

This Week's Worship: Parting the Red Sea

Opening

Wherever we come together,
God is with us.
God is here.

We come together to say sorry
We come together to say Thank you
We come together to ask for God's help
We come together to hear God's story
We come together to celebrate God's love.

Wherever we come together,
God is with us.
God is here.

Saying Sorry

Hold onto a stone and think about things that you have done this week you would like to say sorry for.

God loves us and forgives us when we are sorry for wrong things we have done.
For times this week when we have made others sad.
We are sorry.

For times this week when we have not helped others
We are sorry.

For times this week when we have not looked after your creation,
We are sorry

For times this week when we have been selfish
We are sorry

Put the stone in a bowl of water

As we leave these things behind, may God forgive us and give us a new, clean start today.
Amen

Saying thank you

*To join in you will need: some slips of paper, some pens and an empty jam jar (you can join in without this for the first few weeks but can then join in when you have had the time to put some things in the jar!)
Ask each person to draw or write down on one of the slips something they would like to say thank you for and put it in the jar. As we pray, pull a slip out of the jar and say thank you for what is written on it.
Continue to fill the jar during the week.*

God, you are amazing and you have given us good things. We thank you for all your gifts to us.
Thank you for...
Amen

Thank you for...
Amen

Thank you for...
Amen

Continue until everyone has had a chance to say something.

Story and response

Listen to this week's story or read a story from the Bible. This week's story is from Exodus 14.

I wonder which part of this story you liked the most?
I wonder what surprised you about this story?
I wonder what this story makes you feel?
I wonder where you are in this story?
Do you wonder anything about this story?

Prayers

If we trust him, God will help us to know what to do and where to go, just as he led the Israelites through the red sea.

You will need: a balloon, string about 3m long, sellotape, a straw, scissors, marker pens

Blow up your balloon, but don't tie a knot in it- just hold it. Let go and watch as the balloon takes a crazy journey before falling to the floor. Now blow the balloon up again and again, don't tie a knot in it but secure the end with a clip that you will be able to remove easily. Lay the inflated balloon on its side and cut a straw in half. Sellotape the straw to the balloon (see photo) and thread the long string through the straw. Secure both ends of the string (you might get someone to hold each end). Take the balloon to one end of the string and let go. Instead of making a crazy journey, the balloon will go straight to the other end of the string. Start again with a new balloon and this time, use a marker pen to write or draw prayers on your balloon about when you would like God to show you what to do and where to go. Let your prayers go on a journey!

Pray: God, thank you that you have a plan and a way forward even when we aren't sure what to do. This week, help us to know that you are with us and show us the way to go. Amen

Close

Wherever we come together,
God is with us.
God is here.

May God bless us.
May we know that we are loved
May we know that we are cared for.
May we know God's hope.

God is with us
God is here
Amen.

Extinguish the candle.