



Scale Modelworld

13th November 2022



Welcome to Worship

Once again, I must apologise for my absence from **Scale Modelworld**. I am presently off sick from work with a viral infection affecting mostly my throat, and I do not feel I would be able to stand up and clearly and appropriately lead worship.

I am fully vaccinated against Covid-19 and Influenza (although vaccinations can never be a 100% guarantee against illness), and I fully intend to participate in the **Bolton** (January), **Leeds** (February), **Perth** (April-May) and **North Shields** (June) shows in 2023, and look forward to participating in **2023 Scale Modelworld**, including leading the Remembrance Service.

I pray you all have a safe and wonderful weekend at Telford, and safe journeys home. How I wish I could be there!

Prayer Time

I invite you to clasp your hands together and/or bow your heads in prayer.

Dear Lord in Heaven we come before you on this very special day in humble repentance and gratitude. We repent our sins and failings, and express our gratitude to you for your boundless mercy and forgiveness, which know no limits.

On this day, we pause to reflect and pray for all those who “***Paid the full price of freedom***” in the service of their country. We pray for the families they leave behind and as for merciful love them, and let them know their relatives are safe in your tender loving arms, free from pain and at peace. We pray help is to redouble our resolve and efforts, and make us worthy of the sacrifices they have made. We pray also for those who came home from the conflicts and live with the scars of the conflict. We pray also for their families.

The world is in a very difficult and dangerous position right now and we ask for your perfect guidance to sort things out. We ask that you give our leaders the wisdom to make the right and appropriate decisions.

We ask for your mercy and peace for the people of Ukraine, who continue to suffer the terrible effects of this evil and unjustifiable war. As we pray for the



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people of Ukraine, we don't forget other areas in the world where there is tension and/or conflict, and we humbly ask that you bring peace and security to these areas.

We pray for those friends of ours who are unable to participate in this Scale Modelworld, even if they don't actually come to this service. We ask for your ever merciful love for them whatever their beliefs, and let them know they are not forgotten or rejected.

We ask for your blessings on everyone involved in the organising and running of this Scale Modelworld, in whatever capacity. As we enjoy the rest of this weekend, we pray everyone will have a safe and uneventful journey home, taking many happy memories that will last for evermore.

Amen

Bible Reading

Old Testament - Psalm 46 – God is with us Good News Bible – Page 564

God is our shelter and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble.
So we will not be afraid, even if the Earth is shaken, and mountains
fall into the ocean depths,
Even if the seas roar and rage, and the hills are shaken by this violence.

There is a river that brings joy to the city of God,
To the sacred house of the most high.
God is in that city, and it will never be destroyed,
At early dawn he will come to its aid.
Nations are terrified, and kingdoms are shaken,
God thunders and the earth dissolves!

The Lord Almighty IS with us, the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Come and see what the Lord has done,
See what amazing things he has done on Earth.
He stops wars all over the world,
Breaks down bows, destroys spears, and sets the shields on fire.

“Stop fighting!” he says, *“and know that I am God!”*
Supreme among the nations, supreme over the world.

The Lord Almighty IS with us, the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Amen

Message

So far, the last three years have been the most turbulent years of the twenty-first century. The fallout from Brexit, the pandemic, the war in Ukraine and now the general cost of living crisis means we live in very difficult and dangerous times. We don't know what the future holds, and we can only put our faith and trust in God?

We have all been busy getting models finished and ready for display on the stands or for entering in the competition. Even though my models and I are not physically in Telford through illness on my part, I have been modelling as well. For those of you who have been able to get your models done, transport them and yourselves to Telford and place on the appropriate stand, now you have done so I invite you to take this time to:

*Be still for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One IS here!
He comes to cleanse and heal, and to minister his grace.
Be still for the power of the Lord, IS moving in this place!*

As our Bible reading states, even though we may wonder at times, God **IS** with us. He is here in this place receiving and blessing our worship, as he received blessed all of us during the 2 minutes silence. He is moving amongst the halls marvelling and blessing your models on display and in the competition.

IPMS-UK has many awards in the competitions at Scale Modelworld, and for those are fortunate to enter a competition and win a prize (even if it as Highly Commended) you are truly blessed modellers who have received an extra blessing from God in addition to what the IPMS-UK judges award. However, in enjoying this weekend of fellowship and friendship with modellers from all over the United Kingdom and the rest of the world, we have received the BEST prize of all – a blessing from God himself! Each year I come to Telford, I meet new people and establish new friends. I have strong connections with the **Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo** (www.edintattoo.co.uk), and a phrase often used at the Tattoo:

We met as strangers, but we leave as friends!

Some people are quick to condemn our hobby as a militaristic and jingoistic hobby that promotes war and conflict. Modelling a tank or an aircraft, etc, most of us tend to do a lot of reading about the story and technical specification of the tank/aircraft/etc. Even if we never served in any armed forces, we have an awareness of the damage the weapon can do if the real thing is fired in anger, and we are more determined to do what we can to ensure the real thing is never fired in anger. The I in IPMS means we are meeting people from all over the world at Telford, some from countries that have been our enemies in times past. This means modelling promote reconciliation between former enemies, and peace and

friendship. I could imagine the veterans when they were at war paraphrasing some words from Martin Luther King's legendary "*I have a dream*" speech with the words:

I have a dream, that one day my children and grand children will sit down with the children and grandchildren of my enemies in peace and brotherhood.

I pray you are all having a truly great but safe weekend, and take home many wonderful memories and blessings. I look forward to being with you and leading this service in person in 2023!

Benediction

*This is the God we adore, our faithful unchanging friend,
Who's love is as great as his power,
And knows neither measure nor end.
Tis Jesus, yes it is Jesus, the first and the last,
who's love will guide us safely home,
We'll praise God for all that has past,
And trust for what is to come!*

Amen

God Bless

Anton

