

**This Week's Worship: God so loved the world**

**Opening**

Wherever we come together,

**God is with us.**

**God is here.**

We come together to say sorry

We come together to say Thank you

We come together to ask for God's help

We come together to hear God's story

We come together to celebrate God's love.

Wherever we come together,

**God is with us.**

**God is here.**

**Saying Sorry**

*Hold onto a stone and think about things that you have done this week you would like to say sorry for.*

God loves us and forgives us when we are sorry for wrong things we have done.

For times this week when we have made others sad.

**We are sorry.**

For times this week when we have not helped others

**We are sorry.**

For times this week when we have not looked after your creation,

**We are sorry**

For times this week when we have been selfish

**We are sorry**

*Put the stone in a bowl of water*

As we leave these things behind, may God forgive us and give us a new, clean start today.

**Amen**

**Saying thank you**

*To join in you will need: some slips of paper, some pens and an empty jam jar (you can join in without this for the first few weeks but can then join in when you have had the time to put some things in the jar!)*

*Ask each person to draw or write down on one of the slips something they would like to say thank you for and put it in the jar. As we pray, pull a slip out of the jar and say thank you for what is written on it.*

*Continue to fill the jar during the week.*

God, you are amazing and you have given us good things. We thank you for all your gifts to us.

Thank you for...

Amen

Thank you for...

Amen

Thank you for...  
Amen

*Continue until everyone has had a chance to say something.*

### **Story and response**

Listen to this week's story or read a story from the Bible. This week we are looking at a famous Bible verse from John 3.

I wonder which part of this story you liked the most?  
I wonder what surprised you about this story?  
I wonder what this story makes you feel?  
I wonder where you are in this story?  
Do you wonder anything about this story?

### **Prayers**

Sometimes the world can see like a difficult and worrying place. Sometimes bad things happen and sometimes we, ourselves, do bad things. But this isn't how God wants it to be. God doesn't want us to suffer and to be in pain or to feel guilty and despairing. He wants us to have hope and life and to know that we are loved. In our story today, we hear about God's love for the whole world and that he sends Jesus to us so that we can have forgiveness, a new start and hope and life that lasts forever. All we have to do is believe that God loves us, and that Jesus is God's son who has been sent to help us. We need to listen to Jesus and follow what he says and does. God wants good things for us and he sends us Jesus to show us the way. What are the good things that you would ask God to give to the people you know and love? What would you ask God to do to help to make their lives better? What are the good things you would wish for the world?

You will need: PVA glue, a yoghurt pot lid, food colouring, cocktail sticks

Pour PVA glue into the lid and spread it out with a spoon until the whole lid is covered in a thin layer. Drop some little blobs of food colouring into the glue and use a cocktail stick to swirl and spread them around. Try to make a distinction between land (green) and sea (blue). Leave to dry. When the glue is fully dry, lift the suncatcher out of the lid. You can then punch a small hole in it and hang it in your window for the sun to shine through.

**Dear God, thank you for loving us and wanting good things for us. We pray for people all over the world who are feeling unloved, guilty, sad and afraid. Help them to know your love and to know the love and hope Jesus brings. Amen**

### **Close**

Wherever we come together,  
**God is with us.**  
**God is here.**

May God bless us.  
May we know that we are loved  
May we know that we are cared for.  
May we know God's hope.

**God is with us**  
**God is here**  
**Amen.**

*Extinguish the candle.*

