

This Week's Worship: Easter Day

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 is the story of Jesus rising to new life on Easter Day (Matthew 21: 1-11)

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

In our story we saw that, even after the worst thing that could possibly happen, the death of Jesus, new life and hope and joy was possible. After a short time of waiting Jesus rose to new life and this means that, whatever has happened in our lives, however we have messed up, whatever bad has happened, with Jesus there is always hope and the chance to start again.

This is a fun but slightly messy way to celebrate the new life of the resurrection. Just like in the Easter story, there will be a little waiting time before you see the new life!

You will need: See Seed Bomb activity below.

When the seed bombs are dry, think about areas of your life where you would like to see new things happening and new life starting. Plant the seed bombs or just place them in the garden where you would like the seeds to grow and watch nature take its course.

Dear God thank you for resurrection and the hope of new life. Thank you that, whatever we have done and whatever has happened, with you there is always the chance to state again. Show us where we need to make new starts in our life and help us to grow in new ways. Help us to share hope and joy with others.
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.

New life Easter seed bombs

You will need: a large mixing bowl full of shredded paper, water, a food processor or hand held processor, 2- 3 tablespoons of wildflower seeds, kitchen roll or paper towels, a sieve, a tray

Soak the shredded paper in the water for 10-15 mins and then squeeze out as much of the water as you can. A sieve might help with this part. Put the wet paper into a food processor and process it into a pulp. You might need to do this in batches. Put the pulp into the mixing bowl and mix the seeds into it. With your hands, make ping pong ball sized balls of the paper and seed mixture. Put some paper towels on a baking tray and put the balls on top. Leave them to dry for 24 hours.