 May (Easter 7)
Sunday 31 May (Pentecost)

John 13.1-17,31-35
John 18.1 – end of John 19
John 20.1-18
John 20.19-end
Luke 24.13-35
John 10.1-10
John 14.1-14
John 14.15-21
Luke 24.44-end
John 17.1-11
John 20.19-23 (and Acts 2.1-21)

After the Gospel has been read, you may wish to spend some time talking about the reading. Look out for Sunday School resources on our Facebook feed and website.

*You may wish to sing a **song**, for example, 'Oh, oh, oh' below - make up your own verses!*

**Oh, oh, oh, how good is the Lord.
Oh, oh, oh, how good is the Lord.
Oh, oh, oh, how good is the Lord.
We will never will forget what he has done for us.**

**He gives us salvation, how good is the Lord.
He gives us salvation, how good is the Lord.
He gives us salvation, how good is the Lord.
We will never will forget what he has done for us.**

**He gives us his blessing, how good is the Lord.
He gives us his blessing, how good is the Lord.
He gives us his blessing, how good is the Lord.
We will never will forget what he has done for us.**

**He gives us his Spirit, how good is the Lord.
He gives us his Spirit, how good is the Lord.
He gives us his Spirit, how good is the Lord.
We will never will forget what he has done for us.**

**Oh, oh, oh, how good is the Lord.
Oh, oh, oh, how good is the Lord.
Oh, oh, oh, how good is the Lord.
We will never will forget what he has done for us.**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RelUpX2SanQ>

For the **Prayers of Intercession** either use the set form below, or make your own prayers.

Father, we pray for the Church,
for her mission and unity.
Strengthen all Christians with the good news of your love.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Father, we pray for the world,
for peace among the nations,
and for the welfare of creation.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Father, we pray for our church family at St Paul's,
for those gathered in church this day,
and for us and others who join in worship
by praying at home.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Father, we pray for the sick,
especially at this time
for those suffering from coronavirus,
for all who are isolating or under quarantine at this time,
(*and for us praying here before you;*)
and for healthcare professionals, the government,
and all in positions of responsibility.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Father, we pray for those who have died,
and for those who grieve for them.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

*You may wish to add your own prayers, or pray in silence, before saying the **Lord's Prayer.***

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Spiritual Communion

If you are a communicant you may wish to make a Spiritual Communion using the following words when you are not able to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

**My Jesus,
I believe that you are present
in the most holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things,
and I desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive you sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you as if you were already there,
and unite myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be separated from you.**

The Conclusion

You may wish to say the prayer the Church of England has published for all those affected by coronavirus:

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious,
be with those who care for the sick,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may find comfort knowing
that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

*Conclude with **the Grace:***

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore.
Amen.**

Television and Radio resources

You may wish to join in worship during this time through television and radio:

Songs of Praise

BBC 1, Sunday afternoon, variable times

Sunday Worship

BBC Radio 4, Sunday, 8.10am

Choral Evensong

BBC Radio 3, Wednesday

Daily Service

BBC Radio 4 (Longwave only), weekdays, 9.45am

Big Sunday Service

Premier Christian Radio, Sunday, 7am, 8am, 10am

Easter Sunday Eucharist

A service is usually broadcast on the BBC on Easter morning

Online resources

Church of England Daily Prayer

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

EWTN Daily Mass

<https://www.ewtn.com/>

St Paul's website and Facebook (We'll try to post audio files of sermons, and/or reflections from the clergy)

www.spwh.org <https://www.facebook.com/spwh1828/>