**Sunday 29th March**

Psalm 139: 7 -12

Where can I go from your Spirit?
    Where can I flee from your presence?
**8**If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
    if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.
**9**If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
    if I settle on the far side of the sea,
**10**even there your hand will guide me,
    your right hand will hold me fast.
**11**If I say, ‘Surely the darkness will hide me
    and the light become night around me,’
**12**even the darkness will not be dark to you;
    the night will shine like the day,
    for darkness is as light to you.

Isn’t it good to know that we are never alone! There is something about this passage that reminds me of a game of hide-and-seek with a formidable seeker! There is no-where that we can go where God isn’t already there, no-where beyond his reach. And He is determined as well. He won’t give up on us! Many of us are living through these days with far less connection with other people than we are used to. That may be great for some of the introverts amongst us! But many others will be craving the company of friends and family. Although that will be more limited for a time, I want us to remember the truth that we are never alone! The last recorded words of Jesus in Matthew’s Gospel are: ‘Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age’ (Matt. 28: 20). We haven’t got to the end of the age yet!

Lord, thank you that you promise that you will never leave us. We ask you today that we will sense your presence – that you will be more than just head knowledge, and that we will experience your incredible love. We pray for those that we know who are alone at this time, particularly those for whom loneliness is painful and difficult. We ask that they would call on your name, and know your peace and provision. We pray that you will comfort those that are recently bereaved. Thank you that with you, night can shine like the day. Illuminate their lives with your presence we pray. In Jesus’ name. Amen

