Worship at Home – 15th June 2025 (Trinity Sunday)

A short act of worship for use in people's homes prepared by Erica Gassor.

Call to worship

In today's service, we think of the Holy Trinity – God the Father, Jesus the Son and the Holy Spirit, having heard last week of the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost – let us pray...

The peace that comes through God invites us in.
The grace that Jesus brings invites us in.
The love of the Spirit invites us in.
God, the most mysterious and awe-inspiring Trinity,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we lay aside our humble concerns, we accept your invitation, we enter your glorious presence. We come to worship you.

Hymn – STF 455 - All my hope on God is founded Joachim Neander (1650-1680)

- All my hope on God is founded;
 he doth still my trust renew.
 Me through change and chance he guideth,
 only good and only true.
 God unknown, he alone
 calls my heart to be his own.
- Pride of man and earthly glory, sword and crown betray his trust; what with care and toil he buildeth, tower and temple, fall to dust. But God's power, hour by hour, is my temple and my tower.
- God's great goodness aye endureth, deep his wisdom passing thought; splendour, light, and life attend him, beauty springeth out of nought. Evermore, from his store new-born worlds rise and adore.
- Daily doth the Almighty giver bounteous gifts on us bestow, his desire our soul delighteth, pleasure leads us where we go. Love doth stand at his hand; joy doth wait on his command.
- 5 Still from earth to God eternal sacrifice of praise be done, high above all praises praising for the gift of Christ his Son. Christ doth call one and all ye who follow shall not fall.

Prayers of adoration, confession and thanksgiving

Lord God, our finite minds can't comprehend your vastness, your majesty, your awesomeness.

We come to you now in humble adoration. We praise and bless you because you gave us the Holy Spirit, who fills our hearts with your wonderful love and brings us into relationship with you. We worship you, mighty Lord.

Lord God, as we think about our World and those in need we confess that we don't always think as much as we should about others
We get too distracted by our own concerns to think outside our own little boxes.

We don't think about what life is like

for those who suffer in war torn countries, those who are without a country, or a home, those who are bereaved, those who are lonely.

We have so much but we aren't always willing to invite others in to share your love, Please forgive us, Lord.

Make us more open to you and to others.

You, Lord, created the world, and everything in it.
Thank you, Lord, that you made each and every one of us.
You love us all equally.
You can't wait for us to accept your invitation to come in.
You call us to share in all your many blessings,
to marvel in the world around and
to go out into it in thankfulness and joy.
We are ready, Lord. **Amen**

Bible reading - Psalm 8

¹Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in the whole earth!

You have set your glory in the heavens.

² You have made sure that children and infants praise you.

Their praise is a wall

that stops the talk of your enemies.

³I think about the heavens.

I think about what your fingers have created.

I think about the moon and stars

that you have set in place.

⁴ What are human beings that you think about them? What is a son of man that you take care of him?

⁵ You have made them a little lower than the angels. You placed on them a crown of glory and honor.

⁶ You made human beings rule over everything your hands created.

You put everything under their control.

⁷ They rule over all flocks and herds and over the wild animals.

⁸ They rule over the birds in the sky and over the fish in the ocean.

They rule over everything that swims in the oceans.

⁹ Lord, our Lord,

how majestic is your name in the whole earth!

Hymn - STF 363 - My Jesus, My Saviour Darlene Zschech

My Jesus, my Saviour, Lord, there is none like You. All of my days I want to praise The wonders of Your mighty love. My comfort, my shelter, Tower of refuge and strength, Let every breath, all that I am, Never cease to worship You.

Shout to the Lord all the earth, let us sing Power and majesty, praise to the King. Mountains bow down And the seas will roar At the sound of Your name. I sing for joy at the work of Your hands. Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand. Nothing compares to the Promise I have in You.

Bible reading - John 16: v 12-15

¹² "I have much more to say to you. It is more than you can handle right now. ¹³ But when the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own. He will speak only what he hears. And he will tell you what is still going to happen. ¹⁴ He will bring me glory. That's because what he receives from me he will show to you. ¹⁵ Everything that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said what the Holy Spirit receives from me he will show to you."

Reflection on the reading

I want to share a few thoughts on this short but powerful passage from John's Gospel

This passage is part of Jesus' farewell discourse to His disciples, and it's rich with encouragement and promise. Let's break down what Jesus is telling us here.

1. The Spirit of Truth Will Guide Us

Jesus acknowledges that He has more to teach His disciples, but at that moment, they aren't ready to receive it all. That's where the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth, comes in. The Spirt within us guides us into all truth. That is comforting? No matter how complex life gets or how confusing the world may seem, the Holy Spirit is within us to lead us into understanding, clarity, and wisdom.

2. The Spirit Guides us in God's ways

Jesus emphasizes that the Spirit within us comes from the Father and the Son. This reminds us that the Holy Spirit's guidance is rooted in divine truth and unity within the Godhead. When we seek the Spirit's guidance, we can trust that it aligns with God's perfect will.

3. The Spirit Will Reveal What Is Yet to Come

In quiet prayer, listening to the Spirit within us it helps to reveal future truths and divine plans. This isn't just about predicting the future but understanding God's overarching plan for our lives and the world. It encourages us to remain open to divine revelation and trust that God is always unfolding His purposes.

4. The Spirit Glorifies Jesus

Jesus says the Spirit will glorify Him because all that the Spirit receives from the Father is meant to make Jesus known. Our focus should be on Jesus—His love, His sacrifice, His teachings—because through the Spirit, we come to a deeper knowledge and relationship with Him.

5. The Unity of the Trinity

Finally, Jesus highlights the unity between the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Everything belongs to the Father, and the Spirit's role is to make that known to us. This reminds us of the divine harmony and the importance of trusting in the triune God.

In conclusion, as followers of Christ, we are not left to navigate life alone or in confusion. The Holy Spirit is our guide, our teacher, and our comforter and leads us into truth, reveals divine plans, and points us to Jesus. Let's be open to the Spirits guidance, listen and trust in the divine unity that sustains us.

May the Spirit of truth continue to lead us into all truth every day! Amen

Prayers for the world, others and ourselves

Let us bring our prayers before God, who listens with compassion and responds in love.

1. For Peace in a Fractured World

God of peace,

In a world marked by conflict, war, and division, especially in places where tensions have escalated in 2025, we pray for wisdom among leaders, protection for the innocent, and healing for the wounded. May your Spirit bring reconciliation where hatred has taken root.

2. For the Earth and Creation

Creator God.

As climate challenges intensify, we pray for the protection of our planet. Guide those in positions of power at this year's global climate meetings and inspire us all to live sustainably and responsibly.

3. For the Church in 2025

Living Christ,

Strengthen your Church to be a voice of hope, justice, and compassion in this new season. Bless the work of pastors, missionaries, and lay leaders around the world. May we be faithful to your Gospel in both word and deed.

4. For Those Affected by Economic Hardship

God our Provider.

We lift before you those struggling with unemployment, inflation, or displacement. Support those navigating economic uncertainty and move your Church to respond with generosity and practical help.

5. For the Advancement of Justice and Human Rights

Righteous God,

We pray for nations and communities striving for equity and freedom. Empower those who speak truth to power, protect the vulnerable, and break the systems that oppress

6. For Young People and the Next Generation

God of every age,

We pray for students, young leaders, and children growing up in an uncertain world. May they be nurtured with love, truth, and courage. Help them shape a future marked by wisdom and compassion.

7. For Our Local Community

Faithful God.

Watch over our neighbourhoods, schools, and workplaces. Bless those who care for others—teachers, healthcare workers, emergency responders—and make us attentive to the needs around us.

Loving God, you hear the cries of your people. Receive these prayers and all that is unspoken in our hearts, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

You may now wish to say The Lord's Prayer in a version or translation with which you are familiar.

Hymn – STF 595 – Lord, we have come at your own invitation Fred Pratt Green (1903–2000)

- Lord, we have come at your own invitation,
 Chosen by you, to be counted your friends;
 Yours is the strength that sustains dedication,
 Ours a commitment we know never ends.
- Here, at your table, confirm our intention,
 Give it your seal of forgiveness and grace;
 Teach us to serve, without pride or pretension,
 Lord, in your Kingdom, whatever our place.
- When, at your table, each time of returning, Vows are renewed and our courage restored:

 May we increasingly glory in learning

 All that it means to accept you as Lord.
- So, in the world, where each duty assigned us Gives us the chance to create or destroy, Help us to make those decisions that bind us, Lord, to yourself, in obedience and joy.

Blessing

And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, this day and ever more. **Amen**

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