

Xtra! 23rd April 2020

We cannot gather together in St John's, but we can gather spiritually as we worship today. So first, refresh yourselves with something to eat and drink and then set your space as we sing:

Gathering Song: *Come into His Presence* *Singing Alleluia*

During which the table is set (white cloth) and candle is lit.

Greeting

Peace be with you

And also with you

Kyrie Confession

Introduce confession. Then:

Father God, we are sorry for the times when we have thought things that do not please you. [*pause*]

Lord have mercy **Lord have mercy**

We are sorry for the times when we have said things that do not please you. [*pause*]

Christ have mercy **Christ have Mercy**

We are sorry for the times when we have done things that do not please you. [*pause*]

Lord have mercy **Lord have mercy**

Absolution

May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins, and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gloria: *Anderson Gloria*

*Gloria ***, *Gloria ***, *in excelsis Deo!* x2

Glory Father and Son, Glory Holy Spirit;
We worship you, we give you thanks,
We sing our song of praise.

*Gloria ***, *Gloria ***, *in excelsis Deo.* x2

Reading *Reflective Overview*

We were thinking about Death and Life last half term. We discovered that death is an ending and that death hurts. But God is a God of life, and again and again we read how he brings life out of death for those people who trusted in him. Finally, God sent Jesus to bring us life in all its fullness.

This half term we have a new theme. Click on the link to discover what we will be thinking about:

https://youtu.be/1vZJs3B07_U

Wondering questions

- I wonder what low places you know.
- I wonder what high places you know.
- I wonder where you feel closest to God.

- I wonder why God lets us go down to the depths
- I wonder what it feels like in the heights
- I wonder whether you would be prepared to go to a low place or a high place for God

Song: *Our God is a Great Big God*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T2ezxsls_eY

Activity *a choice or you can do both!*

Either:

Go outside.

Look, really look, as low down as you can. What can you see? Plants? Minibeasts? Your feet!? Draw some of those things.

Look, really look, as high up as you can. What can you see? Clouds? Birds? Treetops? Draw some of those things.

Or:

Get some pens and a piece of paper.

Think of the times when you have been in a low place.

What or who brought you back up again?

As you reflect, allow yourself to doodle in response.

Think of the times when you have been in a high place.

What or who took you there?

As you reflect, allow yourself to doodle in response.

Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank you that you came down low from highest heaven to be with us; that you know the heights and depths of our lives and are there with us in all we do and experience.

Help us to know your presence when we are low.

Help us to celebrate with you when we are high.

In Jesus' name we pray.

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.**

Blessing

**May the lightness of God go with you.
May the brightness of God go with you.
May he shine on all you do.
May God bless you.**

Messy Grace

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
The love of God,
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
Be with us all, now and for ever more.
Amen**

Resources:

Refreshments
White cloth, candle, matches
Pens and paper