

Sunday 29th August

The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning.
Lamentations 3: 22-23

Begin afresh each morning. That is the promise made in Lamentations and it brings us hope and encouragement. What has gone before is past and we can start afresh. Not in our own strength or wisdom but with God's never ending love and fresh mercies each day.
In that assurance let us pray.

Ceaseless mercies, endless love, great faithfulness. Even thinking on those words instils an awe and wonder within us and so we sit in that presence of majesty and might, a presence of tenderness and peace, the very presence of God and in that presence we find welcome. This is the time of welcome from our heavenly Father. So come and know you have a place AMEN

Jesus knew how his story would unfold. Our stories are unfolding in front of our eyes, stories tied up and entwined with Jesus, stories that show the world the love of God in our lives, the teaching of Jesus reflected in our decisions
and the power of the Holy Spirit in our collective actions.

As we leave this place may this inspire us and comfort us as we go in the blessing of Father Son and Holy Spirit AMEN.

God who is good all of the time, God who is whole all in yourself, God who is true all for the Way, we welcome you even as you welcome us now. We praise you.

There is nothing fickle in you, for you have shown that you are true to your Word and to your heart of love.

You sent your Son and he showed us you: completely, irrevocably, good, loving. Steadfast in your desire for us to know you. So let us once again hear you speak into our situations, into our lives, into our hopes and our worries and may this time be an opportunity to grow closer to one another and to you.

We know that we get it wrong so often. Not as good as we could be, not as loving as we should be, and shaky in our faith and service.

So draw us into a new place where we see the path to your purpose clearly and where we can walk straight and sure into your purpose for us, for your church, for the world, following Jesus.

Jesus knew the path he had to take. He asked his friends for support but they failed him. Jesus found the strength to go on and do what he knew was right.

As the body of Christ, we are called to take a similar path, to a cross of our own and beyond.

God give us the strength we need. Refresh us and encourage us so that we do not fail you. Give us wisdom and energy, discernment and excitement, vision and hope and hear us as we say together 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.