

# Church Family Worship at Home

23<sup>rd</sup> August 2020

Service Theme:

Jesus says "Who do you say I am?"



Welcome

## Preparation

Take a moment to be still and place yourself in God's hands.  
Remember those who will also be worshipping with us and even though we cannot see them, we hold them to God.

Lord God, as we gather in your house,  
we thank you for your presence, here with us.  
Thank you, Lord, that each one of us is unique,  
yet we share a common bond in you.

## Opening Prayer

When we see only trouble **Jesus, be our vision**  
When we feel only uncertainty **Jesus, be our rock**  
When we hear only bad news **Jesus, be our hope**  
In all the circumstances of our lives  
**Jesus, our Companion, be a light to our path**

<https://youtu.be/b6czcGvXQcM>

## Hymn One More step along the World

One more step along the world I go,  
one more step along the world I go;  
from the old things to the new  
keep me travelling along with you:  
and it's from the old I travel to the new;  
keep me travelling along with you.

Round the corners of the world I turn,  
more and more about the world I learn;  
all the new things that I see  
you'll be looking at along with me:

As I travel through the bad and good,  
keep me travelling the way I should;  
where I see no way to go  
you'll be telling me the way, I know:

Give me courage when the world is rough,  
keep me loving though the world is tough;  
leap and sing in all I do,  
keep me travelling along with you:

You are older than the world can be,  
you are younger than the life in me;  
ever old and ever new,  
keep me travelling along with you:

*Sydney Carter (1915-2004)*

## Prayer for the Day

### God of hope

God of hope,  
where things seem to be one big tangle of pain and unhappiness,  
intervene with your saving love;  
where people are in conflict or locked in a stalemate,  
release them from the cycle of war;  
where your name is outlawed and your children are forced to hide,  
break through their darkness and be God-revealed to them;  
where despair takes centre stage and depression and anxiety  
sharpen their claws,  
fill those situations with unexpected peace and joy.

God of hope,  
God-with-us,  
God of all time and of every place:  
may the earth be filled with the knowledge of you,  
and may your light flow over the world like a covering,  
bringing protection from the darkness  
and from the evil that often frightens and wounds us.  
Amen.

## Saying Sorry

Lord Jesus we are sorry that we do not always notice those who are hungry.  
Help us to remember that some folk are in need and that we can give food aid.  
Lord Jesus we are sorry that we do not always listen to advice kindly given or problems shared.  
Help us to listen to others Lord.  
Lord Jesus we are sorry that we do not always tidy our things away.  
Help us to tidy up and welcome people to our homes and gardens.  
Lord Jesus we are sorry that we do not find the time to read the Bible each week.  
Help us be less busy Lord so we can find time to read your word and think.  
Lord Jesus we are sorry that we do not always recognise who you are.  
Help us to see you as our Messiah, the son of the living God





## BIBLE READING



### Reading – Romans 12:1-8

#### A Living Sacrifice

**12** Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

#### Humble Service in the Body of Christ

<sup>3</sup> For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. <sup>4</sup> For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. <sup>6</sup> We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; <sup>7</sup> if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; <sup>8</sup> if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

### Reading: Matthew 16:13-20

#### Peter Declares That Jesus Is the Messiah

<sup>13</sup> When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?”

<sup>14</sup> They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

<sup>15</sup> “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”

<sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

<sup>17</sup> Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. <sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” <sup>20</sup> Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

## Children's version

Jesus and his friends were walking along. (walk on the spot)

Jesus said, 'Who do you think I am?' (turn both hands upwards)

Simon Peter was the first to answer. (point one finger up) He said,

'You are the Son of God.' (point a finger on the other hand up)

Jesus said, 'You will be called Peter – the rock. (clench one fist to make a 'rock')

I will build my Church on you and I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven.' (clench both fists together and 'build')

The Lord blessed Simon because he finally understood who Jesus was. He called him Peter, and said that great things would come to pass through him. He promised him the keys to the kingdom.

Lord, we already have so many keys on our bundles. Help us to find the right ones to open the doors you choose for us. Make us ready to be like Simon-Peter, doing great things in your strength and for your kingdom. Amen.



### Short Reflection by Janet Clarke

**For children: While listening to this, why not do the colouring sheet that is provided with the children's sheets.**

I have been tidying up my bungalow over the past weeks like many of you I expect. I now have a collection of items that I am not sure how to use or what they are called. Among the items were keys. Keys to the windows, is it not strange that we have to go and get keys to open them on a hot day. Insurance is only valid if all the windows are locked when we leave the house or go to bed.

Car keys, the ones we hunt for. Many people have been using their car keys to visit mum or dad as lockdown has eased. How grateful the elderly have been to see visitors. Car keys let us roam, let us roam to do the will of the Lord.

House keys, in Purton there are many new houses, the new owners wish to move in during August before the school term starts. A new life beginning in a new place. Jesus promised to give Peter the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven when he said that Jesus was the Messiah. A new life beginning for Peter as he became leader of the community in Jerusalem

The keys to Heaven, why were they given to Peter? There were 12 disciples, some of them more sensible it seems to me.

- [Story: In safe hands](#)

*It was a huge privilege, a very important job. No one else had been allowed to do this before.*

*Miss Robinson was allowed to take over and lead the choir. Mr Grimshaw was the only person who had been allowed to do this before. No one could ever remember a time when the school choir was led by anyone but Mr Grimshaw. So why had Miss Robinson been allowed to take over?*

*Tariq thought it was because she was so good at the piano. She had been playing piano for the choir for four years and was brilliant. And Tariq knew that – even though he never said it – Mr Grimshaw thought she was a great pianist.*

*Lucy thought it was because Miss Robinson had done a fantastic job when Mr Grimshaw was off sick. She had even conducted them in the school concert, and everyone had said what a great concert it had been.*

*Harry thought it was because she was always on time for things and had everything in order. He was in Miss Robinson's class and knew she was never late, everything was always just as it should be, and nothing was ever left in a mess. That was just how Mr Grimshaw liked things, too.*

*But only the Headteacher knew the real reason – because Mr Grimshaw had told her. It was simply because he trusted Miss Robinson and knew she would carry the choir on in the way he had started it. And that it would continue to be a great choir for everyone.*

That is why , isn't it. That is why Peter was given the keys because Jesus trusted him. That is why Peter was to become the rock on which the church was founded. Thirty years after this Bible story Peter was leading the church in Jerusalem. Paul deferred to Peter, asking advice and reporting back from his many journeys to the church in Jerusalem. The Christian way of life was spreading throughout the middle eastern world. I am glad Jesus trusted Peter enough to give him the keys to heaven.

### **Let us Pray**

We pray for all the people hunting for keys, waiting for keys.

Keys for the car so they can go and visit Dad.

Keys for the windows so they can let in fresh air.

Keys for the new home so they can move in.

Keys for the church, so it can open again.

**We trust you, Lord, to answer our prayers,**

**Your will be done**

We pray for people who feel in the dark,

locked in a situation where they can find no answer,

that they might come to understand that you are

the key to everything they need.

**We trust you, Lord, to answer our prayers.**

**Your will be done.**

We pray for ourselves: when we are in difficult situations,  
when we try to unlock doors that aren't ours to unlock,  
when we don't focus on the kingdom,  
when we don't share our story.

**We trust you, Lord, to answer our prayers.**

**Your will be done. Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven,  
Hallowed be your name,  
Your kingdom come,  
Your will be done  
On earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread  
Forgive us our sins  
As we forgive those who sin against us  
Lead us not into temptation  
But deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
And the glory are yours  
Now and for ever.  
Amen.**

(Enfolding A John Bell poem that can be sung to Morning is broken.)

*God to enfold you,  
Christ to uphold you,  
Spirit to keep you in heaven's sight;  
so may God grace you,  
heal and embrace you,  
lead you through darkness  
into the light.*

This is a Matt Redman song released in 2020. Let us get back to praise.

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

Let praise be a weapon that silences the enemy  
Let praise be a weapon that conquers all anxiety  
Let it rise, let praise arise  
We sing Your name in the dark and it changes everything  
We sing with all we are and we claim Your victory  
Let it rise, let praise arise  
We'll see You break down every wall  
We'll watch the giants fall  
Fear cannot survive when we praise You  
The God of breakthrough's on our side  
Forever lift Him high  
With all creation cry, 'God, we praise You'  
Oh, we praise You  
Oh

Let faith be the song that overcomes the raging sea  
Let faith be the song that calms the storm inside of me  
Let it rise, let faith arise  
*Let it rise, come on*

We'll see You break down every wall  
We'll watch the giants fall  
Fear cannot survive when we praise You  
The God of breakthrough's on our side  
Forever lift Him high  
With all creation cry, 'God, we praise You'  
*You say*  
Oh, we praise You  
Oh, we praise You  
Oh, (Lord), we praise You  
Oh, we praise You (We praise You)

## Activity time

1. Cut out the large key and mount it on card, the back of a cereal packet works fine. Punch a hole through the circle on the key and thread a piece of ribbon or wool through. Use as a bookmark.
2. Cut out the five small keys, turn them over and write one word from the phrase 'The keys to the Kingdom' making sure you have them in the correct order. Then shuffle them and see if you can get the order correct when you read the story off the keys. These keys could be hole punched and tied as if on a key ring.
3. I am inundated with cardboard boxes during this lockdown season, why not make a cardboard church, I wonder what Peter's first church was like in Jerusalem. I wonder when they had the first building. I guess when someone's house was too crowded for the meeting.

## A closing prayer

Through our words and actions, make us	T
Ready to take every opportunity	R
Under your protection and guidance.	U
Send us out to share your story	S
The good news for all people. Amen.	T

## The Grace

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ  
And the love of God,  
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with us all, Evermore.  
Amen**

*God bless you now and always*



