WORSHIP ON 7th February 2020

<u>Light to our path</u> Jesus is The Light of the Word

As we approach this time of worship We pause to be still To breathe slowly And to re-centre our scattered senses on the presence of God......

LET'S SING OR SAY

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me Break me, melt me, mould me, fill me Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me

AND WE PRAY

Christ the Lord, we look back over these past days & we believe you have revealed yourself to us in delightful and mundane moments.... We stop to remember one of these and to thank you. Christ over all, in all, with all, and through all, help us to give all we have in this worship to you today AMEN



PSALM 119:105 says Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Many young people today can't imagine trying to find their way without the assistance of GPS in their cars and on their phones. Gone are the days of unfolding printed maps as we drive, or stopping at petrol stations to ask for directions.

Those of us who are Christians are like modern users of GPS; think...how can we manage without the guidance of the Bible in our lives? Imagine trying to navigate through life with no direction, no markers, no signs, no moral or spiritual boundaries to ensure we stayed on the right path - it seems impossible for those of us who depend on God's Word. The psalmist put it best, calling God's Word a "lamp" and a "light" for our path. In the psalmist's day, a small oil lamp only lit a few feet of the path at night. It can be that way with Scripture. We know which steps to take today, but trust that our steps will become clearer as we walk by faith into tomorrow.

As we read God's word in our Bibles we find real life stories of people just like us, working their way through life, making mistakes, struggling where to put their next step, praising God, being encouraged by others, experiencing times of doubt and questioning, navigating their way forward through Christ.

We are beginning to move now to a time where we can dare to consider what God desires of us, as Church, moving out of the cloud of Covid 19. We cannot tell when, but in preparation let's all delve into God's Word, our trusted source for guidance, and pray together for direction, to discover how we can meet the needs of so many following this pandemic, what we can offer within what we already do, and in addition. God's work is not all practical, it has to begin with the Spiritual. Over the next weeks and months as we read our Bibles, we could use this prayer, and jot down any thoughts. There's a saying which says "Many hands make 'light' work". Let's read God's Word, get our hands together to see where the 'light' wants us to work.

WE PRAY - Lord, your Word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path, help us to see the way You want us to go. AMEN

LET'S SING OR SAY THIS HYMN Your Words to me are life and health They fortify my soul Enable, guide, and teach my heart To reach its perfect goal.

Your Words to me are light and truth From day to day they show Their wisdom, passing earthly lore, As in their truth I grow

Your Words to me are full of joy Of beauty, peace, and grace; From them I learn your blessed will, through them I see your face. Your Words are perfected in One, Yourself, the living Word: Within my heart your image print In clearest lines, O Lord © George Martin 1865-1937



OUR OFFERING

As a token of our thanks to you generous God, we ask you to bless the gifts we offer now, and those laid aside and offered at other times. AMEN

LET US PRAY:-

Lord, awaken our need of you and make us hungry and thirsty for your Word as individuals and church.

Lord, as we eat our food this week remind us of your spiritual feeding. May the meals we prepare and eat be opportunities for drawing closer to you.

Lord, we pray for all those who need medical treatment, and for those who are in any medical and caring capacity. For those for whom there is no help available, and for all the emergency services.

We thank you Lord for your Word to us in the Holy Bible. As we pray open our minds to hear your silent whispers.

Loving God, we sit quietly and bring to mind personal prayers.....

Lord, the needs of your people are many, we sit in silence for a while acknowledging your presence.....

Thank you Lord for the privilege of prayer, through your son Jesus Christ, AMEN

<u>The Lord's prayer</u> Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, And forgive us our trespasses As we forgive those who trespass against us And lead us not in to temptation But deliver us from evil For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever AMEN

And we sing or say this hymn, renewing our trust in the Lord and receiving His Grace & comfort

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.

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