**Morning Worship for 22nd 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:**

Eternal Father,

Whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the

Throne of heaven that he might rule

Over all things as Lord and King:

Keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit

And in the bond of peace,

And bring the whole created order

To worship at his feet;

Who is alive and reins 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:** At the name of Jesus.

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

**Readings**: Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24, Ephesians 1: 15-23.

**Hymn:**  Meekness and Majesty.

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

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 25: 31-46.

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

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

**Hymn:** Immortal love for ever full.

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.

**We pray for all those in positions of power, that they may govern with wisdom and integrity, serving the needs of their people.**

**May your reign come; Lord, hear our prayer.**

**We pray for the Church, the sign of your reign, that it may extend your welcome to people of every race and background.**

**May your kingdom come; Lord, hear our prayer.**

**We pray for Christians of every denomination, that together we may come to understand the royal priesthood you bestowed on us in baptism.**

**May your dominion come; Lord, hear our prayer.**

**We pray for those whose commitment to truth brings them into conflict with earthly powers, that they may have the courage to endure.**

**May your rule come; Lord, hear our prayer.**

**We pray for our community of faith that in being attentive to your word we may always worship in spirit and in truth.**

**May your reign come; Lord, hear our prayer.**

**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.**

**May your reign come; Lord, hear our prayer.**

**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.**

**May your reign come; Lord, hear our prayer.**

**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.**

**Loving God, you have taught us that the power of the heart is greater than the power of wealth and might. Hear us as we ray for the fulfilment of your reign. We ask this through Jesus Christ our King; to him be glory and power for ever. Amen.**

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:** We hail thy presence glorious.

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

**The Song of Christ’s Glory.**

**At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow.**

Christ Jesus was in the form of God,

But he did not cling to equality with God.

He emptied himself, taking the form of a servant,

And was born in our human likeness.

Being found in human form, he humbled himself,

And became obedient unto death, even death on a cross;

Therefore, God has highly exalted him,

And bestowed on him the name above ever name,

That, at the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow,

In heaven and on earth and under the earth.

And every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,

To the glory of God the Father.

**At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow.**

**Blessing:**

God the Father,

Who has given to his Son the name above every name,

Strengthen you to proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord.

**Amen.**

God the Son,

Who is our great high priest passed into the heavens,

Plead for you at the right hand of the Father.

**Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,

Who pours out his abundant gifts upon the Church,

Make you faithful servants of Christ our King.

**Amen.**

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

**Amen.**