**St John’s, Bourne End**

**worshipping together while we are apart**

**Sunday 7th June 2020: Trinity Sunday**

*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***

In mystery and grandeur

**we see the face of God**

in earthiness and the ordinary

**we know the love of Christ**

In heights and depths and life and death:

**the spirit of God is moving among us**

Let us praise God the Creator,

**who is filled with glory and power—with holiness and splendour;**

Let us worship God the Saviour,

**who is filled with love and compassion—with justice and peace;**

Let us experience God the Spirit,

**who fills us with faith and joy—with love and eternal life.**

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

We meet in the name of God:

**Father, Son and Holy Spirit**

***Confession***

We have too often exchanged the worship of the living God for idols of our own imagining.

As we gather to offer our praises to the holy and undivided Trinity, and to worship him in spirit and in truth, let us call to mind our sins.

*Pause*

We have not always worshipped God, our creator.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

We have not always followed Christ, our Saviour.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

We have not always trusted in the Spirit, our guide.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

May the Father forgive us by the death of his Son and strengthen us to live in the power of the Spirit all our days. **Amen.**

***Collect***

As forgiven people, we pray the words of the collect

**Holy God, faithful and unchanging:**

**enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth,**

**and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love,**

**that we may truly worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

***Praise***

Let’s praise God with the words of Psalm 8:

Lord, our Lord,
    how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory
    in the heavens.
Through the praise of children and infants
    you have established a stronghold against your enemies,
    to silence the foe and the avenger.
When I consider your heavens,
    the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars,
    which you have set in place,
what is mankind that you are mindful of them,
    human beings that you care for them?

You have made thema little lower than the angels
    and crowned them with glory and honour.

You made them rulers over the works of your hands;
    you put everything under their feet:

all flocks and herds,
    and the animals of the wild,

the birds in the sky,
    and the fish in the sea,
    all that swim the paths of the seas.

Lord, our Lord,
    how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Psalm 8

***Pause for thought***

What do you want to praise God for today?

***Reading***

Matthew 28.16-20

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

***Talk***

**Andrew Wilcock**

***Pause to reflect***

Take a moment to reflect on what God is saying to you through the reading and Andrew’s talk. What is God saying to you about who he is? What might God want you to do about it?

***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**

You might like to use this prayer from St Martin in the Fields to guide your prayers this morning:

**Prayer for lives that matter**

God of Abel and Cain, the one who was slain

and the one who denied complicity or responsibility:

visit those who can’t breathe because of the virus

or because of oppression at the hands of another.

Raise up leaders who offer their people vision and hope;

empower any who dwell in the midst of violence

or live in the face of prejudice;

and make your people a rainbow

that promises plenty at the end of the storm.

In the name of Christ, our brown-skinned Lord,

in the power of the Spirit, who speaks in every tongue. **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

The Lord God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

the holy and undivided Trinity,

guard you, save you,

and bring you to that heavenly city,

where he lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

‘Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.’

Matthew 28.19-20

***Coffee***

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