



Sunday 11th April 2021

Dear friends,

If you have the Internet, you will find a video to accompany this sheet on YouTube from Sunday morning – search for Isle of Man Methodist Church and you will find it on our YouTube channel.

Our prayers are with you all,

Isle of Man Methodist Staff Team

Opening Prayer

Jesus the Door,
the Word, the Welcome,
soften my step,
and still my mind;
so may Your presence
of peace be over me.
Peace be here:
my heart is open.

A prayer from Celtic Daily Prayer: The Northumbria Community

Hymn: Christ is alive! Let Christians sing

1. Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky!
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.
2. Christ is alive! No longer bound
To distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.
3. In every insult, rift and war,
where colour, scorn or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.
4. Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.
5. Christ is alive and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

Brian Wren (*b.* 1936)

Reproduced from *Singing the Faith*, number 297

Prayers

A Prayer for Forgiveness

Let us Pray
Jesus, sometimes we are like Thomas,
We want more evidence before we believe in you.
We are sorry when we don't believe your Word
or those who share your good news with us.
Amen.

A Prayer for Others

God of truth:
For those who doubt: give them certainty.
For those in darkness: give them light.
For those who need to see: give them living proof.
Amen.

A Prayer of Confession

We confess that we are so often judgmental of others. In particular, we berate those who do not share our beliefs.
What need have they of proof? Why can't they just believe?
Yet we live in a world where little is taken at face value.
Fake news surrounds us, and the camera definitely does lie.
Therefore, Lord, forgive us when we look down upon the unbelievers, the doubters, the ones who demand proof;
for this is the world in which we live,
and the world to which we must proclaim your truth.

There is no proof we can offer in these times,
except to show our belief in the ways in which we

reach out,
by accepting and loving unconditionally,
by showing patience and forbearance to those who
differ from us – or is it we who differ from them?
Therefore, forgive us when we fail to reflect your
truths in our daily lives, and let us become
testaments to your risen power.
May Christ be evident in us and in all that we
do. Amen.

Prayer of Assurance of Forgiveness

Let us Pray

Lord, we thank you for your patience with us,
your acceptance of our doubting and questioning,
and your assurance of forgiveness.
How many times do we grieve your heart with our
lack of belief,
and exasperate you with our lack of faith?
But like a good parent, you gather us to you,
and answer our misgivings.
With you, Lord, there is infinite forgiveness. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Today's Readings:

Acts 4.32-34
John 20.19-31

A time of reflection

Keeping the doors unlocked

Hymn: Lord of the Dance

- 1 I danced in the morning
when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon
and the stars and the sun;
and I came down from heaven
and I danced on the earth,
at Bethlehem I had my birth.

*'Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the Dance,' said he,
'and I'll lead you all wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the Dance,' said he.*
- 2 I danced for the scribe and the pharisee,
but they would not dance
and they wouldn't follow me;
I danced for the fishermen,
for James and John;
they came with me and the Dance went on.
- 3 I danced on the Sabbath
and I cured the lame:
the holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped
and they hung me on high,
and they left me there on a Cross to die.
- 4 I danced on a Friday
when the sky turned black;
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body
and they thought I'd gone;
but I am the Dance and I still go on.

- 5 They cut me down and I leapt up high;
I am the life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

Sydney Carter (1915-2004)
Reproduced from Singing the Faith, number 247

Blessing

*Father of all,
May we always be alert to your presence even when
we cannot see you.
Help us to bring your presence wherever we go, so
that those who have not seen may believe.
May we be reflect your light and life into all the
corners around us.
Bless us now as we go our separate ways,
In the name of Jesus Christ your Son.*



CCLI 2421471