

## Methodist Homes Sunday Online Service Sheet – 14 June 2020

### Call to worship – Sam Monaghan, CEO Methodist Homes

Heavenly Father we worship you, from MHA homes and schemes, from our living rooms and dining tables, wherever we are you promise to be with us. And so we praise you, asking that in this time you would draw near to us, filling us with your Holy Spirit, comforting us and giving us your peace. In Jesus name. Amen.

### Hymn - Praise my soul the King of Heaven StF 83

### Reflection – Mark, Care Home Manager

### Prayer – Bala Gnanapragasam, Trustee MHA

For this day Lord we give you our thanks, as we recall and bring to mind our own experiences, our own situations, our own heartbreak and pain. Heavenly Father comfort those who grieving.

We represent today homes and schemes ravaged by corona virus affecting staff, resident, family and friends. An unseen enemy. Some wait in uncertainty of when and how it may attack. The fear, the struggle, the anticipation. Some are tired and exhausted, broken. 'Can I go back to work tomorrow?' And, the biggest question 'What if?' 'What if Lord' Help us to carry those who are weary, And, help us to allow 'others' to carry us.

**Lord in these uncertain days. Grant us your comfort and peace, renew us in strength, courage and hope. Amen**

### Reflection – Peggy, resident

### Prayer – Doris, carer

Lord whatever our age, whatever our health remind us afresh we are all held in the palm of your hand. The God who feeds the sparrows, clothes the grasses of the field, and adorns them with beauty, how much more will he clothe each one of us?

May our residents, and service users be enfolded in your love. In these ever changing circumstances where families and friends may be unable to visit, where communities are changing and some of our friends no longer amongst us, may we experience the Christ light being held over us lightening our way, and warming our hearts.

We give thanks for the care our residents receive from all our staff, personal, practical and spiritual, for nourishment of both body and soul. And for their privilege of being your vehicles of love which unites a family environment, where each person is valued for who they are, their life and experience. In so doing all are drawn together sharing the same bond.

**Lord we are your precious children. Enfold us in your perfect love.  
Amen**

Hymn - Amazing Grace StF 440, MHA Music therapists, staff and residents

Reflection – Alan, MHA in Community member

Prayer – Judith, Community staff member

We pray for those shielded or unable to leave their homes. For those where human contact is a distant memory, unable to meet with friends and family, cut off from normal everyday life. For those whose mental health is suffering because of isolation and loneliness who have little contact with the outside world. Where day and night and then another day roll into one another, with no end in sight. For those with worries about family health and safety, food, finance and care, may they find hope and solace in you? We pray for those with decreased capacity struggling to cope and understand what is happening around them without the support structure they are familiar with, feeling confused and deserted.

Thank you for those from our community schemes working in an entirely different way to support its members, for the voluntary services and those supporting remotely, going the extra mile at times putting themselves at risk – For the timely phone call, cards and letters sent, food parcels, and for those helping to harness online technology bringing a sense of belonging. For the many who have given of themselves all that they have we ask your blessing upon them.

Heavenly Father, be present by your Spirit, that those journeying in loneliness may be joined by the one who knows them entirely, who will not leave them and will accompany them for the duration of their journey.

**On this difficult journey Lord, walk with us we pray until the days becomes brighter, and our destination is in sight. Amen.**

Reflection - Richard Golding, Chaplain

Prayer – Revd Eddie Sykes, Circuit Rep

How long Lord? How long until we can once again see our family? How long until grandchildren can hug grandparents? For the virtual reality to become reality again.

We are all too aware that we are travelling a difficult path and for each of us our paths are different. Impacting our routines, daily structure, work, no work, finances, security, and safety and communal worship. Help us to try and understand the shoes in which others are walking. To support, appreciate, take a hand, listen and hear fears and concerns of others. We pray especially for children that are anxious where reassurance hovers momentarily with uncertainty. For parents separated at the birth of their new-born, born into a frightening world without wider family around them. For tired parents doing their best to home school but feeling unqualified and inadequate to teach. For children finding home schooling difficult missing friends in the classroom and playing in the playground, becoming bored, frustrated and cooped up. For children that long for the day when this will be over, and the reassuring words of parents that 'we are safe' can be believed once more. For those that have worked hard but cannot take their final exams or celebrate. For those that are unable to meet with their church family for worship, we pray that they can access services remotely. We give thanks for the initiatives that have come about and the doors to the church being opened bringing a fresh way to be church and share your peace and hope. For the birthday parties that have been cancelled. For both the heartbreak and the disappointment Lord, know our hearts.

Lord help us to stick to the path. That however difficult we can turn our face towards you. That we may trust you with all of our heart. Subdue our anxious minds. In the knowledge you are walking with us and you will keep our path straight.

**In the good and the bad. In the celebration and the pain. In our rest and in our weariness. Walk with us all as we journey on. Amen.**

Hymn - The Lord's my Shepherd (StF 481), MHA Music Therapists

Reflection – Revd Kate le Sueur, Head of Chaplaincy (North)

Memorial – Pam Rhodes, MHA Patron

May the God who wipes our tears. And heals the broken hearted  
Impart in us a new vision, where all things are made new  
Where those who have died, dwell in peace and rest  
Until the day we meet again.

*Candles are lit (Gabriels Oboe)*

In the quietness and solemnity of this moment, may your light break through our darkness. A light that cannot be extinguished, a light that once brought hope a new dawn. For this life and for all of eternity

*Silence*

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.

Hymn - Lord for the years StF 470

Reflection, Prayer and Blessing – Prof. Clive Marsh, Vice President of Conference

Incarnate God who accompanies us in the messiness of life and stands by us in both the joys and horrors that we have faced and will face be present now as the spirit of comfort and as the spirit of hope. For it is in you alone that our cares and anxieties can be held and be bearable and through you alone that the future can be welcomed before and beyond death. Receive our prayer now and all the thoughts and feelings and unspoken prayers which have constituted our time of worship together. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

May God give us light to guide us, comfort to support us, and love to unite us now and ever more. Amen.

Music – Nigel Ogden, Saints on a Spree

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