**Saturday 4th April**

Isaiah 42: 16

I will lead the blind by ways they have not known,
    along unfamiliar paths I will guide them;
I will turn the darkness into light before them
    and make the rough places smooth.
These are the things I will do;
    I will not forsake them.

A couple of months ago, my 7-year old became really taken with the verse. I thought it was rather an unusual choice! She learnt it by heart and recited it regularly. But today it has given me fresh insight into our current situation. As a nation, as a global community, we are in unchartered territory, we are on unfamiliar paths. We don’t know how the pandemic will unfold. We don’t know how long we will be on the ways of social distancing and quarantine. We are blind to how it will all proceed. But into all of that unknowing speaks the One who sees all things, and who knows all things. He knows the end from the beginning. He is not uncertain. And we have his promise: even with all this uncertainty, he will turn the darkness into light, he will make the rough places smooth, he will not forsake us! Wow! This verse has become a favourite for me as well.

*Lord, thank you that you are all-knowing, all-loving, all-good! We worship you today that our lives are in your hands, and you are supremely trustworthy. Thank you that when we can’t see and don’t know the way to go, you still guide us, and bring your transforming power to work in us. Thank you that you will never leave us! Today we pray for those responsible for making decisions, at a time when they are dealing with things that are unknown. We ask you Lord for your sovereign guidance and wisdom. We pray that you will stop this pandemic in its tracks and that the number of people getting ill will dramatically reduce. To your praise and glory. Amen*

