

Wish you here by postcard

Church (Christianity)	Gurdwara (Sikhism)	Mandir (Hinduism)	Mosque (Islam)	Synagogue (Judaism)	Wat (Buddhism)
An introduction to places of worship.					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I'm sitting on a pew. • A vicar is leading the service. • I am Christian. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a picture of Guru Nanak. • Guru Nanak was the first Guru and is the founder of my faith. • I am Sikh. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As I enter my place of worship, I take off my shoes and put them into the shoe rack. • I ring the bell when I go into the main prayer room, to let God know that I have arrived. • I am Hindu. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When I enter my place of worship, I remove my shoes and sit on the floor facing the prayer wall. • Our holy scripture is the Qur'an. • I am Muslim. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Rabbi leads the service. • Often, much of our service is in Hebrew. • I am Jewish. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My place of worship can also be called a Pagoda, Stupa, or Temple. • All our places of worship contain a statue or image of Buddha, called 'Buddharupas'. • I am Buddhist.
Some slightly trickier clues.					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I'm listening to a sermon. • The vicar is standing behind the pulpit. • The sermon is based on a passage from the Bible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We worship God in a separate hall inside our building, called a diwan. • Our holy book is the Guru Granth Sahib. • Every morning the Guru Granth Sahib is carried in procession into the diwan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I believe in reincarnation. • I talk to Braham (God) through meditation and prayer. • At the shrine we make offerings to murti, which are sacred statues of Braham, gods, or goddesses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our communal prayer is led by the Imam. • The walls of my place of worship are often decorated with calligraphy of passages from the Qur'an. • Muhammed was the founder of my religion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You are expected to wear a hat in my place of worship, unless you are a young, unmarried woman. • From sunset on Friday to nightfall on Saturday we celebrate Shabbat, the weekly day of rest. • Our scripture is the Hebrew Bible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our places of worship are also used by the community for study. • We call our form of worship 'puja'. • I worship Buddha to show my respect, but I do not believe he was a god.

Feeling confident? Take it up another level.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am walking up towards the altar. • Holy Communion is given to the congregation. • I make the sign of the cross when I receive the bread and wine. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everyone is seated on the floor. Men are on one side and women are on the other. • The Granthi reads from the Guru Granth Sahib. • We sing Kirtan, the sacred hymns written in our holy book. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My place of worship is filled with oil lamps. • We offer water, food, flowers, and incense to the gods. • Our most ancient sacred scriptures are called the Vedas, and they are written in Sanskrit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The prayer wall helps us face towards Mecca. • The first example of my place of worship was in the courtyard of the home of Muhammed. • The Imam leads prayers or delivers a sermon from the minbar, which is a raised stand. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The chairs or pews are arranged so that worshippers are facing Jerusalem. • At the front of my place of worship is a cabinet called the Ark. Inside this are the Torah scrolls. • The Torah scrolls are a handwritten copy of the first five books of the Hebrew Bible, in Hebrew. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I believe in Karma. • I often worship by sitting on the floor barefoot, facing an image of my religion's founder, and chanting. • Our places of worship are designed to symbolise the five elements of fire, earth, water, air, and wisdom.
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Fancy a challenge? The most difficult clues.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A baby is being baptised at the font. • Some of the windows are made from coloured glass. • When I leave my place of worship, I look up and see a steeple on the top of the building. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no statues of God, because we do not believe that He is a person. • The service ends with the Ardas prayer, which is about God and the Ten Gurus. • After the service, we eat a vegetarian meal together. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The centre of my place of worship is called the 'garbhagriha' or 'moolasthanam'. • Our service usually ends with us sharing the food we've offered to deities. • This food is called 'prashad'. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Often my place of worship has a domed roof. • Services are held every day, but the most important is on Friday at noon. • The Arabic name for my place of worship is 'masjid'. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Hebrew, our place of worship is called 'beit kneset', which means 'house of gathering'. • On top of the Ark is a light that is always lit, this is called the Eternal Lamp. • Men and women sit separately in my place of worship. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In our place of worship, we light candles, meditate, burn incense, and listen to sermons. • As part of our worship we recite the Three Refuges, which are the three fundamentals of our religious life. • The most important part of our place of worship is the shrine room, which contains 'Buddharupas'.
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