

Worship Resource for Sunday May 31

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 concludes this Sunday with 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), 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."
- **For this week add a splash of red or yellow to your table or what you are wearing, symbolic of the Holy Spirit. You may also have some coloured balloons (hopefully red, yellow, orange and black). You might choose to colour your hearts in these colours too.**
- 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!".



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 the link below at 9.15am on Sunday (so we are all ready to start at 9.30am). ..and yes, it is the same link as last week!

<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.



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.

Acknowledgment of First Peoples

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

Breaking Open the Word with Scripture

Listen

We will listen to the song '*Spirit of the Living God*'.

CCLI Song # 23488 Daniel Iverson

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Bible reading (Acts 2:1-21 NIV)

Reflection

*Acknowledgments:
Reconciliation Sunday Worship Resource 2020. The Uniting Church in Australia. Synod of SA
Rev Cheryl Wilson, Ascot Community Uniting Church*

Message from the President

We'll watch a message from Dr Deidre Palmer, President of the Uniting Church.

Breaking Open our Lives with Discussion

What inspired or surprised you in Deidre's message?

Do you have any visions or dreams for the future? For yourself? for your family? For our church family? For the community? For our world?

Let's take some time at our tables to talk or journal about these questions.

You might like to complete this sentence,

"I see the message of love poured out when _____."

Song

We will sing or listen to the *Spirit Song (Oh Let the Son of God enfold you)*

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Breaking Open Our Hearts with Prayer

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 clap and let our hearts be on fire!"**

We will sing this song for Pentecost by David MacGregor, "*Hearts on Fire*".

Used with Permission



Have Goodwill

In previous weeks we have suggested:

- making heart stones to give away and stained glass hearts to put on your windows,
 - making God Boxes to place our worries in,
 - offering support to neighbours by using one of our Self Isolation postcards (download here: <https://athelstonechurch.org.au/members-2/forms/>)
 - and giving to the Uniting Communities Eastern Services Emergency Relief Food Appeal.
- Please continue to gather food and other grocery donations. Brenton Summers can either collect them from your front door or they can be left on his front doorstep.
- Cash donations will also be received with great thanks. Thank you to all those who have donated goods and cash so far. You have been extraordinarily generous! A wonderful witness of love overflowing.

Here's another idea: Balloons!

In this story of Pentecost from the book of Acts, we hear of the Holy Spirit experienced as wind and flame.

Like the Holy Spirit, we cannot see wind, but we can see and hear its effects, blowing through the trees, flying a flag or a kite or a windsock.

We can see flames in our lit candle and represented in the colours you may have chosen today.

You may have 4 balloons (hopefully red, yellow, orange and black). These can represent both wind and flame and remind us of the Australian Aboriginal Flag and our connection with the first peoples of this land. We can use our breath to blow up our balloons then put them in a prominent place in celebration of Reconciliation Week.

You may also wish to support the Pilgrimage of Healing. (*see attached flyer*).

See other Reconciliation resources on next page.

Offering

Benediction (*based on Psalm 16*)

Candle

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 Centre for Music Liturgy and the Arts has a **collection of Resources** available here:
<https://www.cmla.org.au/resources/worship-in-times-of-isolation/>

Including **Prayers, Poems and Guided Meditations** and

Worship with your backyard: <https://www.cmla.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Worship-With-Your-Backyard.pdf>

Worship on the sofa: <https://www.cmla.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Sofa.pdf>

- The Assembly are **live-streaming services:** <https://assembly.uca.org.au/news/item/3158-livestreaming-on-assembly-platforms>
- 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>

Worship and other Creative Ideas for Children and Families

- The Worshipping with Children Ministry site has 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?

NEW Reconciliation Sunday

- Campbelltown Council resources including a video to watch. If you look carefully, you'll see our Wirra! <https://www.campbelltown.sa.gov.au/community/reconciliation>
- Reconciliation Week resource from Common Grace:
https://www.commongrace.org.au/nrw2020_childrens_resources
- Dusty Feet Mob have kindly given permission to share their video 'This Story's True'.
<https://tallstoreez.com/project/2019/dusty-feet-mob>
Dusty Feet Mob are an inspirational Aboriginal dance group based in Port Augusta. The group is instrumental in encouraging young people to learn Australian culture and grow confidence.

