**Worship Sheet – Sunday 26th July 2020**

**Entering God’s presence**

Take a moment to notice how you are as you come to worship. What blessings are you aware of? What challenges? Surrounded and enfolded by God’s love may you receive all that you need and release all that can be let go into God’s hands. Be and know that your being is enough.

**Hymn: Through the love of God our Saviour (STF 639)**

Sing/ Read /pray /proclaim the words or listen to it here

<https://youtu.be/3ZctyTRUr3o>

Through the love of God our Saviour

all will be well.

Free and changeless is his favour;

all, all is well.

Precious is the blood that healed us,

perfect is the grace that sealed us,

strong the hand stretched forth to shield us;

all must be well.

Though we pass through tribulation,

all will be well.

Christ has purchased full salvation,

all, all is well.

Happy still in God confiding,

fruitful, if in Christ abiding,

holy, through the Spirit’s guiding;

all must be well.

We expect a bright tomorrow

all will be well.

Faith can sing through days of sorrow

all, all is well.

On our Father’s love relying,

Jesus every need supplying,

then in living or in dying,

all must be well.

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**Prayer**

God whose story of grace and hope, promise and presence, gifting and sustaining is sown into the fabric of creation, and woven into our lives we praise you. For the rooting of our faith in the everyday, the expanding of our sense of wonder, the using of our lives to tell your story we praise you.

Forgive us when we hoard your blessings, and share only with those who are like us. Forgive us when we allow the yeast of our faith to go flat, when we fail to see the small signs of your kingdom all around us, when instead of casting our nets we choose the safety of the shore. In forgiving us, renew and re-vision us.

Grant us the courage of the mustard seed that we might not be overwhelmed by a sense of our inadequacy; the patience of the yeast that we might not try to act outside of your timing, the wisdom of the merchant that we might be willing to surrender all for what is truly eternal, the strength of the net that we might bear all things without ripping.

Empower us to find fresh ways to tell your unchanging story, resource us with treasures beyond our imagining as we journey in your company and bless us as we call upon your name with open hearts and minds. Amen.

**God’s word:** Read one or more of these passages and allow time and space for God to speak though his word: 1 Kings 3: 5 – 12, Psalm 119: 129 – 136, Romans 8: 26 – 39, Matthew 13: 31 – 33, 44 - 52.

**To savour:** Read the following slowly and be attentive to God’s accompanying you.

**Mustard Seed** by Steve Garnaas-Holmes

You are a mustard seed of justice.
Never mind the smallness of your witness.

The wound is deep, the sickness is awful,
the hunger is great.
But you are a mustard seed of healing and justice.
Immeasurable divine fruit is hidden
in the smallest acts of love and courage.
It's not about you. It's the power you contain.

You are a mustard seed of justice.
But only when you are sown.

**Look and think:**

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What secrets are within this image?

What hidden gems go you see in your daily living?

How might we make the kingdom of heaven more visible?

**Prayers of intercession** (from Roots)

Gracious God, come by your Spirit.

God sooth our aching, groaning souls:

Laden by illness and fear resulting from a virus that we weren't expecting;

Debilitated by our inability to understand and our anxiety about our whole way of life.

God poke our aching, groaning souls and prompt us to remember all those who

have dealt with illness and fear for decades in places that have almost been

forgotten. Let our own distress imprint the need of others and stop our selfishness.

God help our aching, groaning souls:

troubled by anxiety and loneliness, facing the absence of touch and love. All the

greetings of society absent and the sudden realisation that all we know seems to

have been stolen and disrupted

God press our aching, groaning souls to action for lives have been disrupted and

broken by war and famine and still we see people as other. Let our own discomfort

prompt us to be more generous and loving to those facing displacement.

God bless our aching, groaning souls and teach us again how to trust in you.

Grant us forgiveness and love in equal measure for we know that you are a God that

offers life in all its fullness .

May we be a bridge of that promise to others.

Amen. (From ‘The Vine’ written by Jane Bingham)

The Lord’s Prayer

**Listen & Sing:**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty <https://youtu.be/rCnQNwQG5GI>

I want to be a history maker <https://youtu.be/tjLDMsYYAxM>

Hear the call of the kingdom <https://youtu.be/gDfuGb89x_8>

The kingdom of God is justice and joy <https://youtu.be/mOrkdW5NAM0>

**Family worship for Sunday** (for family worship: [**www.rootsontheweb.com/familiesathome**](http://www.rootsontheweb.com/familiesathome)**26july**)

**Blessing:**

Go now secure in the love of God from which nothing can separate you.

Delight in seeking the Lord - look always for the power and the presence of God,

and let love, like yeast in dough, permeate all you do.

And may God work for good in all things for you;

May Christ Jesus conform you in the image of his love;

And may the Holy Spirit help you in your weakness,

interceding for you, and in you, according to the will of God.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,

In the name of Christ. Amen.

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‘The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.’ Philippians 4: 5 – 6