

Sunday February 13th 2022: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
For use by the Central Norfolk Circuit at 10.30 am or other suitable time.



This is the 100th edition of our Worship at Home sheet!

Loving God, we thank you for 100 editions of our Central Norfolk Home Worship material. We pray for everyone still using these to worship and/or pray at home and we celebrate our ability to worship together in so many different ways.



Hymn StF 44 MP 99

Come on and celebrate – his gift of love, we will celebrate,
the Son of God who loved us – and gave us life.

We'll shout your praise, O King, you give us joy nothing else can bring,
we'll give to you our offering, in celebration praise.

Come on and celebrate, celebrate, celebrate and sing, celebrate and sing to the King. x 2

Patricia Morgan and Dave Bankhead CCL no. 5365402

Psalm set for today: Psalm 1

Prayer of Confession

Read the Psalm again and let it lead you into a prayer of Confession but – then – respond with being assured of God's forgiveness and end by giving him thanks and praise.

Gospel reading set for today: Luke 6 v 17 – 26

Hymn StF 244 H&P 724

Blest are the pure in heart / for they shall see our God:
the secret of the Lord is theirs / their soul is Christ's abode.

The Lord, who left the heavens / our life and peace to bring,
to dwell on earth in lowliness / our pattern and our King.

Still to the lowly soul / he does himself impart,
and for his dwelling and his throne / chooses the pure in heart.

Lord, we your presence seek / a vision of your face:
give us a pure and lowly heart / a temple of your grace.

v 1, 3 John Keble (1792 – 1866) v 2, 4 William John Hall

Message from a Circuit friend

This reading from Luke, often called the Sermon on the Plain, is a challenge to us. 'What sorrow awaits you who are praised by the crowds'. How can we commend the Gospel to the people if we don't try to win their respect and endear ourselves to them? Is pleasing people just telling them what they want to hear? If pleasing others brings sorrow, should we speak our minds and please ourselves? There is a danger from going down this road. We can become completely indifferent to the needs, thoughts and feelings and expectations of others. It becomes all about me and I'll do it my way. Jesus said 'sorrow if the crowds praise you', not when no one speaks well of you. If we do become indifferent to the thoughts and feelings of others, then we have become self-centred and isolated in our own small world.

Jesus said 'love your neighbour as yourself'. To love, you need to show care, respect, kindness and empathy to all. Paul said we are not to conform but to transform. We need to pray for guidance to follow where God wants us to go and be. I said the reading is a challenge – a challenge from Jesus, but it is a gift not a demand. The gift to know that we are accepted by others and loved by God. We therefore no longer need to look for approval and praise but know that blessedness comes from doing God's work his way and living in and by his Grace.

Avril Temple (Local Preacher and member of Sculthorpe & Fakenham Methodist Church)

Prayers of Intercession

We pray for Christians everywhere seeking to live for God rather than themselves, and needing no approval but that of knowing they are loved, and approved of, by their heavenly parent.

From the material for Racial Justice Sunday 2022:

We remember all those who are hurting, disadvantaged, and impacted by racial prejudice. We also remember all those who have suffered at the hands of injustice: May your Holy Spirit be present with them, to comfort and to heal; to bring justice and reconciliation, one with another.

We pray for our world, our country, our local community, our family and friends, ourselves.

Offer to God your offertory for the week, and say the Lord's Prayer...

Hymn StF 94 H&P 463

To God be the glory, great things he has done! So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life in atonement for sin / and opened the life-gate that all may go in:

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son; and give him the glory – great things he has done!

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood / to every believer the promise of God!
and every offender who truly believes / that moment from Jesus a pardon receives:

Great things he has taught us, great things he has done / and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be / our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see:

Frances jane van Alstyne (Fanny Crosby) (1820 – 1915)

May the blessing of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with us, and all those we love, this day and always, Amen.

CIRCUIT NEWS

Our next Big Sunday is in 2 weeks time. It will be the Sunday before Lent and the theme will be based on the Transfiguration of Jesus leading into our preparation for the season of Lent. We are putting together a powerpoint presentation of pictures of mountains or hills (going up, coming down, in the distance).

If anyone would like to contribute a photograph, please send digitally to Mandy or Rev Jacqui.

What 100 Worship Sheets have meant to people who continue to use them at home:

"Having decided early in the pandemic that we should isolate, we have found that hymn singing at home, reading Bible passages at our own pace, and reflecting on encouraging thoughts from circuit friends, has made us feel part of the wider church family on a Sunday morning. The high standard of presentation and artwork has been inspiring and also appreciated by those to whom we deliver worship sheets. In the future those who are unable to attend church will hope that this type of worship can continue." C.A. & J.A.

"The services ... has sent me have literally been a godsend, as I cannot always get to church so I do them on a Sunday morning at home ...and I feel close to my friends at the Methodist church". V.A.

"I have had the Sunday Service at home since the start of the lockdown and it has helped me through this very difficult time. It's been so important to me that I would say the Service has saved me. I would like to thank everybody for putting it together each week." D.E.