**St John’s, Bourne End 6th Sept 2020**

**Welcome and *Gathering***

We come from scattered lives to meet with God. Let us recognise his presence with us.

*Silence is kept.*

As God’s people we have gathered:

**let us worship him together.**

***Thanksgiving***

Let us give thanks to God.

For the love of our Father, the maker of all,

the giver of all good things,

let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

For Jesus Christ our Saviour,

who lived and worked among us,

let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

For his suffering and death on the cross

and his resurrection to new life,

let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

For his rule over all things

and his presence in the world,

let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

For the Holy Spirit, the giver of life,

who teaches and guides us,

let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

For the grace of the Spirit

in the work of the Church

and the life of the world,

let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

***Confession***

The gospel calls us to turn away from sin

and be faithful to Christ.

As we offer ourselves to him in penitence and faith, we renew our confidence and trust in his mercy.

*Silence is kept.*

**God of mercy,**

**we acknowledge that we are all sinners.**

**We turn from the wrong that we have thought and said and done,**

**and are mindful of all that we have failed to do. For the sake of Jesus, who died for us,**

**forgive us for all that is past,**

**and help us to live each day**

**in the light of Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May almighty God, who sent his Son into the world to save sinners, bring us his pardon and peace, now and for ever. **Amen.**

***Collect***

**Almighty God,**

**you search us and know us:**

**may we rely on you in strength**

**and rest on you in weakness,**

**now and in all our days;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***Readings***

**Ezekiel 33:7-11**

**7**‘Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. **8**When I say to the wicked, “You wicked person, you will surely die,” and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. **9**But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.

**10**‘Son of man, say to the Israelites, “This is what you are saying: ‘Our offences and sins weigh us down, and we are wasting away because of them. How then can we live?’” **11**Say to them, “As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, people of Israel?”

**Romans 13:8-14**

**8**Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. **9**The commandments, ‘You shall not commit adultery,’ ‘You shall not murder,’ ‘You shall not steal,’ ‘You shall not covet,’ and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ **10**Love does no harm to a neighbour. Therefore love is the fulfilment of the law.

**11**And do this, understanding the present time: the hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. **12**The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armour of light. **13**Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. **14**Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

***Talk***

***‘****Loving your neighbour as yourself’*

***Praise***

Rejoice in the Lord always

**and again I say, ‘Rejoice’.**

The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit

who has been given to us.

**We dwell in him and he in us.**

Give thanks to the Lord

and call upon his name,

**make known his deeds among the peoples.**

Sing to him, sing praises to him,

**and speak of all his marvellous works.**

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty,

**who was and is and is to come.**

***Thanksgiving for the offering***

Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power  
and the glory and the majesty and the splendour,  
for everything in heaven and earth is yours

and of your own do we give you.

**Amen.**

***Prayers***

We gather our prayers together in the words that 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.**

***The Grace***

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.**

***Dismissal***

We go into the world to walk in God’s light, to rejoice in God’s love and to reflect God’s glory.

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