**MHA Sunday 2025**

**Suggested Order of Service**

*(StF = Singing the Faith)*

*The following order of service is offered for you to use in its entirety, take parts from or adapt as you feel most appropriate for your setting. If you would like to involve a speaker from MHA, contact your local MHA rep, or email* *chaplaincy@mha.org.uk* *and we will identify an appropriate local chaplain, manager or other representative. We encourage you to take a collection for the work of MHA, either during the service (in the final hymn) or as a retiring collection, and you can order gift aid envelopes for this purpose at* [*www.mha.org.uk/sunday*](http://www.mha.org.uk/sunday)*.*

*The official date of MHA Sunday in 2025 is 8th June (the second Sunday in June), but you can hold your service on any date to suit your calendar. The reading (Luke 10:25-37) will be the lectionary gospel reading for 13th July, so you may also wish to consider that date.*

**Call to worship**

Jesus says “I came that they might have life, and have it abundantly” (John 10:10)

**Hymn – StF28 Jesus calls us here to meet him** (you may wish to omit vs 4 unless your service includes communion)

**Words of welcome**

*If you have a guest from MHA taking part in your service, introduce them as well as welcoming everyone to worship and giving a brief introduction.*

**Opening prayer**

Loving God, as we gather today to worship you,

help us to hear your promise of abundant life,

to recognise your presence in all people

and to commit ourselves anew to living our lives

in the light of your love.

In the name of Jesus Christ,

**Amen**

**Interactive activity (see resources)**

**MHA Sunday video (see resources)**

**Hymn – StF 621 (When memory fades and recognition falters – tune Finlandia)**

**Reading Luke 10:25-37**

**Sermon *(see sermon notes or written sermon in resources and/or sermon video)***

**Hymn – StF 524 (Listening God, you hear us – tune Noel Nouvelet)**

**Prayers of intercession**

Suggested response: Loving God, **hear our prayer**

*The following prayers are offered as suggestions – feel free to adapt or to write your own for your setting.*

Lord God, we give you thanks for the joys of life, for family, for music, for friends, for fun. We give you thanks for the work of MHA, as they work to help people in later life to continue to enjoy all the good things you provide. And we thank you for people like Irene, good Samaritans in unlikely places, who put others before themselves even in the face of their own needs. As we come before you now with our concerns this MHA Sunday, may our prayers strengthen the work of MHA, and our own resolve to help others life later life well.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Creator God, help us to enjoy and protect all your creation. We pray for a fair sharing of the good things you give, and for justice, peace and equity throughout the world. Bless all those in later life, whatever their circumstances and wherever they live. Give your peace to those that are worried about their health, and to those living with any long term diagnosis, and today we especially ask your blessing on people like Irene who are living with dementia. May they continue to enjoy life in abundance.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Heavenly father, bless families that are walking the journey that Gary, Julie and all Irene’s family are treading; those concerned for a loved one, those seeking to care at home and those taking decisions about housing and care with and for a family member. We pray for assurance of your love for them, that they may find the right place for those in their care. We ask that you will give wisdom and insight to those in positions of power, that the needs of those requiring care in our nation may be met and that the cost may be borne fairly.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Almighty God, strengthen and sustain the work of MHA across communities, retirement living schemes and in care homes up and down our land. Bless and keep colleagues working throughout the organisation, managers like Sue, carers like Julie, music therapists like Maria, chaplains like Carolyn and all the other staff that create community within different settings. We pray too for those that are charged with leading MHA, for the Board, the CEO and the leadership team, that they may have the insights and the skills required to enable the charity to fulfil its purposes.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Loving God, we bring these prayers in the power of your Spirit,

through your Son Jesus Christ, **Amen**

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Hymn StF 83 – Praise my soul the King of Heaven**

*If a collection is taken for MHA’s work during the service, this may be brought forward and the following (or another suitable) prayer used:*

Heavenly Father,

all things come from you, and of your own do we give you.

We offer these gifts in thanksgiving for all we have received.

May they be used fruitfully,

and those that benefit from the work they fund

know your love, now and always.

**Amen**

**Blessing**

*Other possible hymns:*

***StF 526 Lord of all hopefulness***

***StF 696 For the Healing of the Nations*** *(vs3&4 relevant)*