**Worship Sheet – Sunday 23rd August 2020**

**Entering God’s presence**

Take a moment to notice how you are as you come to worship. How have encountered God this week? 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. Just be, and know that your being is enough.

**Hymn: O Thou who camest from above (STF 564)** – read/pray/listen to it here <https://youtu.be/uMRSFGHCBpQ>

O thou who camest from above

the pure celestial fire to impart,

kindle a flame of sacred love

on the mean later of my heart!

There let it for thy glory burn

with inextinguishable blaze,

and trembling to its source return,

in humble prayer and fervent praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart’s desire

to work, and speak, and think for thee;

still let me guard the holy fire,

and still stir up thy gift in me.

Ready for all thy perfect will,

my acts of faith and love repeat,

till death thy endless mercies seal,

and make the sacrifice complete.

© Charles Wesley (1707 – 1788)

**Prayer** (from ‘Roots’)

Lord Jesus, you are the key to our joy, and we praise you.

You are the key to our healing, and we worship you.

You are the key to our future, and we trust you.

You are the key to our uncertainty.

Come into our hearts to unlock within us all that needs freeing. Amen.

**God’s word:** Read one or more of these passages and allow time and space for God to speak though his word: Isaiah 51: 1 – 6, Psalm 138, Romans 12: 1 – 8, Matthew 16: 13 - 20.

**To savour:** Complete the following activity slowly and be attentive to God’s accompanying you. What resonates? What is God’s invitation to you?

Take a key and sit quietly with it in your hand. Ask God prayerfully what the key presents in your life now. Are there doors you might need to close; what doors might are awaiting your opening of them?

What feelings might the key represent? As you sit with the key notice what stirs within you. Who could you share your reflections with?

**Look and think:**

* How might this represent things we can put our trust in?
* What looms over some of the stories you live by?
* What dominates your experience/landscape of trust?

**A tall building

Description automatically generated**

**Prayers of intercession** (from ‘Roots’)

Compassionate Lord, we pray for those bound by physical frailty:  
may they be loosed from frustration or despair.

We pray for those bound by the violence of others:  
may they be loosed from the power of oppression.

We pray for those bound by corrupt governments and oppressive regimes:  
may they be loosed by your justice.

We pray for those bound by addictions:  
may they be loosed by your healing.

We pray for those who are ill, especially…  
may they loosed by care or skill.

We pray for those bound by grief:  
may they be loosed by your comfort.

We pray for ourselves, for one another,  
that all that binds us may be loosed by these prayers,  
which we make in Jesus’ name. Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer

**Listen & Sing:**

Faithful one, so unchanging https://youtu.be/HROSwkRwpPI

I will build my church <https://youtu.be/T5c2fhWDWwc>

Now thank we all our God <https://youtu.be/ItfKjxkXhMk>

The Church’s one foundation <https://youtu.be/jotNbcFelX4>

**Family worship for Sunday** (for family worship: [**www.rootsontheweb.com/familiesathome**](http://www.rootsontheweb.com/familiesathome)**23aug**)

**Blessing:**

Go now in God’s company. May God be the rock on which you build, the key you carry with you and the one you proclaim as Lord and Saviour. In your going may God’s blessing wrap you round and keep you, those whom you love and those for whom you pray today and every day. Amen

‘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