**Daily Prayer and Encouragement – 19th March 2020**

**Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed,**
**for his compassions never fail.**
**They are new every morning;**
**great is your faithfulness.**
**I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion;**
**therefore I will wait for him."**

**The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him,**
**to the one who seeks him;**

**it is good to wait quietly**
**for the salvation of the Lord.**

**Lamentations 3: 22 – 26**

If there is one word that I have heard more than any other in the last few days it is 'unprecedented', and it has certainly been used accurately! There are all sorts of circumstances that we find ourselves in today that were unknown to us even last week. But I want to encourage you with something that is certainly not unprecedented (is 'precedented' a word?!), and that is the steadfast love and faithfulness of God. It is tried and tested, unchanging, unwavering, entirely trustworthy. These verses were not written at a time when everything was rosy – far from it – they were written at a time of great national pain and uncertainty. As we watch and wait to see how the days ahead unfold, let's remind ourselves often of the goodness and faithfulness of God.

Father, we thank you that you are unwaveringly good; that you are far better than we think you are! Today we choose to lift our eyes to Jesus, and to trust you. Thank you that when everything else is changing around us, you are the same, yesterday, today and forever. Our confidence is in you Lord. We pray today for those who are responsible for making decisions for our nation. We thank you for the leadership of the Government and we ask you to give them wisdom and direction. We ask you to push back the advance of this virus and to protect and heal those that are currently unwell. In the eternal name of Jesus. Amen

Yours in Christ Jesus

Sarah

Rev. Sarah Pix