

## *This Week's Worship: Remembrance Sunday*

### *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*

*Today we'll say thank you in a different way. Today is the day that we remember all of those who have died in wars around the world. We remember that they were fighting to try and bring light into darkness- to make unfair and violent situations better and to protect their country and the people who live there. You might see different types of poppy- red ones, purple ones and white ones. The red poppy is for all of those who died fighting during the war. The purple ones are for animals who died while helping those who were fighting during the war- dogs and pigeons who carried messages, horses the soldiers rode on, canaries who sniffed out poisonous gas and donkeys who carried food and water. The white poppy is for those people killed in the war who were ordinary people- not soldiers who were fighting. It also stands for people who didn't want to fight because they disagreed with war and for people today who want to bring peace to the world. When we wear our poppies we are saying thank you to those people and remembering them. Light a candle now and say thank you to God for those who fought to bring us light in darkness, hope and freedom.*

### *Story and response*

Listen to this week's story which is a true story of a soldier in the first world war.

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**

Look at your poppy or that of someone sitting near you if you don't have one. Poppies are bright and cheerful flowers: give thanks to God for the lives of those who have died in war, remembering all the joy they brought to families and friends, and all the good things they did for their home and their country.

Then look at the red petals: red reminds us of danger and harm. Ask God to be close to those who are still facing danger each day, to give courage to the armed forces, and compassion to all who help others.

Place your whole hand over the poppy: poppies are also fragile and need to be handled gently. God cares for those who are hurting and those who are sad. Ask God to comfort all who are grieving the loss of someone they love.

Finally place a finger on the centre of the poppy: ask God to help you play your part in working for peace in the world. (Sandra Miller)

### **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.*