WORSHIP FOR 10th January 2021

WELCOME EVERYONE TO WORSHIP AT HOME AND IN CHURCHES, INSIDE AND OUTSIDE - **BEST OF ALL, GOD IS WITH US**

A Hymn for us to sing or say:-

Wise men seeking Jesus travelled from afar, Guided on their journey by a beauteous star

But if we desire him, He is close at hand; For our native country, is our Holy Land

Prayerful souls may find him by our quiet lakes, Meet him on our hillsides when the morning breaks

In our fertile cornfields while the sheaves are bound In our busy markets, Jesus may be found

Fishermen talk with him by the great North Sea, As the first disciples did in Galilee

Every town and village in our land might be Made by Jesus' presence like sweet Bethany

He is more than near us if we love him well For He seeketh ever in our hearts to dwell. © John East 1867

LET US PRAY TOGETHER

Father God, when we come to you it is like walking out of darkness into light. There are so many things and experiences that damage and spoil our lives every day. There are so many things that seem to prevent us being the kind of people you meant us to be.

Father, by your Holy Spirit, help us to allow your praise to be at the centre of all we say and do. Help us to be devoted to search and therefore catch glimpses of you at all times, in all places, and even in ourselves. AMEN

PSALM 34:17-18

Righteous people cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the broken-hearts and saves those who are crushed in Spirit. The righteous person may have many

troubles, but the Lord delivers, protects and saves.

LET'S REFLECT - The Christmas celebrations have taken place and by now most will all have put away all the decorations. I actually keep my Christmas cards up until the summer, adding cards from Mothering Sunday, Easter, Father day, and other birthdays in between. Some of us have exchanged gifts over the season and on 6th January - Epiphany - the festival remembering journey of the Wise men, we also remember the gifts given for Jesus.

So this year 'don't forget to give Christ something'. I don't mean in the way we do to 'human' family and friends, this is a different 'giving'...

When King David was running from his enemies he said "This poor man cried out, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles, blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord (Psalm 34 vs 6, 8). The Lord then provided answers, peace, hope and grace.

John Newton who wrote the hymn "Amazing Grace" also wrote another hymn:"Though troubles assail us, and dangers affright,
Though friends should fail us and foes all unite,
Yet one thing secures us, whatever betide,
The promise assures us
"The Lord will provide".

WHAT THEN DO WE GIVE TO CHRIST JESUS?

Christ wants us to give him our troubles.
Others may not want them and we may not wish to share them, but Jesus is glad to bear them, and it indicates our faith and trust in Jesus. Don't hold back, let Jesus bear our burdens as well as our joys, He is our strength, our refuge, and our shield.



A personal prayer

Christ Jesus, loving, full of compassion, bearer of all burdens.

I slowly breathe in the Spirit of you presence......
I open my hands to offer you those things which feel too heavy for me to carry on my own......
Christ Jesus, thank you for supporting me with all I carry, thank you that you can relieve the pressure from my mind and heart.
With all my heart thank you AMEN

We sing or say this song...... O LET THE SON OF GOD ENFOLD YOU

With His Spirit and His love, Let Him fill your heart and satisfy your soul. O let Him have the things that hold you, And His Spirit like a dove Will descend upon your life and make you whole.

O come and sing this song with gladness
As your hearts are filled with joy,
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to His name.
O give Him all your tears and sadness,
Give Him all your years of pain,
And you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.

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LET US PRAY FOR GOD'S WORLD

We pray for an end to war and violence For an easing of suffering For the needs of the hungry, thirsty and homeless to be met

We pray for the control of Covid 19
For an easing of the burden on the NHS and
emergency services
For those in hospitals and hospices and for
those countries without medical facilities

We pray for everyone struggling for whatever reasons

For those who feel low and lonely

For those who are suffering financially

For those who have lost loved ones

We pray for charities working so hard to ease discomfort and offer love
We pray for voluntary services who relentlessly give time and energy

We pray for our loves ones, and for ourselves

Lord receive these, our heartfelt prayers, we know there are so many needs, but we are confident you know every one of them.

In Christ Jesus name we pray AMEN

OUR OFFERING

Thank you Lord for all we have, we are truly blessed. We ask you now to bless the gifts we offer, the ones we lay aside and the ones we have already given. We pray that with your power they will be life-changing in small and great ways. AMEN

All praise to our redeeming Lord Who joins us by his Grace And bids us, each to each restored Together seek His face.

He bids us build each other up And, gathered into one, To our high calling's glorious hope We hand in hand go on.

The gift which he on one bestows

We all delight to prove

The grace through every vessel flows

In purest streams of love

Even now we think and speak the same
And cordially agree
Concentred all, through Jesus name
In perfect harmony.

We all partake the joy of one, the common peace we feel a peace to sensual minds unknown a joy unspeakable

and if our fellowship below
in Jesus be so sweet
what heights of rapture shall we know
when round his throne we meet.
© Charles Wesley

A BLESSING

The blessing of God, Spirit Son and Father, be with us, those we love and those we pray for, now and forever more. AMEN