William and Lucy

Explore worship at home







Illustrations by
A. Swansbury ©

written by
R. Swansbury

Book 2

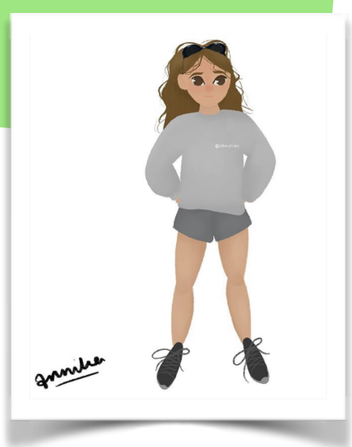
This book is dedicated to all the hardworking school staff, who in this challenging time have gone above and beyond to serve our young people.
THANK YOU - we are so grateful.

Rebecca Swansbury is the Schools Officer for the Diocese of Canterbury. Before taking up this role she was a primary school teacher for many years, where she was responsible for RE and collective worship.

When she is not illustrating books and designing logos for her family, Annika Swansbury is currently working towards going to University in September.

With grateful thanks to Virginia Corbyn for her support, suggestions and critical reading of this book.

Diocese of Canterbury
CHANGED LIVES ⇒ CHANGING LIVES





Information for parents and carers

Meet William and Lucy. They are part of a group called 'leading lights' who regularly plan and lead worship in their Church of England Primary school. William and Lucy have been helping children understand the pattern of worship across the UK through their first book, William and Lucy lead Collective Worship.

This special edition has been written to support children and their families in continuing with a simple pattern of worship, while schools are not open.

In Church of England schools, worship is seen as the 'heartbeat' of school life, the time when the school community can stop, reflect, think and find strength in the Bible teaching of the day.

At our Church schools, we aim to make worship Inclusive, Invitational and Inspirational. We would want this to be the case in your home context too. Our invitation is that you feel able to use this worship resource in the way that you feel is most appropriate for your own children.

Helping your children to worship at home

Information for parents and carers

In a Church of England school, there is a clear pattern to our daily act of worship. Pupils become familiar with this pattern, which helps them to participate and even lead worship in their school. This book takes you through these steps alongside your children to help you all to understand what to do and how to respond and take part:

Greeting – getting ready and coming together for a special time in the day (page 11)
Engaging – through singing and through learning from the Bible (pages 12-16)
Responding – through praying and/or reflecting (pages 17-24)
Sending – by thinking about what we might do with what we have heard, seen and thought about (pages 25-26)

In order to access the Bible stories which 'engage' the children, we have produced a book of selected stories to go with this resource, which is called William and Lucy tell Bible stories. Alternatively, you might have a Children's Bible or a book of Bible stories in your home which you can share with your children.



Here are some links to songs that we love to sing in school.

You could sing, listen, dance or even sign to these songs?

Information for parents and carers

https://youtu.be/lFBZJGSgyVQ
My Lighthouse by Rend Collective

https://youtu.be/MPvnZILn6EY
Every move I make by Hillsong Kids

https://youtu.be/C3JU7AIEdzE
John 10:27-28 Memory verse song

https://youtu.be/tCEGDkdXOcM
We will go by Watoto Children's Choir

https://youtu.be/GM4IVZuljEI
Creator God by Nick and Becky Drake

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZBhKp5_HwE
God is with me by Nick and Becky Drake

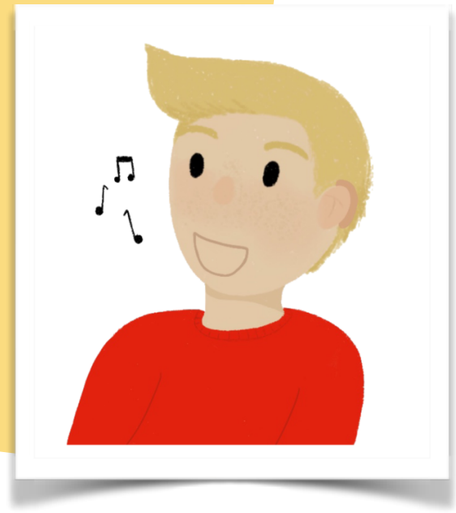
https://youtu.be/UEvJzOxm6zs
Big Family of God by Nick and Becky Drake

https://youtu.be/hQS2HHayr38
All through History by Nick and Becky Drake

https://youtu.be/je66ti1DQRk
Wonderful Lord by Doug Horley

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LJxVHzARMmE
Feels Good by Rend Collective

https://youtu.be/LovLvqwtxkY
God is with us forever by Wendy House Music



William and Lucy

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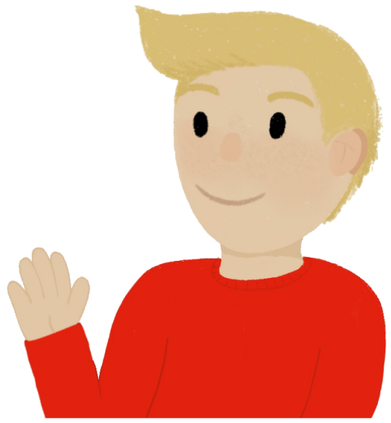


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My name is Lucy.



My name is William

We go to a Church of England Primary School, but at the moment we are at home with our families because our schools are closed.
It is really strange being at home and not knowing when we will go back to school. We will really miss all our friends and teachers, but we know we have to work together to stop the virus spreading.

I wonder how you might be feeling about not being in school?
I wonder what you will miss?
It is ok to feel upset or worried about not being in school, many of us feel like this.

In our last act of worship, before our school closed, Mrs Swansbury reminded us that the phrase 'Do not be afraid' is in the Bible 365 times. She told us that if we feel afraid or anxious we should remember that God promises to help carry our worries by walking alongside us every day of the year.

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."
Joshua 1:9



In school we always start our day with an act of worship.
This is our special time each day where we gather together as a school family.
It will be really strange not being together like this for the next few months.

I wonder, could you stop and think about your school friends at the same time worship used to be?

"I wonder if we could all remember to think of each other at the start of each day while we are not together as a class? It would then be like we are all joined together in worship from our own homes."





I think it is a good idea to join together for worship in our own homes at the same time. So, I am going to try to pause each day and have a mini act of worship in my own home. I might even see if my family want to join in with me. I am going to try and find a special space, that is quiet and comfortable for my act of worship.

This is how we can prepare for worship

At the start of worship we always light a candle to remember that Jesus said, "I am the light of the world." I want to start my worship at home with a candle, so I have made a candle out of a tube and some paper as I know I must not light candles on my own.

I wonder if you could make your own candle out of paper?

As we light the candle we say,
'Jesus is the light of the world, who brings light into the darkness.'
Then we say to each other, 'The lord be with you, and also with you.'



We sing and praise God in our worship

I wonder what else I could do during 'worship in my house' time?

I love to sing, so I am going to try and remember one of my favourite songs from worship.

I wonder if you can guess which song I am singing?



I wonder what songs you like to sing in worship time?

We learn from the Bible in worship

I enjoy reading and listening to Bible stories. We have been listening to many Bible stories in worship recently, I'm sure I can remember some of them. I might tell them to my little sister.

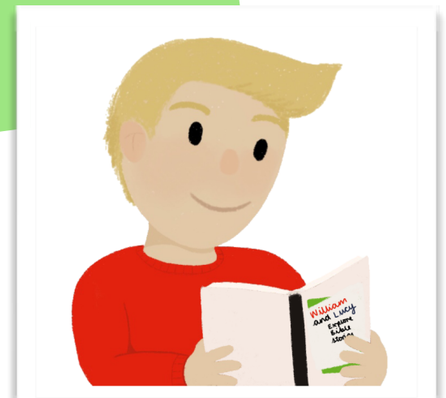
Whenever we listen to a Bible story in worship, Mrs Swansbury always asks us to think about the message within or behind the story and how the story might make us reflect on our behaviour and attitude.



I wonder what Bible stories you know?
Do have a favourite one?
Mrs Swansbury loves to tell us a story from the Old Testament about three men called Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. Do you know this story?

King Nebuchadnezzar, was the King of the land Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego lived in. He ordered everyone to bow down and worship him and his golden statue when the trumpet sounded. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego knew this was wrong, because they worshipped God, and the commandments said you are to only worship the Lord God. When they refused to worship the King and his statue, they got thrown into a huge fiery furnace. Before they got thrown into the fire, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego prayed to God, "Save us and help us!" After a few minutes, the King looked into the fire, he expected to see three men burning, but instead he saw four men walking around in the fire unharmed. As the furnace doors opened, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego walked out alive and not burnt. God had saved them. From that moment on, the King took down his statue and ordered everyone to worship the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.
Daniel 3: 16-28

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego knew that God had kept them safe.
Do you think this was the fourth person in the fire?
I wonder what this story makes you think about?





Jesus said …"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

I wonder why you think Jesus told this story?
I wonder what it makes you think about?



William and I often act out Bible stories during collective worship in school.

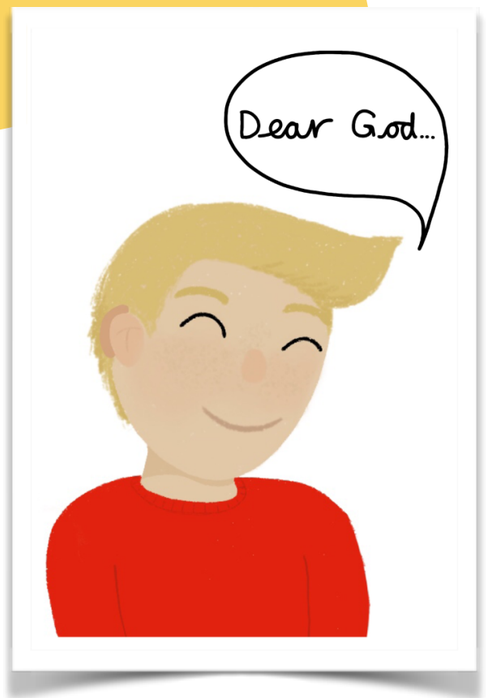
I wonder if you could try acting out a story from the Bible at home?

We pray in our worship

There is always a time to pray and reflect in our acts of worship. Prayer is just talking to God to say thank you for all he has done for us, sorry for things we have done wrong and 'please' prayers for situations that need God's help and guidance. I think there are lots of things we could be praying for at the moment.

One of my jobs as a collective worship leader is to help create prayer stations around the school. So I wonder if I can use some of these ideas to help us think about praying at home?

I wonder how you pray at school?
Do you have a school prayer? I wonder if you can remember it?



We often use the teaspoon prayer in school as it gives us a structure to our prayers. It is called a teaspoon prayer because tsp is the short way of writing teaspoon in recipe books. You might have seen it if you have done any cooking?

Dear God,
Thank you for all those who look after and love us. Thank you for all the doctors and nurses who are taking care of people in hospital and at home.
Sorry for all the times I have been unkind to my sister, help me to be generous and share.
Please help all those people who are poorly with the virus, help them to get better soon.
Amen.



Last week in worship we used our hands to pray. Have you done this before?
As you hold each finger, think and pray about the people mentioned.
Why don't you have a go?

Pray for all those in isolation at home.

Pray for all those who are unwell in hospital or at home.

Pray for all those in our government, that they will make wise decisions.

Pray for all those who are worried or frightened at this time.

Pray for all the medical professionals and those who are trying to find a cure for the virus.

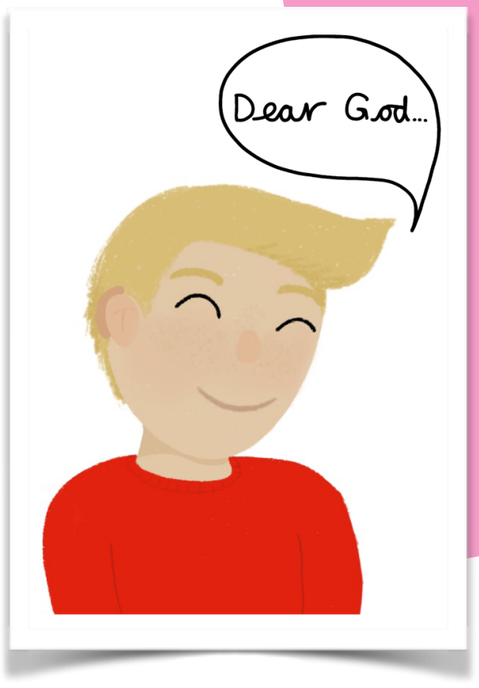


I wonder if we could use a dice to help us pray? Just roll the dice and see what number comes up, then use the sentence opener to form your prayer.



Do you know the words of the Lord's prayer?
When the disciples asked Jesus how to pray, he gave them these words.
I wonder if you say the Lord's prayer at school?
I wonder which words are most helpful to you today?

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.



We try and have a time of quiet and reflection in our worship

I have done quite a lot of looking out of the window at what is going on.
The roads are really quiet and there aren't many people around, but the birds are still flying around and I have seen a lot of cats in my garden.

I wonder if you have sat and looked out of your windows for a while?
I wonder what you have noticed?
What can you see or hear?

I wonder if we can use these things as prayers?





Pray for your neighbours.
I wonder if they are lonely, unwell or sad?
Thank God for your community, for nature and animals.
Thank God for all the things in your house, your family and the food you have eaten.

How good are you at being quiet and still?
During our school acts of collective worship, we are often given time to be quiet and still so we can reflect on the Bible story and thought for the day.

Try and find a quiet space to pause... be still... be quiet... and reflect.
I wonder what you might hear?
I wonder how it makes you feel to just be still and calm for a moment?



We try to put into practice what we have heard in our worship

At the end of worship there is always a thought to make us think about the story or teaching we heard, as we go back to our classrooms. The thoughts are usually about what we can do to follow the example Jesus set for his people.
So, I wonder what we can do to make a difference whilst we are at home?

We could pray for others.
We could help our parents care for our neighbours.
We could be kind to our siblings, read to them or play nicely.
We could help keep the house tidy.

I wonder what you might do to make a difference to others?

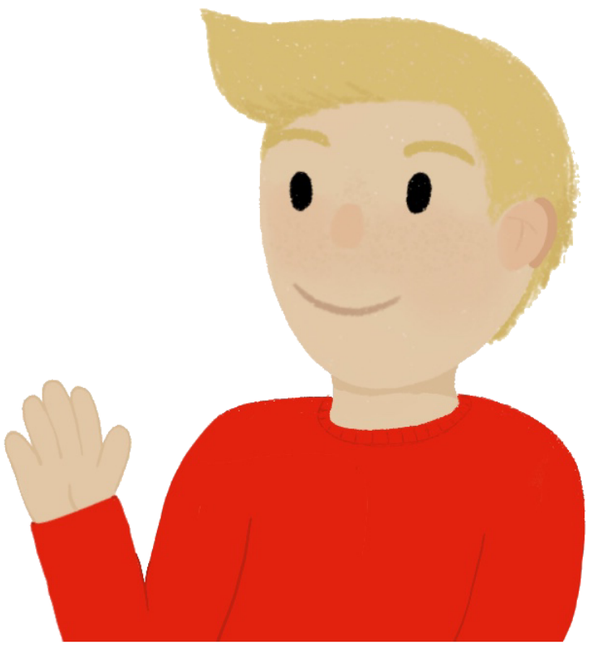




Then we say to each other, 'Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.'

Normally at the end of worship we blow the candle out. I can't blow my candle out as it is made of cardboard. So I am going to keep my candle on my desk to remind me that Jesus is still with me even though I am not at school.





By joining together for worship in this way, we can keep connected as a school community even though we aren't physically together.
Stay safe, enjoy spending time with your family and keep connected with each other and God in whatever way you can.

Lucy William

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