

# Mickleover and Dean Street Methodist Churches Service Sheet

## Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2021

**All-Age Worship** this Sunday will be in Mickleover Methodist Church at 10am and on Zoom, with preacher Sally Jones.

Worship in Dean St Methodist Church is at 10.30am, with preacher Rita Wright.

**Hello!**

In our Worship this morning we're focusing on God's love for us.

### Call to Worship

If my lips could sing as many songs  
as there are waves in the sea:  
if my tongue could sing as many hymns as there  
are ocean billows:  
if my mouth filled the whole firmament with  
praise:  
if my face  
shone like the sun and moon together:  
if my hands  
were to hover in the sky like powerful eagles  
and my feet  
ran across mountains as swiftly as the deer;  
all that would not be enough  
to pay you fitting tribute,  
O Lord my God.

**AMEN**

### A Jewish Prayer

from *The Lion Prayer Collection*.

**Song: Lovely Jubby!**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v1yu1L6LZCo>

### Prayers to say "Thank You"

**Thank you prayer for the Animals and World,**  
written by Olivia

Dear Lord

We thank you for the animals we have in this wonderful world. Animals from the big Elephant to the tiny ant. Thank you for the speedy cheater and the slow sloth. We thank you for the birds in the trees and the fish in the seas. We thank you for all Animals, animals that are always busy and rushing about and animals that are tranquil and inaudible. We just thank you for this wonderful creation of yours our Lord for it is filled with such amiableness and joy. It is such a adequate world and we use it every day to live and grow life stock in it. And we thank you our Lord for every little bit of our world.

**Amen**

Loving God,

We thank you for hills and mountains,  
lakes, rivers, waterfalls, ponds.

We thank you for jungle and for desert,

We thank you for the vastness of the oceans,  
and for the coldest places of the world.

Thank you that you have made the earth  
balanced, ordered, in harmony with itself  
and with you.

Thank you that the Earth teems with life!

We thank you for this astonishing world you have  
made, for us!

**AMEN**

### Prayers to say "Sorry"

Loving God,

We are sorry when we forget that this lovely  
world is your gift to us.

You made it for us, because you love us.

You made it, and you saw that it was very good.

We see the planet heating up,

Too many trees being cut down,

icebergs melting,

wildfires spreading,

animals left without homes,

and the poorest people of the world suffering.

Loving God, please help us all to change.

Give us hope that we can make a difference.

Help us all to do what we can

to look after this wonderful world.

Please help us never forget that this world is your  
gift to us.

We pray in the name of Jesus.

**AMEN**

### The Lord's Prayer:

This a primary school version of the Lord's Prayer  
that we have used in Friday Prayer, from the  
Diocese of Portsmouth and of Winchester:

**Our Father in heaven, you are awesome!**

**Show us who you are and how you want us to  
be.**

**Make earth more like heaven.**

Please give us what we need to keep going each day.

Help us when we are wrong and clean us up on the inside.

Help us to let other people off and move on.

Keep us from bad stuff.

You're in charge!

You're strong and powerful and always there.

Forever!

**AMEN**

Perhaps now, you would like to take a moment to consider two questions:

*Who do you love and why?*

*How do you know God loves you?*

These are questions to which we would all give different answers. Perhaps there are times in our lives when it's been very difficult to answer those questions, when we have felt that we have been far away from others, or from God, or indeed that God has been far away from us. Sometimes there are no easy answers, and all we can do is try to rest in what the Bible tells us about God, or what the created world shows us about God, or what Jesus showed us when he was alive on earth. Sometimes all we can do is rest, wait, and pray. Sometimes all we can do is rest and wait.

The work of God through Jesus shows that God loves us in an extraordinary way. There is nothing that God wouldn't do to try and reach us. God loves us completely, without any conditions attached. If we love God, then there are things we might try to do for God, as an appreciation of that love, but in Jesus God reaches out to us – even in those times when maybe it doesn't *feel* like that.

If God reaches out to us by sending Jesus, then God can do anything!

**Song: God can do anything**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dbw8OYxwWuE>

**Reading: John 15:9-17**

**A Story...**

**Once upon a time a young boy spent many hours building a little sailboat, crafting it down to the finest detail. He then took it to a nearby river to sail it. When he put it in the water, however, it moved away from him very quickly.**

Though he chased it along the bank, he couldn't keep up with it. The strong wind and current carried the boat away. The heartbroken boy knew how hard he would have to work to build another sailboat.

But farther down the river, a man found the little boat, took it to town, and sold it to a shopkeeper. Later that day, as the boy was walking through town, he noticed the boat in a shop window. Entering the shop, he told the owner that the boat belonged to him. It had his own little marks on it, but he couldn't prove to the shopkeeper that the boat was his. The man told him the only way he could get the boat was to buy it. The boy wanted it back so badly that he did exactly that. As he took the boat from the hand of the shopkeeper, he looked at it and said, "Little boat, you're twice mine. I made you and I bought you."

**This is how we belong to God. God made us, and when we got lost, God gave Jesus in order to get us back.**

by Wayne Rice in *Hot Illustrations for Youth Talks*: 4.

**Prayers for Other People and Ourselves**

Spend time in prayer for others, and for yourself. Pray especially for anyone you know who needs to feel God's loving touch at this time, either because they are ill, or sad, or worried, or for any other reason.

We bring these our prayers in the precious Name of Jesus Christ. **AMEN**

**Song: I Love You**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DeR7mHZOPao>

**A Closing Prayer:**

**Tender God, touch us.**

**Be touched by us;**

**make us lovers of humanity,**

**compassionate friends of all creation.**

**Gracious God, hear us into speech;**

**speak us into acting;**

**and through us, recreate the world.**

**AMEN**

by Carter Heyward

Service sheet prepared by Sally Jones

*To join the Zoom service by telephone dial 0203 481 5237 and use meeting details below:*