**Morning Worship for 18th October 2020**

***As you begin this act of worship remember that there are many friends who are doing the same and are joining with you in worship. If you have you-tube then please find an appropriate version of the hymns and join in the singing. As you go through this time of worship try to remember this reality; you are in the presence of God who holds us all in His care and keeping.***

**The Greeting:**

**We come in this service to God,**

**In our need, and bringing with us the needs of the world.**

**We come to God, who has come to us in Jesus,**

**And who walks with us the road of our worlds suffering.**

**We come with our faith and with our doubts;**

**We come with our hopes and with our fears.**

**We come as we are, because it is God who invites us to come,**

**And God has promised never to turn us away.**

***The Iona Community Worship Book 1991***

**Collect for the day:**

Almighty God, you called Luke the physician

Whose praise is in the Gospel,

To be an evangelist and physician of the soul:

By the grace of the Spirit

And through the wholesome medicine of the gospel

Give your Church the same love and power to heal;

Through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

Who is alive and reigns with you,

In the unity of the Holy Spirit,

One God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

**Our Declaration of faith**

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts:**

**The whole earth is full of his glory.**

**Ascribe to the Lord, glory and strength;**

**Ascribe to the Lord, the honour due to his name.**

**The whole earth is full of his glory.**

**The Lord shall give strength to his people;**

**The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.**

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts:**

**The whole earth is full of his glory.**

**Hymn:** Great is thy faithfulness.

In church the hymn or music will be played for us to listen to reflectively.

**Readings**: Isaiah 35:3-6, 2 Timothy 4:5-17.

**Hymn:** Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

In church the hymn or music will be played for us to listen to reflectively.

**Gospel Reading: Luke 10:1-9.**

**Reflection:** This will be delivered by the Leader in church.

(For those at home a reflection will be sent through separately by Clive.)

**Hymn:** I the Lord of sea and sky.

In church the hymn or music will be played for us to listen to reflectively.

**Prayers for others:** This morning let us pause for prayer for so many people and for so many situations.

We come boldly to the throne of grace,

Praying to the almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit for mercy and grace.

Heavenly Father, we pray today for your Harvest of peace, joy and justice in your world. May all who are so dependent upon the harvest of human love, find true joy in their lives, may their sufferings be lifted from them and may they feel truly valued and respected by others.

We give you thanks for the harvest of the land, for the farmers who till the soil, for the skill involved in operating the machinery required in the harvest of grain, and feed, for those who labour in the sun to pick our fruit and vegetables, and for all who manage the complexities required in farming today. Give them strength to persevere in these difficult times and may they continue to feed the nation and keep us strong and healthy.

We pray at this troubled time for patience and calm within our communities as we enter into a new approach to the Covid Pandemic. We pray that you may give us all the resolve we need to keep those around us safe and secure. We pray for all who are particularly vulnerable at this time that their faith in you may strengthen them for the days ahead.

We pray especially for those who are struggling in the hospitality sector, for businesses under threat, for jobs being lost and for all who face worry and anxiety at this time. We pray for all communities suffering from the Coronavirus where there is a lack of resources to care for them and for all within our own communities as we see the threat of a further increase of the pandemic in our midst.

Father hear us as we continue to pray for the NHS with all the pressures and strains still upon it, that they would receive all the protection they need, and that they would experience your protection in their work, find courage for each day and stamina to care for all those who are so dependent upon them. For the sick and vulnerable that they would receive the care they need in their hour of weakness. For the lonely in our parishes, that they would know God’s presence in their solitude and receive a friendly call from their neighbours.

As we pray in thanksgiving for the life and witness of St Luke the Physician, we pray for all who seek to bring healing to others, for the dedication of doctors, nurses, psychologists, social workers and all who help in so many different ways who seek in the words of the Gospel: to cure the sick who are there, and say to them, “the kingdom of God has come near to you.”

We continue to pray for those in authority charged with leading the fight against the virus: for our Prime Minister and his Ministers, for Scientists working on vaccines and other means of fighting the infection. We pray also for those charged with ensuring that the law is upheld and that we continue to show concern for others in the way in which we live our lives.

Finally Father we pray for all who have lost loved ones throughout this troubled time, as they struggle with loss and the restrictions placed upon them in saying their last farewells, may they find that inner peace which comes through faith and so be comforted by your presence with them.

And so we pray

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.

**Hymn:** All creatures of our God and King.

In church the hymn or music will be played for us to listen to reflectively.

**A Prayer for the treasure store of creation.**

Listen to the water, air and earth;

Creation’s treasure store.

They’re wounded for the want of being listened to;

They cry and too few hear,

They slowly die and too few mourn.

And yet through those who give attention,

Who stretch both hands to touch, embrace and tend;

Through those who marvel, reverence and kneel

And cup the water, feel the breath of heaven,

And hear the humming earth a healing comes

And there are seeds of hope;

There is tomorrow germinating in today.

Listen to the stories, dreams and thoughts

Of those who have no voice.

They’re wounded for the want of being listened to:

They cry and too few hear;

They slowly die and too few mourn.

And yet through these who give attention,

Who stretch both hands to touch, embrace, receive;

Through these who labour, claim their dignity

And drink the cup of suffering,

Breathe winds of change

And earth their dreams in struggle,

Healing comes and there are seeds of hope;

There is tomorrow germinating in today.

Be still, be just, sharing in their truth.

In finding them, you find yourself.

*Kate Compston. Hampshire 1990*

**Blessing:**

God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love,

Defend you on every side,

And guide you in truth and peace;

And the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**