**Morning Worship for 30th August 2020**

***As we begin this act of worship let us 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:**

**Blessed are you, Lord our God,**

**Redeemer and king of all;**

**To you be glory and praise for ever!**

**From the waters of chaos you drew forth the world,**

**And in your great love, fashioned us in your image.**

**May we, the first fruits of your new creation,**

**Rejoice in this new day you have made;**

**May Christ your light ever dawn in our hearts**

**As we offer you our sacrifice of thanks and praise,**

**Father, Son and Holy Spirit:**

**Blessed be God for ever.**

**Collect for the day:**

Almighty and everlasting God,

You are always more ready to hear than we to pray

And to give more than either we desire or deserve:

Pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy,

Forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid

And giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask

But through the merits and mediation

Of 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**

**In Christ Jesus, the law-giving law of the Spirit,**

**Has set us free from the law of sin and death.**

**All who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God;**

**It is the Spirit that enables us to cry ‘Abba!’ Father.**

**The Spirit itself bears witness that we are God’s children;**

**And if God’s children, then heirs of God.**

**We are heirs of God and fellow-heirs with Christ;**

**If we share his sufferings now we shall be glorified with him hereafter.**

**These sufferings that we now endure**

**Are not worth comparing with the glory that shall be revealed.**

**For the creation waits with eager longing**

**For the revealing of the children of God.**

*Romans: 8,2,14,15b-17,19.*

**Hymn:** For the beauty of the earth. **(For those at home only.)**

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

**Readings**: Jeremiah 15: 15-21, Romans 12:9-21,

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

**Gospel Reading**: Matthew 16:21-28.

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

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

**Hymn:** Come down O love divine. **(For those at home only.)**

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 faithful people, we pray that we may learn to set our minds not on human things but on divine ones. Help us always to look ahead to the promise of your kingdom and not be led astray by our own desires.

We continue to hold in our prayers all who are suffering in the Lebanon, may your Holy Spirit of justice and of peace wash over them bringing them the comfort of your merciful grace at this time of tragedy.

We pray for the body of Christ of which we are apart, may we be emboldened to proclaim your Gospel of Peace in a troubled world. May your healing grace reach out to all who are in need, and through your good mercy may they find comfort and joy.

As we continue to live in a world of change, we pray that you will send down your Holy Spirit upon us, that we may be guided to respond to your call, be prepared to be directed into new approaches that will enable the societies of the world to flourish and to stay safe and secure from illness and pain.

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 pray especially for all those known to us from our own worshipping community and indeed from within the communities in which we live and serve you. May you make good your purpose for us as we pray for others, let the love for which we pray be genuine, may we in prayer seek your guidance and so be enabled to hate what is evil and hold fast to what is good.

And finally 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 the hymn or 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.**