



Worship at home Sunday 15th November

Opening Prayer *'Lord, we come into your awesome presence, from the shadows into your radiance' May the light of your presence guide our worship today. Amen .*

Let's sing this beautiful Hymn

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
be all else but naught to me, save that thou art;
be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord;
be thou my great Father, thy child let me be;
be thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might;
be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower:
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor earth's empty praise:
be thou mine inheritance now and always;
be thou and thou only the first in my heart:
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright Sun,
O grant me its joys after victory is won;
Great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

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Lord Jesus, Light of the World;
You came to turn our world upside down,
or rather the right way up.
God, You came to show us how to truly live, to love and to serve; how to live out the values of your kingdom here on earth. You can show us that with you all things are possible, and even our darkest days can be lightened by Your Presence. Lord, let us allow our lives to be mirrors of Your own. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer - Our Father.....

PSALM 46 **God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.** Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the

mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. **SELAH**

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells. God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.

Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts. **The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. SELAH**

Come and see what the LORD has done, the desolations he has brought on the earth. He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.

He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. SELAH

Let's reflect

This psalm is divided into 3 parts and at the end of each section is the Hebrew word 'Selah'. It's a bit of a mysterious word but is thought to mean **"pause and think about that"**.

We are at the moment well into another national lockdown. If you are struggling in any way at all you are definitely not on your own. Neighbours, friends, family, colleagues... so many experiencing their own struggles right now

SELAH - PAUSE AND THINK ABOUT IT isn't necessarily about pausing to think again about the situation you are in (although it's very healthy to do that and talk about it), but it's deeper and more than.

- It's the pause to think about God as a refuge, strength and help when we are unsteady and weak
- It's the pause to think about God with us when we are alone.

GOD IS A REAL PROMISED PRESENCE.

Having said this, please let's not put ourselves down when you're not doing well.

We are all in this together - on a world level, and locally, we cannot and do not need to do this alone. There are times when we think we need to wait for others to call, talk, ask, but please -

- If you're lonely call someone
- If you're upset let us know
- If you're hurting tell us about it

We are a church family and part of the worldwide Body of Christ - that's incredible. When we sit and worship now on Sundays we are doing so with our 'brothers and sisters' on the island, mainland and around the world, we all care deeply about each other, we all pray. Remember - because of the time differences across the world - every second of every day someone is praying for us - in a while we'll be part of that chain of pray when we pray for 'all those who are suffering'. When we can't pray others are praying for us. Praying for us - asking for our hearts and minds will open sufficiently that we'll sense just a gentle touch, experience just a brief moment of the Lord's presence Psalm 46 promises.



LET'S SING

I HEARD THE VOICE OF JESUS SAY:

'Come unto Me and rest;
Lay down, thou weary one, lay down
Thy head upon My breast.'
I came to Jesus as I was, weary and worn and sad;
I found in Him a resting place, and He has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say: 'behold I freely give
The living water, thirsty one,
Stoop down and drink and live.'
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
And now I live in Him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say: 'I am this dark world's light;
Look unto Me, thy morn shall rise,
And all thy day be bright.'
I looked to Jesus, and I found in Him my Star, my Sun;
And in that light of life I'll walk,
Till travelling days are done.

Our time of prayer

We pray for our brothers and sisters all over the world who are struggling and suffering today
We pray for the hungry and thirsty.....

We pray for those living in fear through war and natural disasters.....

We pray for living with uncertainty and anxious about the continued impact of the Covid pandemic.....

We pray for those who are ill, those facing loneliness, isolation and separation from loved ones;....

Let's take time to be quiet and pray for those we particularly have concern for.....

We thank you Lord that the voice of prayer is never silent for the power of prayer.

Thank you Lord for being with us in prayer. AMEN

As we sing let's sense the unending praise and prayer rising from God's children's voices around the world...

The day thou gavest Lord is ended
The darkness falls at Thy behest;
To Thee our morning hymns ascended,
Thy praise shall sanctify our rest.

We thank Thee that Thy church unsleeping,
While earth rolls onward into light,
Through all the world her watch is keeping,
And rests not now by day or night.

As o'er each continent and island
The dawn leads on another day,
The voice of prayer is never silent,
Nor dies the strain of praise away.

The sun that bids us rest is waking
Our brethren 'neath the western sky,
And hour by hour fresh lips are making
Thy wondrous doings heard on high.

So be it, Lord! Thy throne shall never,
Like earth's proud empires, pass away;
Thy kingdom stands, and grows for ever,
Till all Thy creatures own Thy sway.



A prayer of blessing

As we are sent out to live as children of light;
May we walk in faith, be sustained by hope,
and share the all-embracing love of God
with everyone we meet. Amen.