Collective Worship

Week commencing 27 April 2020

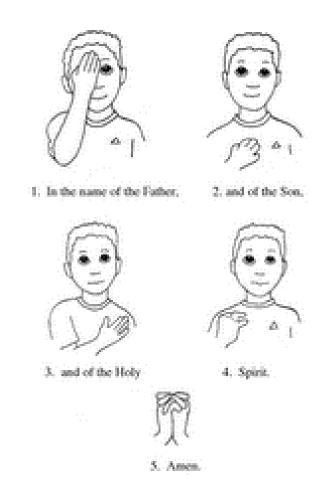
Make sure that you are sitting comfortably and that you are somewhere quiet.

Try to make sure that you will be able to think quietly and without distractions for a few minutes.

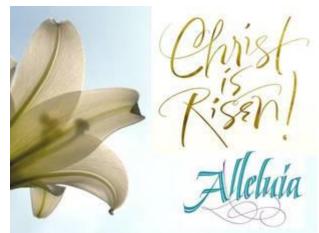
If you have one you might like to place a crucifix, a set of rosary beads, a bible, or another religious object next to your screen. Your worship is different to anything else from school that you will do today.

When you are ready, move on to the next slide.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



We are in the season of Easter.



In today's Gospel we are going to read about one of Jesus' resurrection appearances. He appeared to two of his friends, but it took them quite a long time to realise that it was their friend Jesus that they were talking to!

A reading from the Gospel of Luke

Two of Jesus' disciples were going to the village of Emmaus, which was about seven miles from Jerusalem. As they were talking and thinking about what had happened, Jesus came near and started walking along beside them. But they did not know who he was.

Jesus asked them, "What were you talking about as you walked along?"

The two of them stood there looking sad and gloomy. Then the one named Cleopas asked Jesus, "Are you the only person from Jerusalem who didn't know what was happening there these last few

days?"

"What do you mean?" Jesus asked.

They answered: "Those things that happened to Jesus from Nazareth. By what he said and did he showed that he was a powerful prophet, who pleased God and all the people. Then the chief priests and our leaders had him arrested and sentenced to die on a cross. We had hoped that he would be the one to set Israel free!

But it has already been three days since all this happened. Some women in our group surprised us. They had gone to the tomb early in the morning, but did not find the body of Jesus. They came back, saying that they had seen a vision of angels who told them that he is alive. Some men from our group went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said. But they didn't see Jesus either."



Then Jesus asked the two disciples, "Why can't you understand? Didn't you know that the Messiah would have to suffer before he was given his glory?"

When the two of them came near the village where they were going, Jesus seemed to be going further. They begged him, "Stay with us! It's already late, and the sun is going down." So Jesus went into the house to stay with them.

After Jesus sat down to eat, he took some bread. He blessed it and broke it. Then he gave it to them. At once they knew who he

was, but he disappeared.



They said to each other, "When he talked with us along the road and explained the Scriptures to us, didn't it warm our hearts?" So they got right up and returned to Jerusalem.

The two disciples found the eleven apostles and the others gathered together. And they learned from the group that the Lord was really alive and had appeared to Peter.

Then the disciples from Emmaus told what happened on the road and how they knew he was the Lord when he broke the bread.



You can watch a short film version of today's Gospel reading here:



Spend one minute thinking ...

Why do you think Jesus' disciples did not recognise him when they were walking with him?

What happened to make them recognise him when they were eating together?

Jesus' disciples had seen him die on the cross. They knew that his body had been put in the tomb.

Other friends of Jesus had told them that the tomb was now empty, but they did not know what had happened to Jesus. They did not understand that he had risen from the dead.

They knew that Jesus had died ... so they could not have realised that it was Jesus who was walking with them.

At the Last Supper, Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it and gave it.

When he was eating with the two disciples he took bread, blessed it, broke it and gave it. They knew that he was Jesus, because he was doing the same as he had done at the Last Supper.

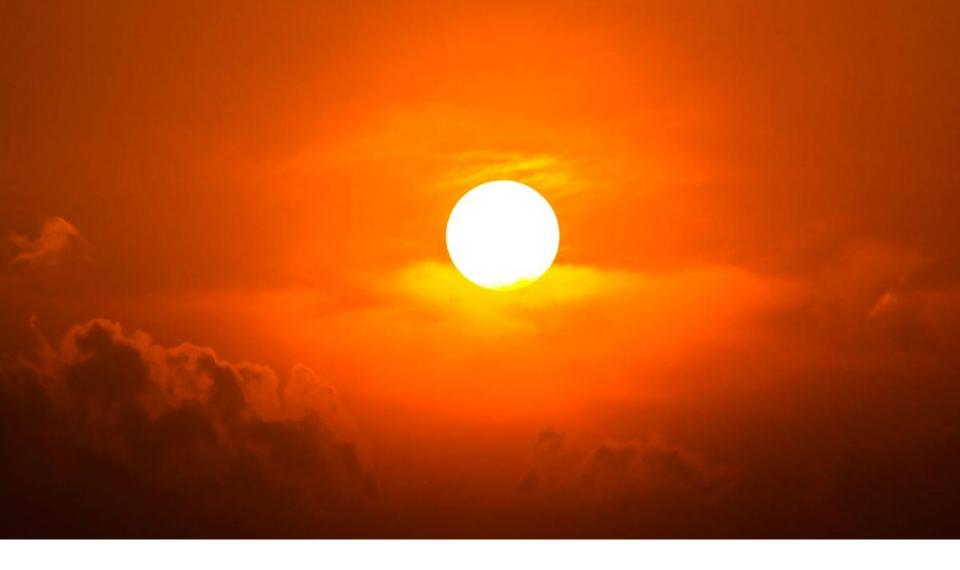


Christians believe that God is always with us.



We can see God all around us, but sometimes we are all a bit like Jesus' disciples on the road to Emmaus and don't recognise Him.





God is in the warmth of the Sun, lighting and warming our day.

Thank you God, for your light and your warmth.



God is in the beauty of Spring flowers.

Thank you God for the beauty you bring to the world. Thank you for the colours and the scents that touch our senses.



God is in the birds of the air.

Thank you God for the morning birdsong, greeting the dawn of a new day.



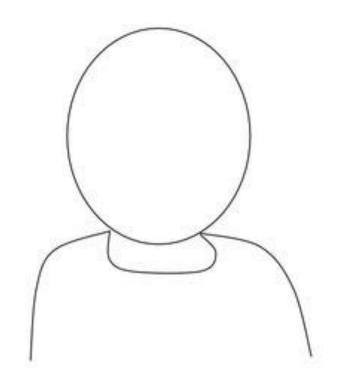
In church, God is with us in a special way in the tabernacle. The tabernacle holds the Body of Christ.

Thank you God for the gift of the Eucharist.



God is in other people ... every other person.

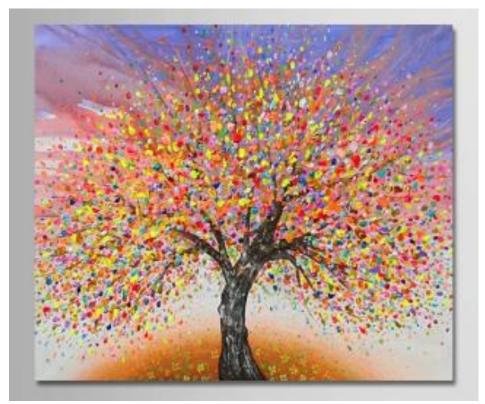
Thank you God for giving us the opportunity to see you in other people.



God is in you.

Thank you God for my life and for living in me.

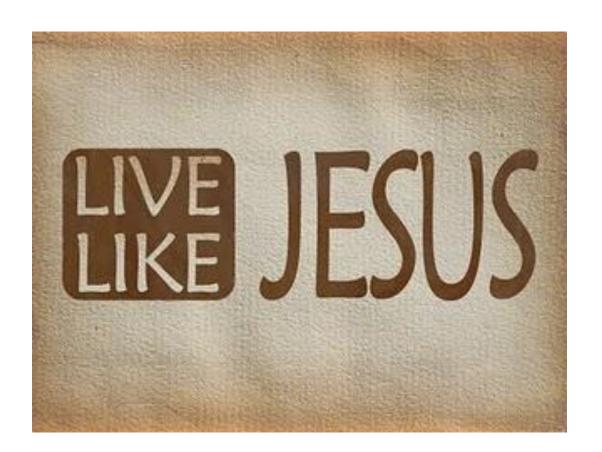
Where else can you see God in the world today?



If we think about God being in each other person, what difference will this make to the way that we treat every other person?

If you think about God being in you, what does this mean to you?

What can you do today to try to live like Jesus?



Prayer

Let us be still and silent for one minute. Let us be thankful for all the ways that God shows himself to us in our world.

We can be thankful for all the beauty in the world.

We can be thankful that God never leaves us but is always with us.

We can be thankful that God lives in us.

Start the video clip below, then close your eyes and listen to the music and the words of the song.

Imagine that you are one of the people meeting Jesus on the road to Emmaus.



Don't forget to finish with the prayer on the next (last) slide.

Share a prayer



Dear God, please help me today to remember that you live in me and in each other person. Help me to treat all those in my family with love. Help me to respect all other people. Help me to remember that I can show that you live in me by showing your love through my actions and through my smile.

Amen

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

