



How to hold your Global Neighbours service

We understand the challenges that churches are currently experiencing as they get to grips with virtual worship, changes in the availability of ministers and how to keep their communities connected while social distancing. This autumn, we have new resources and ideas for your services to assist you to come together in worship and reflection in whatever way you can.

During the coronavirus crisis, love has united us. You've picked up the phone. You've dropped off food. You've shown your neighbours they are not alone. This autumn, we have an opportunity to reach out to our global neighbours and help more communities around the world overcome crisis.

At caid.org.uk/autumnresources you will find:

- prayer sheet, including prayers from Nicaragua
- downloadable video sermon
- downloadable video prayers from Nicaragua
- outdoor service guide
- diocesan news article
- prayer and action card
- virtual collection plate.

Worship in church

At time of writing, it is unknown if churches will have resumed worship in buildings. If your church has reopened to in-person worship, please follow the guidance from your denomination and the government on social distancing and hygiene measures.

- Speak to your minister or worship leader and let them know about our service-ready materials.
- Use our video sermon and prayers for your online or in-person service.
- Hand out our prayer and action card, available at caid.org.uk/autumnresources
- Set up your virtual collection plate at caid.org.uk/collection and place the link in your church communications. Ask people to make a donation and make sure you share the total you have raised afterwards.

Holding your service virtually

Many churches have adapted to hold virtual services but if you're going virtual for the first time, we hope the steps below will support you. You can also find further helpful advice at the **Church of England** and **Methodist** websites.

Choose your platform

Think about which online platform is the most accessible for you and your church. If you've been holding online services already, keep to the same format. If you're new to virtual services, check if your church has a website or an existing function for an online service. The easiest platform to use for hosting a virtual service is Facebook, which supports live streaming. Once you've set up a Facebook page, you will find there is a 'Live' option on your page.

Spread the word

Let everyone know you will be hosting a live service. Contact people to let them know what time the service will be and where to find it.

Be prepared!

Make sure the device you use to record your service is fully charged, whether you use your mobile phone on a tripod or the camera in your laptop. Ensure you have a good connection to the internet.

Record it

Make sure you find a good spot to record your service, somewhere quiet and where your position can be seen well on the camera.

Have a trial run

Trial your service and go live to talk to your congregation beforehand. This will allow you to check for any technical glitches and get you used to preaching in the virtual world. Alternatively, you could pre-record your service and release the video at a specific time. This way, your congregation can still come together at a set time to watch it and will be able to share it with their loved ones.

Send out materials

Include a link to the resources for your congregation to download beforehand. This can be added to the comments section on your chosen platform and is helpful for your congregation to follow when they are tuned into the service.

Make it easy to donate

Making a donation is a wonderful way of sharing love with our vulnerable neighbours living in poverty. Include the link for our virtual collection plate or a JustGiving page at the end of the service.

Save your service

Finally, make sure you save your recording of the service so you can make it available to download or to watch later. You can do this whether you are holding a live stream or a pre-recorded service.

Fellowship and fundraising opportunities

Our new resources are designed to help you host a virtual or in-person coffee morning and quiz or Brew and Bake event to bring your community together and help raise funds for communities across the world. Find our guides and information on how to run your event at caid.org.uk/brewandbake

How do I pay in?

Our virtual collection plate at caid.org.uk/collection is a fantastic way to collect contact-free donations, and we recommend this for your service. If you have no other option than to collect cash donations, the receptacle should be kept in one place and safe handwashing and hygiene practices should be followed when handling money.

Alternatively, you can send a cheque to:

Christian Aid, 35-41 Lower Marsh, London SE1 7RL. Don't forget to collect Gift Aid using our donation form caid.org.uk/sponsor or giving envelopes.

Give via our website at caid.org.uk/payin or call **020 7523 2269** to donate by phone.

Meet Angela

Angela lives with her daughters in Nicaragua. Her farm used to provide a good living, but the changing climate means that her coffee harvests are shrinking each year. But Angela's community have united. Together they have set up a local cooperative to share resources and support their livelihoods. Angela is starting to change from coffee to climate-resilient cocoa. With the help of Christian Aid's partner Soppexcca, she has planted 700 cocoa plants.

Now Angela has hope for the future. 'The income from the cocoa crop is very important', she said. 'It means we can buy clothes, medicine and food.'



Cocoa has given Angela and her daughters Ariana and Johaira hope for the future.

