**Morning Worship for 29th 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 Advent Greeting:**

**Pour down, O heavens, from above,**

**And let the skies rain down righteousness.**

Turn your fierce anger from us, O Lord,

And remember not our sins for ever.

Your holy cities have become a desert,

Zion a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation;

Our holy and beautiful house where our forebears praised you.

**Pour down, O heavens from above,**

**And let the skies rain down righteousness.**

We have sinned and become like one who is unclean;

We have all withered like a leaf,

And our iniquities like the wind have swept us away.

You have hidden your face from us,

And abandoned us to our iniquities.

**Pour down, O heavens from above,**

**And let the skies rain down righteousness.**

You are my witnesses, says the Lord,

And my servant whom I have chosen,

That you may know me and believe me.

I myself am the Lord, and none can snatch away.

**Pour down, O heavens, from above,**

**And let the skies rain down righteousness.**

Comfort my people, comfort them;

My salvation shall not be delayed.

I have swept your offences away like a cloud;

Fear not, for I will save you.

I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Redeemer.

**Pour down, O heavens, from above,**

**And let the skies rain down righteousness.**

**Collect for the day:**

Almighty God,

Give us grace to cast away the works of darkness

And to put on the armour of light,

Now in the time of this mortal life,

In which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;

That on the last day when he shall come again in his

Glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead,

We may rise to the life immortal;

Through him who is alive and reigns with you,

In the unity of the Holy Spirit,

One God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

**Hymn:** All for Jesus.

**Readings**: Isaiah 64:1-9, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9.

**Hymn:** The Lord will come and not be slow.

**Gospel Reading:** Mark 13:24-37.

**Reflection:**

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

**Hymn:** Come thou long expected Jesus.

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

In Joyful expectation of his coming to our aid we pray to Jesus.

Come to your Church as Lord and Judge.

**We pray for perseverance in striving to defeat all that is evil in our world. As we seek to be like Jesus, help us to live in accordance to your will. May Christ the exemplar of our faith in you, be ever with us as we seek to eradicate from our midst those things which cause pain, distress, division and fear amongst your people.**

**We pray at this troubled time for patience and calm within our communities as we hopefully come out of lock-down and 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.**

Help us to live in the light of your coming and give us a longing for your kingdom.

Maranatha: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to your world as King of the nations.

We pray for those elected to lead amongst us, praying for the American President and his staff and for all leaders bearing huge levels of responsibility and expectation from those whom they serve.

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.

Before you rulers will stand in silence.

Maranatha: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to the suffering as Saviour and comforter.

Father hear us as we continue to pray for the NHS, that they would receive all the encouragement 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.

Break into our lives, where we struggle with sickness and distress, and set us free to serve you for ever.

Maranatha: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls.

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.

Give us with all the faithful departed a share in your victory over evil and death.

Maranatha: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come from heaven, Lord Jesus, with power and great glory.

Lift us up to meet you, that with all your saints and angels we may live and reign with you in your new creation.

Maranatha. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay; give new courage to your people, who trust in your love. By your coming, raise us to share in the joy of your kingdom on earth as in heaven, where you live and reign with the Father and the Spirit, one God for ever and 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:** O come, O come, Emmanuel.

**Blessing:**

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;

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