**Morning Worship for 1st November 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 have knit together your elect

In one communion and fellowship

In the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord.

Grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints

In all virtuous and godly living

That we may come to those inexpressible joys

That you have prepared for those who truly love you;

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**

**God of power, God of people,**

**You are the life of all that lives,**

**Energy that fills the earth,**

**Vitality that brings to birth,**

**The impetus toward making whole**

**Whatever is bruised or broken.**

**In you we grow to know the truth**

**That sets all creation free.**

**You are the song the whole earth sings,**

**The promise liberation brings,**

**Now and forever.**

**Amen.**

*Miriam Therese Winter, Woman Prayer, Woman Song, Medical Mission Sisters 1987*

**Hymn:** The King of love my shepherd is.

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

**Readings**: Revelation 7: 9-17, 1 John 3: 1-3.

**Hymn:** Lead kindly light.

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

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 5: 1-12.

**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 heard the voice of Jesus say.

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,

Let us pray to the Lord, who has conquered death.

Jesus, bread from heaven, you satisfy the hungry with good things:

Grant us a share with all the faithful departed in the banquet of your kingdom.

Jesus, the light of the world, you gave the man born blind the gift of sight: open the eye of faith and bring us from darkness to your eternal light and glory.

Jesus, Son of the living God, you summoned your friend Lazarus from death to life: raise us at the last to full and eternal life with you.

Jesus, crucified Saviour, in your dying you entrusted each to the other, Mary your mother and John your beloved disciple: sustain and comfort all who mourn.

Jesus, our way and truth and life, you drew your disciple Thomas from doubt to faith: reveal the resurrection faith to the doubting and the lost.

May God in his infinite love and mercy bring the whole Church, living and departed in the Lord Jesus, to a joyful resurrection and the fulfilment of his eternal kingdom.

Amen.

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:** Alleluia sing to Jesus.

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

**A Commemoration of the Faithful Departed.**

Give rest, O Christ, to your servants with the saints: where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of all: and we are mortal, formed from the dust of the earth, and unto earth shall we return. For so you ordained when you created us, saying: ‘dust you are and to dust you shall return.’ All of us go down to the dust, yet weeping at the grave, we make our song: alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Hear us, O merciful Father, as we remember in love those whom we have placed in your hands. Acknowledge, we pray, the sheep of your own fold, lambs of your own flock, sinners of your own redeeming. Enfold them in the arms of your mercy, in the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and in the glorious company of the saints in light.

**Amen.**

**Blessing:**

May God give you his comfort and his peace,

his light and his joy, in this world and the next;

And the blessing of God almighty,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

be with you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**