**SUNDAY WORSHIP, 9th AUGUST**

**RUTH**

*Chapter One*

**

*READ THIS SECTION BEFORE WORSHIP BEGINS:*

*Welcome to our worship together, at home or in church. Today – for the first time in a long while - our Facebook live worship is led from in church.*

*Please have a Bible by your side for your use and, for those of you who are watching live on Facebook, we suggest that have the links to today’s two songs already open and set to play as our worship comes to an end -so that you can sing them without delay and with passion!*

*WELCOME & INTRODUCTION:*

*Let us take this moment to stop whatever else we are doing and thinking about.*

*This is God’s time. Sit comfortably. Picture Jesus with you, sitting alongside you and be still with Him. Know He truly loves and cares for you and He can be trusted.*

*Now picture our church family all joining you to worship God in this moment. Know that we are worshipping together, even though we can’t see each other. Remember that we are one in the Lord.*

*If you aren’t following the service on FB, we suggest that, if you are alone, you say the prayers and readings aloud. If you are with others, choose someone to lead and the rest of you join in with the words in bold. On FB, simply join in the words in bold.*

*………..*

Church Family, we come together either on Facebook or as we join in the service by reading the worship sheet at home to praise and worship God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

For the next two Sundays our Vicar, Chris, and his wife Catherine are having a well-deserved break. During that time, as a church family, we are going to begin to study the Book of Ruth from the Old Testament.

There are 4 Chapters in Ruth and we plan to cover one chapter over each of the following four weeks, with Chris and Catherine back on Facebook on Sunday 23rd and 30th August to take us through the final two chapters. But this week and next, the Facebook live worship will be led from church.

So today we begin with the first chapter of Ruth.

**The Greeting**

Grace, mercy and peace be with you from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

**And also with you**

**Opening Prayer**

**Lord Jesus Christ, give us the desire to seek first God’s will in all things. Grant us the honesty to confess our sins, and the humility to receive your forgiveness. Help us to listen to your Word, and show forth your love in lives of service and sacrifice. Amen**

**Confession**

As we remember God’s promises, blessings and His trustworthiness, we also remember the many times we have gone our own way and not been faithful to Him.

*Let us be silent as we remember before God the ways in which we have let Him down over the past week and as we prepare to ask for His forgiveness.*

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

When we are quick to criticise others but slow to praise them,

Lord have mercy **Lord have mercy.**

When we bear grudges and find it hard to forgive,

Christ have mercy **Christ have mercy**

When we think that we alone are right, and impose our views on others,

Lord have mercy **Lord have mercy**

When we let evil go unchallenged and are afraid to speak the truth,

Christ have mercy **Christ have mercy**

When we are preoccupied with ourselves, and give little attention to others,

Lord have mercy **Lord have mercy**

When we trust in in material things more than in God’s unfailing love,

Christ have mercy **Christ have mercy**

**Absolution**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

*We say together a prayer of praise to Father God****.***

**Rejoice in the Lord always!  
Shout out his name!  
For God is with us,  
Our God is with us,  
The God of our salvation,  
In whom alone we trust.**

**Rejoice in the Lord always!  
Shout out his name!  
For God is our Father,  
He draws us home,  
By streams of living water,  
Where we shall thirst no more.**

**Rejoice in the Lord always!  
Shout out his name!  
He knows our thoughts,  
Understands our hearts,  
And enables us to become  
The people we were meant to be. Amen**

*Now read Ruth 1 or listen to it read on FB.*

*THE SERMON:*

*Listen on FB Live.*

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:*

*Now let’s affirm our faith together:*

**We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen**

**Prayers:**

We know you are a faithful and trustworthy Father and in that sure conviction we bring to you the needs of all people.

We pray for our Queen and government and the leaders of all nations, especially at this difficult time as the world continues to battle the coronavirus and the loss and grief it has brought and also the difficult economic circumstances. Please continue to give wisdom to world leaders, politicians, and medical and scientific experts, as they give advice and make decisions on both medical and financial matters.

Lord in your mercy ***Hear our Prayer***

We lift to you our Minister, Chris and his wife, Catherine, as they have some time to themselves. We pray for all those taking holidays at this time, we thank you that they can enjoy time away but pray that each may do so safely. And we pray for all those whose holiday plans have been disrupted. May each one be filled with the joy of knowing your love and closeness.

Lord in your mercy ***Hear our Prayer***

We remember with thanksgiving all those who have died. Strengthen all who mourn, with the sure hope that, in Christ, their loved ones are raised to fullness of life. We pray for all our Church Family; may each know your closeness and peace. We especially lift to you those who are not well at this time, both physically and mentally and those who are finding the isolation very difficult. May each know your healing touch and that you are with them, wherever they may be and will never leave them.

Lord in your mercy ***Hear our Prayer***

Father open our hearts so that each one of us can be your Church, where you dwell and where others can witness your love and faithfulness.

Lord in your mercy ***Hear our Prayer***

**May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen**

Let us continue our prayers by saying together the Lord’s Prayer….

Next our church prayer whose words are taken from the Hillsong United worship song, ‘Oceans’:

**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**

And finally:

**May the love of the Lord Jesus draw us to himself, the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen us in His service, and the joy of the Lord Jesus fill our hearts. Amen**

**The Blessing**

And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon us all and all that we love, this day and forever more. **Amen**

*We invite you to end your worship today by either singing or reading aloud the worship song whose lyrics we’ve included after the words of this service.*

**WORSHIP SONG LYRICS FOR TODAY**

**Great is thy Faithfulness**

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not  
As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be  
  
Great is Thy faithfulness  
Great is Thy faithfulness  
Morning by morning new mercies I see  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me  
  
Summer and winter and springtime and harvest  
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love  
  
Great is Thy faithfulness  
Great is Thy faithfulness  
Morning by morning new mercies I see  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me  
  
Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside

Great is Thy faithfulness  
Great is Thy faithfulness  
Morning by morning new mercies I see  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me  
Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0k1WhFtVp0o>

**The Lord’s My Shepherd**

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.

Chorus

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.

Chorus

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.

Chorus

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.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-eIQQayhpak>

**Words of all songs printed under CCLI no 16884**