**Morning Worship for 2nd August 2020**

***As we begin this act of worship for the first time in one of our churches we remember all those not able to be with us who are joining us in their own homes, we remember that there are many friends who are doing the same and are joining with us in worship. Although we will not be having hymns in church for those of you at home If you have you-tube then please find an appropriate version of the suggested hymns and join in the singing on-line. 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 Lord and everlasting God,

We beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern

Both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws

And the works of your commandments;

That through your most mighty protection,

Both here and ever,

We may be preserved in body and soul;

Through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,

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**

**We believe, O God of all Gods,**

**That you are the eternal God of life,**

**We believe, O God of all Gods,**

**That you are the eternal God of love.**

**We believe, O God and Maker of all creation,**

**That you are the creator of the high heavens,**

**That you are the creator of the deep seas,**

**That you are the creator of the stable earth.**

**We believe, O God of all the peoples,**

**That you created our souls and set their warp,**

**That you created our bodies and gave them breath,**

**That you made us in your own image.**

**We are giving you worship with our whole lives,**

**We are giving you assent with our whole power,**

**We are giving you our existence with our whole mind,**

**We are giving you kneeling with our whole desire.**

*(From a Celtic Liturgy: Iona Community.)*

**Hymn:** Praise to the Lord the Almighty. **(For those at home only.)**

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

**Readings:** Isaiah 55:1-5, Romans 9:1-5,

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

**Gospel Reading**: Matthew 14: 13-21.

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

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

**Hymn:** Christ from whom all blessings flow. **(For those at home only.)**

In church 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 Church as it seeks to respond afresh to your call in the world. For those Churches who have opened once more for worship, we pray for their Leaders, their Congregations and the Communities for whom they pray. As they rejoice being together in your name in a safe and secure way, may the power of your Holy Spirit rest upon them, wherever they may be in your world.

We pray for all families today, as they begin to celebrate the Summer Season with their children. We pray that they may all keep safe and enjoy quality time together. Here at Sibsey, as we re-open for worship this day, we pray for your guidance to be with us as we seek to ensure a safe and secure environment for all those who have come to share in our fellowship.

We pray for all those Churches and places of worship which are to remain closed for the foreseeable future, we pray for the community of the faithful finding new ways to support and encourage one another and to continue to hold all those around them in the mantle of your love. May the joy of Christ’s love wash over all his people and fill them with peace, hope and comfort.

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 and supplies they need, that they would experience God’s protection in their work, 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.

We continue to pray especially at this time for the hospitality sector and all those seeking to bring joyful participation back into the lives of so many, may they enjoy the return of the means of social engagement whilst seeking to keep themselves and others safe and secure.

We hold before you all whom have lost loved ones throughout this period of change, may they be comforted by your love, and supported throughout their time of sadness.

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:** O for a heart to praise my God. **(For those at home only.)**

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

**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.**