**YOUR SUNDAY WORSHIP SHEET**

**For 10.30am Sun 29th March – Lent 5**

*READ THIS SECTION BEFORE WORSHIP BEGINS:*

*Here we are again: this is our guide to week 2 of us worshipping the Lord together, but at home.*

*If you have access to Facebook, you can join our worship live on the Lord’s Hill Church Facebook page at 10.30am. This week, as we aren’t allowed to make use of the church building, we’re live streaming from the vicarage, with only me and Catherine able to lead the worship. But in the Holy Spirit, we will all be together.*

*I suggest that you don’t read past this first section of the worship sheet until Sunday morning, so that our worship is fresh for you at that time.*

*Please have a Bible by your side for your use and for those of you who are watching live on Facebook, be ready to access our two songs for today. They will be posted on our FB page just before this live video.*

*………………..*

*WELCOME & INTRODUCTION:*

*Once again I invite you to take this moment to stop whatever else you are doing.*

*This is God’s time. Sit down somewhere comfortably and be still in His presence.*

*Picture again being in church – think* *of those who sit around you; those who are ‘up front.’ Have faith that they are worshipping with you in their own homes right now.*

*Now picture Jesus with you, maybe sitting in an armchair next to you – know that He is really there, because He is.*

*Remember that we are one in the Lord and that we are worshipping God together.*

*We suggest that you say the prayers and readings aloud if you aren’t following the service on FB:*

*SONG TIME: let’s begin with a song of encouragement. If you don’t know the tune, simply read the words below aloud OR, if you’re watching us live, now’s the time to use the link to the first of the two songs that we’ve put up just before this video feed on the church FB page. Join in!*

**God will make a way  
Where there seems to be no way  
He works in ways we cannot see  
He will make a way for me**

**He will be my guide  
Hold me closely to His side  
With love and strength for each new day  
He will make a way.**

**By a roadway in the wilderness, He'll lead me  
And rivers in the desert will I see  
Heaven and Earth will fade but His word will still remain  
And He will do something new today, Yes, God will make a way.**

**NOW REPEAT THE WORDS TWICE: SLOWLY**

*From your Bible read:*

* **Psalms 95 verses 1-7.**
* **And Psalm 96 verse 13**

*We all join together to say the ‘Prayer for the Day’:*

**Gracious Father,**

**You gave up your Son out of love for the world.**

**Lead us to ponder the mysteries of his Passion,**

**that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour’s blood;**

**Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Together we say:*

**God shows His love for us in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**

**Lord, help us now to show our love for you by turning back to you and confessing our sins in penitence and faith.**

*Now spend a few moments in silence recalling your sins and failings, and confessing them to God before together we say:*

**Lord Jesus, you came to reconcile us to one another and to the Father.**

**Lord, have mercy.**

**Lord Jesus, you heal the wounds of sin and division.**

**Christ, have mercy.**

**Lord Jesus, you please for us with your Father.**

**Lord, have mercy.**

*Now together we pray this prayer of forgiveness:*

**Almighty God, you forgive all who truly repent.**

**Have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins;**

**Confirm and strengthen us in all goodness;**

**And keep us in life eternal;**

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

*Now read your Bible Reading – if you’re worshipping in a group, one person should read and the others listen – or listen to the FB video.*

**Ezekiel 37.1-14**

POINTS TO PONDER: instead of a sermon for those not on Facebook.

*Points for reflection*

* This passage is addressed to the Jews in exile in Babylon, 600 years before Jesus, who are suffering greatly and feel as if they are in the grave and without hope
* They were exiled to Babylon from Jerusalem as God’s judgment on their turning away from Him
* Our passage is now a message of hope from God through his Prophet, Ezekiel: ‘I will open your graves and bring you back to your land’
* At the moment we might also feel that our hope has been cut off and that we have no hope
* But we have God’s promise of new life, of restoration. There will be new life after this epidemic, that is God’s promise
* And we have to see that, at least in some ways, this epidemic is God’s judgment on humanity’s turning away from, rejecting, neglecting God
* Then – like Ezekiel – we have to speak God’s promise into life; he had to prophesy to the ‘bones,’ that is, to the Jews in Exile, in order for new life to come. We must constantly pray for new life for all people, and for them to truly turn to God for life and health and peace. We’re still called too to speak of God and his love to those with who we come into contact. God works through us to bring new life!

*Now let’s affirm our faith together:*

**We believe and trust in God the Father.**

**We believe and trust in God the Son**

**We believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit**

**We believe and trust in God the Three in One. Amen**

*Please now pray the following prayers against the coronavirus. They were created by Pete Greig and 24-7 Prayer. If you’re watching the service live on FB, join us by saying the bits in bold aloud with us.*

Lord Jesus Christ, we ask You to protect us from the spread of the coronavirus. You are powerful and merciful: let this be our prayer:

**Have mercy on us, our God, have mercy on us, for in You we take refuge. We will take refuge in the shadow of Your wings until the disaster has passed.** (Psalm 57:1)

Lord of Peace, we remember those living in coronavirus hotspots and those currently in isolation. May they know Your presence in their isolation, Your peace in their turmoil and Your patience in their waiting. Prince of Peace, You are powerful and merciful: let this be their prayer:

**May Your mercy come quickly to meet us, for we are in desperate need. Help us, God our Saviour, for the glory of Your name.** (Psalm 79:8)

God of all Comfort and Counsel, we pray for those who are grieving, reeling from the sudden loss of loved ones. May they find fellowship in their suffering, Your comfort in their loss and Your hope in their despair. We name before You those known to us who are vulnerable and scared – the frail, the sick and the elderly (PAUSE). God of all Comfort, You are powerful and merciful, may this be our prayer:

**He has delivered us from such deadly peril, and He will deliver us again. On Him we have set our hope that He will continue to deliver us.** (2 Corinthians 1:10)

Healing God, we pray for all medical professionals dealing daily with the intense pressures of this crisis. Grant them resilience in weariness, discernment in diagnosis and compassion upon compassion as they care. We thank you for the army of researchers working steadily and quietly towards a cure. Give them clarity, serendipity and unexpected breakthrough today. We ask that You would rise above this present darkness as the Sun of Righteousness with healing in Your rays. May this be our prayer:

**Sovereign Lord, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for You.** (Jeremiah 32:17)

God of all Wisdom, we pray for our leaders: the World Health Organisation, national governments and local leaders too, especially heads of the front line services against this virus. Since You have positioned these people in public service for this hour, we ask You to grant them wisdom beyond their own wisdom to contain this virus, faith beyond their own faith to fight this fear and strength beyond their own strength to sustain vital institutions through this time of turmoil. God of all Wisdom and Counsel, you are powerful and merciful, may this be our prayer:

**God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear.** (Psalm 46:1-2)

Today know you are blessed with the words of Psalm 91:3-7: Surely He will save you from the fowler’s snare and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you will find refuge: His faithfulness will be your shield and rampart. You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday. A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you.

**Answer me when I call to You, my righteous God. Give me relief from my distress: have mercy on me and hear my prayer.** (Psalm 4:1)

May the Lord God Almighty who loves you protect you. May Jesus Christ, His Son who died for you save you. And may the Holy Spirit who broods over the chaos and fills you with His presence, intercede for you and in you for others at this time.

**The Lord will rescue us from every evil attack and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom. To Him be glory forever and ever. Amen.** (2 Timothy 4:18)

*Now we will close our prayers with the Lord’s Prayer and our Church Prayer – which is very relevant right now as we seek to trust God more for so many different parts of our lives that we have taken for granted.*

**Our Father……**

**Spirit lead us where our trust is without borders  
Let us walk upon the waters  
Wherever You would call us. Take us deeper than our feet could ever wander  
And our faith will be made stronger  
In the presence of our Saviour. Amen**

*Now we’ll say the Blessing together:*

**May our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who for us was scourged, loaded with his cross and crucified, keep us always under his protection, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be upon us evermore. Amen**

*And we end today’s worship with our final song, proclaiming the triumph of the Lord.*

*If you’re not worshipping live with us on Facebook, either sing or say the words with joy in your hearts*

*OR switch to the song link in the church FB page just before this video and sing your hearts out along to the music.*

*Thank you for joining our church family today. May God be with you and keep you safe behind the shield of His love throughout the week to come.*

**These are the days of Elijah,  
Declaring the word of the Lord  
And these are the days of Your servant Moses,  
Righteousness being restored.  
And though these are days of great trial,  
Of famine and darkness and sword,  
Still, we are the voice in the desert crying  
"Prepare ye the way of the Lord!"**

**Behold He comes riding on the clouds,  
Shining like the sun at the trumpet call,  
Lift your voice, it's the year of jubilee,  
And out of Zion's hill salvation comes.**

**These are the days of Ezekiel,  
The dry bones becoming as flesh,  
And these are the days of Your servant David,  
Rebuilding a temple of praise.  
These are the days of the harvest,  
The fields are as white in Your world,  
And we are the labourers in Your vineyard,  
Declaring the word of the Lord!**

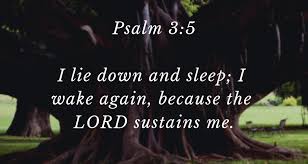
**Behold He comes riding on the clouds,  
Shining like the sun at the trumpet call,  
Lift your voice, it's the year of jubilee,  
And out of Zion's hill salvation comes.**

**There's no God like Jehovah. (SAY THIS LINE LOUDLY at least five times)  
THEN REPEAT THE WHOLE SONG**

*(Words of songs printed under CCLI no 160884)*

*…………………..*

**NIGHT PRAYER**

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**(with a different psalm and reading for this week)**

**The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end. Amen**

**Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth. Amen.**

*Spend a short time reflecting on your day and say sorry to God for anything you have done that you believe would make Him sad.*

**O God, make speed to save us.**  
**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.  
Alleluia.**

**Psalm 31:1-5**

**1In you, Lord, I have taken refuge;  
    let me never be put to shame;  
    deliver me in your righteousness.  
2Turn your ear to me,  
    come quickly to my rescue;  
be my rock of refuge,  
    a strong fortress to save me.  
3Since you are my rock and my fortress,  
    for the sake of your name lead and guide me.  
4Keep me free from the trap that is set for me,  
    for you are my refuge.  
5Into your hands I commit my spirit;  
    deliver me, Lord, my faithful God.**

End with this prayer:

**Search me out, O God, and know my heart.**

**Creator God:  
May every breath I take be for Your glory.  
May every footstep show You as my way.  
As I trust in Your presence in this world,  
may I still be with You, beyond this life,   
where You are alive and reign  
for ever and ever.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**New Testament Reading - 1 Thess. 5.9-10**

**God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. 10He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him.**

*Now say your personal prayers: remembering perhaps five of your neighbouring households and five further afield.*

**Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.  
For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.  
Keep me as the apple of your eye.  
Hide me under the shadow of your wings.**

**Let’s remember that Christ died for us,  
so that, whether we wake or sleep,  
we might live with him.**

In peace we will lie down and sleep;  
For you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety.

**Abide with us, Lord Jesus,  
for the night is at hand and the day is now past.**

**As the night watch looks for the morning,  
so do we look for you, O Christ.**

Visit we beseech you Lord this house.

Drive far away from it all of the snares of the evil one.

May Your holy angels dwell here with us tonight

To keep us in Your peace.

And may Your blessing be upon us this night and forever more.

Amen.