

## Worship at home: prayers for Palm Sunday 2020

*Use a cross, and if you have one a candle or nightlight, as a focus for prayer.*

Holy God, as we enter this most solemn week in the Christian year,  
in these extraordinary times,

And as we are restricted in what we can do  
and must worship in households rather than in church buildings,

help us to remember that the church is not closed –  
for church is people not buildings.

We pray for all with whom we normally worship Sunday by Sunday...

God in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Holy God, we pray for those in authority as they grapple with the unexpected.

Guide those who are giving the world's leaders knowledge and expertise in these times.

Give wisdom and courage to all in leadership,

and when this is all over may humankind emerge strengthened.

God in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Holy God, as we hear and see the news

and exchange thoughts on social media,

help us to remember all those less fortunate than ourselves, among them:

those who are lonely,

those who are angry,

those who are distressed,

those who are at their wits end,

those who are struggling to get home,

those who cannot get the help they need...

We pray especially for Zachary Sayers, Karen Wade, Findley Lamont, Sheila Marsh, Penny Havercroft, David Johnston, Daisy Lambert and Izzy Jones

God in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Holy God, we remember all those who are working to keep things going:  
those working in the NHS and those around it helping to keep things working,  
those keeping our streets clean and collecting our rubbish,  
those harvesting, delivering and selling the food in our shops,  
those keeping us secure and our utilities functioning,  
those looking after the children of key workers,  
those helping to care for the elderly and vulnerable,  
clergy of all religions seeking to minister in difficult times...

God in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Holy God, we remember those who have died,  
whether from Covid-19 or from other causes.

We remember especially Keith Hopes and Neil Robotham.

We pray for their families and friends  
especially as they arrange funerals so different from what they expected.  
We pray that they and we may come at the last to find peace in your presence.

God in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**