

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> January

Truly my soul finds rest in God; my salvation comes from him.  
Truly he is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will  
never be shaken. Psalm 62: 1

Let us come from our everyday and our routine  
and meet with God – the one who gives us rest. At a time  
when we feel so much has been limited and restricted, let us  
once again be assured that with God as our refuge, our  
fortress we can never be shaken.

Let us pray

Loving Lord, thank you that you meet us where we are,  
in the middle and muddle of our daily tasks.

Help us to hear your call, to recognise your voice,  
and to respond to your invitation as we worship together – in  
different homes and at different times but together with you.  
May we once more allow you to speak into our lives, calling  
us forward, calling us onward in the company and strength of  
Jesus Christ our Lord AMEN

May the net in which we have been caught, be extended to  
others in our actions and in our words.

May the call of Jesus in our lives be echoed in our actions and  
in our words.

May the love we have received be shown in our actions and  
in our words. And may you each know God's blessing of  
grace, love, forgiveness and mercy from beginning to end of  
this day and always AMEN

Father God, even in the midst of what seems a time of scarcity and limitation we can recognise your blessings in our lives. Each morning the sun rises and we enjoy the hope and potential of a new day. Each night the same sun sets and we are able to retire to a safe slumber and familiar surroundings. That is your constant gift to us and each day we have the opportunity to live our lives for you, to share the love and care and grace we have received in abundance. Every day we have the chance to start over.

Yet if we are honest we know that many of those days are not spent showing and sharing your love. Much of our time is spent complaining and grumbling, focusing on the things we feel we have lost rather than on the things that remain. So forgive us for choosing to live in the world's fear rather than your strength. Forgive us when the fear of standing up for what is right causes us to remain silent. Forgive us when the fear of giving generously causes us to remain tight fisted. Forgive us when the fear of having to change causes us to remain frozen into a mould of prejudice and bias. We are sorry, Lord, for giving in to our fears. We're sorry for allowing social or family pressures to influence our decisions. Help us to respond to your call without hesitation. And help us going forward to lean on you, to trust in you, to learn from you, to follow you and even now to pray to you saying 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 those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom the power and the glory. Forever and ever. AMEN .

