**the Bourne Valley Benefice**

**A SERVICE OF CONTEMPLATION & NIGHT prayer**

**24th January 2021**

***WELCOME & OPENING***

*Welcome to this service of Contemplation and Night Prayer. Microphones are muted, but please do join in with the words printed in bold type, and sing along with the hymns. Although there will be no sermon we will direct our thoughts to the themes of healing and turning our lives to God. We will have a short silence after each of the readings, a further silence for listening and contemplation once both readings are complete and silences in the intercessions for your own thoughts and prayers.*

Be swift, O God, to save us.  
**Come quickly, Lord, to help us.**

From the rising of the sun to its setting

**may the Lord’s name be praised.**

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.**

***OPENING HYMN – Jesu, lover of my soul***

Jesu, lover of my soul,  
Let me to Thy bosom fly,  
While the nearer waters roll,  
While the tempest still is high:  
Hide me, O my Saviour, hide,  
Till the storm of life is past;  
Safe into the haven guide;  
O receive my soul at last.

Other refuge have I none,  
Hangs my helpless soul on Thee;  
Leave, ah, leave me not alone,  
Still support and comfort me.  
All my trust on Thee is stayed,  
All my help from Thee I bring;  
Cover my defenceless head  
With the shadow of Thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, art all I want;  
More than all in Thee I find;  
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,  
Heal the sick and lead the blind.  
Just and holy is Thy name,  
I am all unrighteousness;  
False and full of sin I am,  
Thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with Thee is found,  
Grace to cover all my sin;  
Let the healing streams abound;  
Make and keep me pure within.  
Thou of life the fountain art,  
Freely let me take of Thee;  
Spring Thou up within my heart,  
Rise to all eternity.

***CONFESSION OF SIN***

**Most merciful God, we confess to you  
before the whole company of heaven  
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed,  
and in what we have failed to do.  
Forgive us our sins, heal us by your Spirit  
and raise us to new life in Christ. Amen.**

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just,  
and will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**Amen. Thanks be to God.**

***COLLECT***

**God of all mercy, your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,  
release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed:  
anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your people free  
to praise you in Christ our Lord, Amen**

***PSALM 33***

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous,  
for it is good for the just to sing praises.

**Praise the Lord with the lyre;  
on the ten-stringed harp sing his praise.**

Sing for him a new song;  
play skilfully, with shouts of praise.

**For the word of the Lord is true  
and all his works are sure.**

He loves righteousness and justice;  
the earth is full of the loving-kindness of the Lord.

**By the word of the Lord were the heavens made  
and all their host by the breath of his mouth.**

He gathers up the waters of the sea as in a waterskin  
and lays up the deep in his treasury.

**Let all the earth fear the Lord;  
stand in awe of him, all who dwell in the world.**

For he spoke, and it was done;  
he commanded, and it stood fast.

**The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to naught;  
he frustrates the designs of the peoples.**

But the counsel of the Lord shall endure for ever  
and the designs of his heart from generation to generation.

**Happy the nation whose God is the Lord  
and the people he has chosen for his own.**

Our soul waits longingly for the Lord;  
he is our help and our shield.

**Indeed, our heart rejoices in him;  
in his holy name have we put our trust.**

Let your loving-kindness, O Lord, be upon us,  
as we have set our hope on you.

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

***READINGS***

***Epistle:*** Titus 2 v1-14

***Gospel:*** Matthew 4 v12-23

***CONTEMPLATION***

The silence is introduced.

Silence is kept to listen for God’s voice in our hearts.

Heavenly Father,   
we thank you for speaking in our hearts this evening and we respond:**Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to Your word.  
Amen**

***PRAYERS***

***Intercessions***

***Lord’s Prayer***

And now together we say the prayer that Jesus gave us:

**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 them that trespass against us;   
And lead us not into temptation,   
But deliver us from evil.   
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,   
For ever and ever. Amen**

***OFFERTORY***

Even though we cannot pass a collection plate, we are aware of the need to support our local churches through the Parish Giving Scheme, bank standing orders and through practical day-to-day work for the church. If you are not making a regular donation to your church and would like to do so, please contact your church treasurer to set things up. If you can help in other ways, please contact your church warden.

***Offertory Hymn***

Take my life, and let it be  
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;  
Take my moments and my days,  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move  
At the impulse of Thy love;  
Take my feet and let them be  
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing  
Always, only, for my King;  
Take my lips, and let them be  
Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold;  
Not a mite would I withhold;  
Take my intellect, and use  
Every power as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it Thine;  
It shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart; it is Thine own;  
It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
At Thy feet its treasure-store.  
Take myself, and I will be  
Ever, only, all for Thee.

***Offertory blessing***

Generous Creator,   
you have given us riches beyond measure.   
We can return only a fraction of what we owe you;   
but we ask, Lord, that you will bless all our offerings   
and help us to use them wisely in your service   
and for your glory. **Amen.**

***CONCLUSION***

***Nunc Dimittis (Song of Simeon)***

**Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:**

**your word has been fulfilled.**

**My own eyes have seen the salvation**

**which you have prepared in the sight of every people:**

**a light to reveal you to the nations**

**and the glory of your people Israel.**

**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.**

Lord our God,  
at the ending of this day,  
and in the darkness and silence of this night,  
cover us with healing and forgiveness,  
that we may take our rest in peace  
and ever turn our lives to your service;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**We will lie down in peace and take our rest;  
for you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety.**

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,   
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen**