**St John’s, Bourne End**

**worshipping together while we are apart**

**Sunday 28th June 2020**

*I suggest that if there is more than one of you, you choose someone to read the words in normal print and all join in with the words in bold or if you are alone, you silently read the words in normal print and say the words in bold out loud. Try not to rush through the words but allow some time for God to speak to you and you to hear him.*

*Remember, although we may be physically apart, we are together in spirit as we worship God together for we are all part of God’s family at St John’s.*

*Rebecca*

***Gathering***

We come from scattered lives to meet with God.

**Let us recognize his presence with us.**

*Pause to allow us to experience God’s presence with us*

As God’s people we have gathered:

**let us worship him together.**

Almighty God,

your Son has opened for us

a new and living way into your presence.

Give us new hearts and constant wills

to worship you in spirit and in truth;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

***Confession***

Andrew is going to help us think about how our following Christ has an impact on how we think and behave. As we come before God this morning, we are aware that we have not responded to Jesus’ amazing love for us by giving him our soul, our life, our all as we have just sung. There are things we have said and thought and done which have not been good sacrifices to God so

God our Father,

we come to you in sorrow for our sins.

Let’s bring to mind those things we wish to confess to our heavenly Father this morning:

*Pause*

For turning away from you,

and ignoring your will for our lives;

Father, forgive us:

**save us and help us.**

For behaving just as we wish,

without thinking of you;

Father, forgive us:

**save us and help us.**

For failing you by what we do,

and think and say;

Father, forgive us:

**save us and help us.**

For letting ourselves be drawn away from you

by temptations in the world about us;

Father, forgive us:

**save us and help us.**

For living as if we were ashamed

to belong to your Son;

Father, forgive us:

**save us and help us.**

May the Father of all mercies

cleanse us from our sins,

and restore us in his image

to the praise and glory of his name,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

As forgiven people, we pray the words of today’s collect

**God our saviour,
look on this wounded world
in pity and in power;
hold us fast to your promises of peace
won for us by your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

***Praise***

Let’s praise God together by saying the words of Psalm 13 together:

How long, Lord? Will you forget me forever?
    How long will you hide your face from me?
How long must I wrestle with my thoughts
    and day after day have sorrow in my heart?
    How long will my enemy triumph over me?

Look on me and answer, Lord my God.
    Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death,

and my enemy will say, “I have overcome him,”
    and my foes will rejoice when I fall.

But I trust in your unfailing love;
    my heart rejoices in your salvation.
I will sing the Lord’s praise,
    for he has been good to me.

Psalm 13

***Pause for thought***

How has God been good to you this week? What do you want to praise the Lord for?

***Readings***

Matthew 10.40-end

Romans 6.12-end

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

***Talk***

**Andrew Wilcock**

***Pause to reflect***

Spend a few moments thinking about what God is saying to you through the Bible reading and what Andrew has said. How might Jesus be inviting you to think and behave? How might Jesus be challenging you to think and behave?

***Creed***

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,**

**from whom every family**

**in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,**

**who lives in our hearts through faith,**

**and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,**

**who strengthens us**

**with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;**

**Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

**Amen.**

**Prayers**

*Do add your own prayers in the … and please remember to include Rachel and Duncan in your prayers as they join us*

Lord God, through your grace we are your people:

through your Son you have redeemed us;

in your Spirit you have made us as your own.

We pray for … (*new Christians, the Church*)

Make our hearts respond to your love.

Lord, receive our praise

**and hear our prayer.**

We pray for … (*the world, society, the local community*)

Make our lives bear witness to your glory in the world.

Lord, receive our praise

**and hear our prayer.**

We pray for … (*people in need, Christian service*)

Make our wills eager to obey, and our hands ready to heal.

Lord, receive our praise

**and hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for …

Make our voices one with all your people

in heaven and on earth.

Lord of life,

**hear our prayer,**

**and make us one in heart and mind**

**to serve you with joy for ever.**

**Amen.**

We bring our prayers together with the words Jesus taught us

**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.**

***Closing prayer***

*Why not picture the people from St John’s who you would normally see on a Sunday and pray this blessing for all your church family?*

**The Lord bless us and keep us;**

**the Lord make his face shine on us and be gracious to us;**

**the Lord turn his face towards us and give us peace. Amen.**

Based on Numbers 6.24-26

We go into the world to walk in God’s light

to rejoice in God’s love and to reflect God’s glory

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

**In the name of Christ, Amen.**

***Coffee***

*Now, why not make yourself a cup of tea or coffee and then ring someone from St John’s for a chat?*