

Worship Resource for Sunday April 26

For those connecting through Zoom

This resource is for those who wish to join in with others who are Worshipping at Home through Zoom. A separate resource is available for those who wish to Worship at Home in their own time.

The service starts on page 3. First, let's get ready.



Preparing for Worship

Prepare your **meal** and your **space**.

Each week during the Easter season (which runs right up to Pentecost) we'll share our worship time together over a meal or snack.

Gathering around a computer or screen can feel 'less than holy'. These spaces are usually for work time or relaxing time. So, in order to make this an intentionally sacred space, here are a few ideas:

- Gather at your kitchen or dining table, with a laptop or tablet or a printout of this resource if you can. This allows you to participate with one another with space for your food and for you to write and colour. If you are unable to gather at a larger table, use a smaller, dedicated surface.
- In the middle of your table, place a candle and matches, your worry stone (see below), your Star Word (see next page), a journal or paper to write on and something to write with.
- There is also a colouring in page. Print one of these out and have some colour pencils or textas ready. Throughout worship time, you will hear or read the word "heart" again and again. To focus on the heart of the matter, colour or doodle in a heart each time you hear the word "heart."
- During this time when we are not able to worship in our church building, you might like to keep this home worship space set up throughout this time to remind you of God's constant presence in our lives.

Your meal could be your breakfast or a light snack with a cuppa or juice. If it is warm, keep it covered as we won't start eating until part way through the service.

Worry Stone



Throughout the Season of Easter, we invite you to use a "worry stone," or we could call it a "heart stone" which is a stone you carry about with you to rub when you are feeling anxious or worried.

We encourage you to use your stone used in Easter services or find the one you took home at the beginning of Lent. Find some time to paint or draw a heart on it.

Your worry stone will remind you of the angel's message, later repeated by Jesus, "Do not be afraid!".

A Reminder about Star Words

At the beginning of the year during the season of Epiphany, we each received our own star. Each star has a different word. Each of us were invited to journey with that word all year long- to see where the word moves us in prayer, pushes or pulls us in faith, and how it opens our hearts to God's call on our lives. Our hope is that you have been open to allowing God to speak to you through your word. You be challenged and stretched. God may be leading you to places you never expected through your star word! If you don't have a Star Word, contact Linda (minister@athelstonechurch.org.au) who will draw one out for you.

Connecting to Zoom

If you would like to join in and have not used Zoom before, we recommend that you get yourself set up before Sunday. Here are a few things you can do to prepare:

You will either need a laptop, a tablet, a smartphone or a computer with a microphone, speakers and a webcam. If you are using a smartphone or tablet, download the Zoom app.

If you haven't used Zoom before, you might like to have a practice run. Contact a family member or a friend in our church community and try it out! It is free to have a group chat for up to 40 minutes. A great way to connect with your family and friends.

Paul Driver has offered to provide support and practice if you need it. Give him a call on 0428 161 918.

To **Join the Zoom Meeting**, click on this link at 9.15am on Sunday (so we are all ready to start at 9.30am):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86912199103?pwd=eFZWWEVQLzJIN0NJTUg0QVRYbTdaQT09>

or enter this Meeting ID: 869 1219 9103 and this Password: 014653

(copy these details down if you are using a device where you can't access your email)

Zoom Hints

If you have logged in to Zoom, to protect your account, make sure you have a unique password – different to passwords you use for other platforms.

If there are two or more of you in the one household, we recommend that you share the same device (that way we can fit more folk on our screens)

If you need to be on separate devices, it will work better if you are in separate rooms (so you don't get feedback)

Think about the light in your room. If there is too much light behind you, your face will be in shadow

Check that your camera is set up so we can see your face.

If you are using a tablet or smart phone and the volume is not loud enough, consider connecting to an external speaker if available.

During most of the worship time, your microphone will be muted.



Remember in discussion or response times, when you make noises or chat at your end, your microphone will pick this up and override what everyone else is listening to.

Please use your Mute button if you need to chat or cough at your end during this time.

We have attached a guide that you might find helpful too.

Worship

*This service is adapted from resources from www.worshipdesignstudio.com/series by Dr. Marcia McFee.
Other sources are developed by Rev Linda Driver or acknowledged within the text below.*

9.30am *Gather at your table with your meal and all the elements needed for worship ready to go as we join together in Worship at Home.*

Spend Time

Centering Our Hearts as One

We are going to centre our hearts as one to begin.

Hear this assurance from God:

**Be still, O heart, you're not alone,
your beat is shared with me.**

**Come now, and calm, and centre here,
you're mine, secure and free.**

We offer a prayer of letting go:

**Into your care, we offer now,
our worries, fears and strife.**

**We turn to you and know you're near—
Your light, our love and life.**

Light candle

Break Bread

Blessing the Meal

Listen

We will listen to the song *Be Still, My Soul* by Eclipse 6. Here are the lyrics:

Be Still My Soul

Be still my soul the Lord is on thy side
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain
Leave to thy God to order and provide
In ev'ry change He faithful will remain
Be still my soul thy best thy heav'nly Friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end

Be still my soul thy God doth undertake
To guide the future as He has the past
Thy hope thy confidence let nothing shake
All now mysterious shall be bright at last

Be still my soul the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below

Be still my soul the hour is hast'ning on
When we shall be forever with the Lord
When disappointment grief and fear are gone
Sorrow forgot love's purest joys restored
Be still my soul when change and tears are past
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last



Author: Kathrina von Schlegel; Translator: Jane Borthwick (1855)
Tune: FINLANDIA © Words: Public Domain

Breaking Open the Word with Scripture

Scripture reading: Luke 24:13-35 (Common English Bible CEV)

Listen

We will listen to the song *On the Journey to Emmaus* by Marty Haugen.

There will be an image on screen for you to look at (*Supper at Emmaus*, 1601, Artist: Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio, 1573-1610).

Reflection

A number of people will share about their star words.

Respond

We invite you to spend time now reflecting on your own star word. If you are willing, pick up your star word now and hold it up so we can see.

How has Jesus opened your eyes to something or how has that word burned within you... if at all?

Breaking Open Our Hearts with Prayer

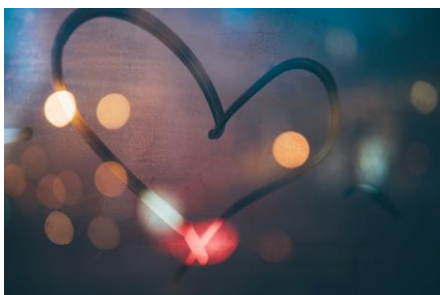
Offering

Praise God!

Let's start with this affirmation:

**We know Jesus is present among us even in this very home.
We will not let fear be louder than love
but with glad hearts and rejoicing souls, we will sing God's praise
for we are Easter People!
Let's choose to dance and sing "Straight from the Heart!"**

We'll sing and sway along with Bryan Adams "*Straight from the Heart*".



Have Goodwill - Spread Joy through a “Feast of Love”, Straight from the Heart



You might like to find a box or shopping bag to collect food donations for the next few weeks. Use markers or paints to decorate it with symbols of love. Include messages and intentions like “straight from the heart” or “feast of love.” Go through your pantry and take out things you wish to donate. The next time you go to the supermarket, intentionally purchase items to add to your food donation collection. When you place any items in the box/bag, say a prayer of thanks for those that prepared it, and a prayer of goodwill for those who will eat it.

Our donations will go to Uniting Communities, care of Brenton Summers. He can either collect them from your front door or they can be left on his front door step. Cash donations will also be received with great thanks.

Benediction

We'll get through this!

We'll finish by listening to a new song: *Get Thru This* from Tony Covay feat. Rai Jackson & Face.

Spreading Joy

For those of you who are on social media, please take a photo of your lit candle and post it online. #churchconnected #churchscattered #churchgathered



Further Worship Ideas

Here are some more ways that you can connect with God's Word:

- The Synod of South Australia has published a full list of online congregations and resources. <https://sa.uca.org.au/documents/resources-board/Being-the-Church-in-Ungathered-Times.pdf>
- The Assembly are live-streaming services: <https://assembly.uca.org.au/news/item/3158-livestreaming-on-assembly-platforms>
- Morialta Uniting Church have a weekly worship service on YouTube. Click here for more information: <http://www.morialtauca.org.au/virtual-church/>
- Pilgrim Uniting Church Services for 9.30am and 11am are now live streamed here: <https://pilgrim.org.au/services/index.php>
- Tune in to radio station 1079 Life *Together on Life*, Sunday 10am. Join 1079 Life's Kit for music and a message or two from great local pastors each Sunday. <https://1079life.com/>
- Songs of Praise – a TV show with inspiring hymns and songs, together with uplifting stories of faith from around the UK and beyond is available on ABC TV and ABC iview
Here is the Easter Sunday program: <https://iview.abc.net.au/show/songs-of-praise-easter-sunday>
- "A Sermon For Every Sunday" website has produced a worship service outline to use with others at home. Click here for a link to the resource. It also includes a link to sermons to listen to: <https://mailchi.mp/asermonforeverysunday/this-weeks-sermon-1744145?e=e9aed2be77>

Worship and other Creative Ideas for Children and Families

- The Worshipping with Children Ministry site has newly posted resources for Children's worship at home. <https://worshippingwithchildren.blogspot.com/2020/04/worshipping-at-home-on-april-19-2020.html>
- Have you gone for a bear hunt in the neighbourhood yet? Can you pray for the homes that you pass as you go?

