sunnyside**church**

**Worshipping Together While Apart**

**Sunday 3rd May 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.*

*Feel free to join in the songs or just listen to Patrick lead us in worship.*

*Rebecca*

Our children and young people are continuing to meet (thanks to zoom!) during lockdown. They are following the same themes as the grown-ups. Here are some pictures from Grace; thank you for sharing Grace!

 Footprints from the Road to Emmaus

 Grace and her sisters are all ready for Messy Church!

***Call to Worship***

Let’s still our hearts and minds and invite the Holy Spirit to inspire us as we seek to worship God this morning.

We come into his presence confident in the knowledge that each one of us is precious to him.

We come into his presence confident in the knowledge that though we are apart this morning, we are together in spirit.

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

As we come into God’s presence, we are aware that not everything we have said, thought and done this week has been glorifying to him. We are also aware that there is much pain and brokenness in the world because of sin. Take a moment to bring to mind those things you wish to confess to our heavenly Father this morning:

*Pause*

We confess to you our selfishness and lack of love:

fill us with your Spirit.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

We confess to you our fear and failure in sharing our faith:

fill us with your Spirit.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

We confess to you our stubbornness and lack of trust:

fill us with your Spirit.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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.**

**For ‘you were like sheep going astray,’but now you have returned to the**

**Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.**

1 Peter 2.25

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

**Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father’s sheep:
teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

*Today we are going to be thinking about what it means for us to be the sheep and Jesus to be the Shepherd so we say Psalm 23*

**The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.
  He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters,
 he refreshes my soul.
He guides me along the right paths
    for his name’s sake.**

**Even though I walk
    through the darkest valley,**

**I will fear no evil,
    for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
    they comfort me.**

**You prepare a table before me
    in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil;
    my cup overflows.
Surely your goodness and love will follow me
    all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord
    for ever.**

Psalm 23

***Songs***

**Before the throne of God above**

I have a strong and perfect plea

A great High Priest whose name is love

Who ever lives and pleads for me

My name is graven on His hands

My name is written on His heart

I know that while in heav'n He stands

No tongue can bid me thence depart

No tongue can bid me thence depart

When Satan tempts me to despair

And tells me of the guilt within

Upward I look and see Him there

Who made an end of all my sin

Because the sinless Savior died

My sinful soul is counted free

For God the Just is satisfied

To look on Him and pardon me

To look on Him and pardon me

Behold Him there, the risen Lamb

My perfect, spotless Righteousness

The great unchangeable I AM

The King of glory and of grace

One with Himself, I cannot die

My soul is purchased by His blood

My life is hid with Christ on high

With Christ my Saviour and my God

**Who breaks the power of sin and darkness**

Whose love is mighty and so much stronger

The King of Glory, the King above all kings

Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder

And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder

The King of Glory, the King above all kings

*This is amazing grace*

*This is unfailing love*

*That You would take my place*

*That You would bear my cross*

*You lay down Your life*

*That I would be set free*

*Oh, Jesus, I sing for*

*All that You've done for me*

Who brings our chaos back into order

Who makes the orphan a son and daughter

The King of Glory, the King of Glory

Who rules the nations with truth and justice

Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance

The King of Glory, the King above all kings

*This is amazing grace*

*This is unfailing love*

*That You would take my place*

*That You would bear my cross*

*You lay down Your life*

*That I would be set free*

*Oh, Jesus, I sing for*

*All that You've done for me*

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain

Worthy is the King who conquered the grave

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain

Worthy is the King who conquered the grave

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain

Worthy, worthy, worthy

*This is amazing grace*

*This is unfailing love*

*That You would take my place*

*That You would bear my cross*

*You lay down Your life*

*That I would be set free*

*Oh, Jesus, I sing for*

*All that You've done for me*

**The Lord's my Shepherd I'll not want**

He makes me lie in pastures green

He leads me by the still, still waters

His goodness restores my soul

*And I will trust in You alone*

*And I will trust in You alone*

*For Your endless mercy follows me*

*Your goodness will lead me home*

He guides my ways in righteousness

And He anoints my head with oil

And my cup it overflows with joy

I feast on His pure delights

And though I walk the darkest path

I will not fear the evil one

For You are with me

And Your rod and staff

Are the comfort I need to know

***Pause for thought***

Jesus identified his sheep as being those who hear his voice. In what ways do you hear Jesus' voice? Does his voice get drowned out by other voices? What things distract you from listening for him?

In the silence ask Jesus to help you be more attentive to his voice, to hear his call. What does it mean for you to hear Jesus' call and follow him?

***Reading***

John 10.1-10

‘Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognise a stranger’s voice.’ Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them.

Therefore Jesus said again, ‘Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

***Talk***

**Revd Hilary Kemp**

***Pause to reflect***

Let’s spend a moment to listen to what the good shepherd is saying to us this morning.

In the silence let’s ask Jesus to help us be more attentive to his voice, to hear his call.

Let’s ask God to show us what he is calling us to in this season.

And let’s ask the Holy Spirit to help us respond to his call?

***Song***

**A thousand times I've failed**

Still Your mercy remains

And should I stumble again

I'm caught in Your grace

Everlasting

Your light will shine when all else fades

Never ending

Your glory goes beyond all fame

Your will above all else

My purpose remains

The art of losing myself

In bringing You praise

Everlasting

Your light will shine when all else fades

Never ending

Your glory goes beyond all fame

In my heart and my soul

Lord I give You control

Consume me from the inside out,

Lord, let justice and praise

Become my embrace

To love you from the inside out

Everlasting

Your light will shine when all else fades

Never ending

Your glory goes beyond all fame

In my heart and my soul

I give You control

Consume me from the inside out,

Lord, let justice and praise

Become my embrace

To love You from the inside out

Everlasting

Your light will shine when all else fades

Never ending

Your glory goes beyond all fame

And the cry of my heart

Is to bring You praise

From the inside out

Lord my soul cries out

**Prayers**

We are using Psalm 23 to help us pray today:

**The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing** we give thanks for all that God has given us and for all the blessings

of the past week

**He guides me along the right paths** we pray for those who need God’s guidance including our leaders

and those working to help us in the covonavirus crisis

**Even though I walk through the darkest valley**

we pray for the sick, the suffering and those who mourn

**Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life** we pray for the week ahead and ask for eyes to see where God is at

work and how we might share God’s love with others

We bring all our prayers together by praying the prayer 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.**

***Closing song***

**When I call on Your name You answer**When I fall You are there by my side
You delivered me out of darkness
Now I stand in the hope of new life

By grace I'm free
You've rescued me
All I am is Yours

I've found a love, greater than life itself
I've found a hope, stronger and nothing compares
I once was lost, now I'm alive in You

You're my God and my firm foundation
It is You whom I'll trust at all times
I give glory and praise, adoration
To my Saviour who's seated on high

By grace I'm free
You've rescued me
All I am is Yours

I've found a love, greater than life itself
I've found a hope, stronger and nothing compares
I once was lost, now I'm alive in You

Love came down and rescued me
I thank You, I thank You
I once was blind but now I see
I see You, I see You.

I've found a love, greater than life itself
I've found a hope, stronger and nothing compares
I once was lost, now I'm alive in You

***Closing prayer***

*Why not picture the people from Sunnyside who you would normally see on a Sunday and pray this blessing for all of 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

Let us go to love, to grow and to 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 Sunnyside for a chat?*

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