**Morning Worship for 9th May 2021**

***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:**

**Alleluia, Christ is risen.**

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

**Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**He has given us new life and hope.**

**He has raised Jesus from the dead.**

**God has claimed us as his own.**

**He has brought us out of darkness.**

**He has made us light to the world.**

**Alleluia. Christ is risen.**

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

**Collect of the day:**

God our redeemer,

You have delivered us from the

Power of darkness and brought us

Into the kingdom of your Son:

Grant, that as by his death

He has recalled us to life,

So by his continual presence in us

He may raise us to eternal joy;

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**

**We believe in God whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives, whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth, whose love was crucified by the evil that waits to enslave us all and whose love defeating even death, is our glorious promise of freedom. Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and full of doubt, in God we trust; and, in the name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves, in the service of others, to seek justice and to live in peace, to care for the earth and to share the commonwealth of God’s goodness, to live in the freedom of forgiveness, and the power of the spirit of love, and in the company of the faithful so to be the Church, for the glory of God. Amen.**

**Hymn:** Rock of ages.

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

**Readings**: Acts 10: 44-end, 1 John 5:1-6.

**Hymn**: Come down O love divine.

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

**Gospel Reading**: John 15:9-17.

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

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

**Hymn:** Breathe on me breath of God.

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.

Jesus said to the disciples, “As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you, abide in my love.”

Heavenly Father as your beloved Son came to love us, as you loved him, let us celebrate love in our prayerful response to you this day. We pray for a world where love will freely flow from all people on the earth, where the power of that love will banish all darkness and evil from our midst. Where racial prejudice, disharmony, gender and sexual inequality will become a thing of the past.

We pray for a world where love of humanity truly counts and give you thanks for those people in our midst who devote themselves in loving others in the pattern of the love revealed to us in Christ Jesus.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

We pray for love to be at the centre of your Church, that others may feel the depth of our love for them and so be truly welcomed into our Christian fellowship. We pray for all who welcome and those with the position of Sides person, who engage with those entering our churches that they may be filled with your grace and so be enabled to be loving beacons of the love of Jesus to all who come to worship.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

We pray that we may all learn to love the beauty of your creation, help us to choose wisely the things we do and the things we use, that we may seek to preserve the integrity of creation. We pray for all ecologists, for conservationists and for all who through their positive engagement with the natural world, are enabled to reflect their love and passion for its abundant glory, thereby encouraging others to respond positively and creatively, giving the natural world the dignity and respect it is owed.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for all who are suffering at this time, praying for all who feel unloved, all who are isolated or feel rejected by others. We pray for those who are ill and receiving the care of others. We pray for all who are known to us personally, and those members of our faith community who so need our love at this time. We give you thanks and praise for our fellowship of faith and pray that we may be encouraged to maintain, build and secure our friendships with others throughout this difficult time.

Lord in your mercy, hear us.

As we pray with those glorious words of Jesus ringing in our hearts: ‘No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends’ let us remember those whom we have recently lost. Lord, we place them into your loving embrace, where in heaven they will be restored into the fullness of your love, and rest eternally with all your faithful servants.

Lord in your mercy, hear us.

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:** Peace perfect peace.

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

**A Song of Triumph:**

**O come, let us sing out to the Lord;**

**Let us shout to the rock of our salvation.**

**Let us come before his face with thanksgiving,**

**And cry out to him joyfully in psalms.**

**For the Lord is a great God,**

**And a great king above all gods.**

**In his hand are the depths of the earth,**

**And the peaks of the mountains are his also.**

**The sea is his and he made it;**

**His hands moulded dry land.**

**Come, let us worship and bow down,**

**And kneel before the Lord our maker.**

**For he is the Lord our God;**

**We are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

**If only you would hear his voice today;**

**For he comes to judge the earth.**

**He shall judge the world with righteousness,**

**And the peoples with his truth.**

**Blessing:**

May the God who shakes heaven and earth,

Whom death could not contain, who lives to disturb and heal us,

Bless you with power to go forth and proclaim the gospel.

**Amen.**