**Wednesday 10th June**

Habakkuk 3: 19

The Sovereign Lord is my strength;
    he makes my feet like the feet of a deer,
    he enables me to tread on the heights.

I have been thinking a lot recently about the things that shape our thinking and determine how we see the world.  The Lord has much to say to us about this. (If you are joining us for online services, you will find that we will be addressing this further over the coming weeks).

This beautiful verse from Habakkuk (a rather little-known prophet in the Old Testament) paints a picture of a fleet-footed deer, ascending the craggy and precipitous peaks of a mountain. If you’ve ever stood at the foot of a mountain with the intention of climbing it, it can feel overwhelming – impossible even. It can be tempting to try to find an easier route, or to avoid the struggle of the climb. But when you reach the summit, the rewards are great! Perhaps looking at the future from the vantage point of today feels a bit like being faced with an impossible mountain. But if we have put our trust in Jesus, we can say, along with Habakkuk, ‘The Sovereign Lord is my strength’. Not just that he gives us strength, but that He is our strength. He is Sovereign – he has the overview – He has the full perspective. And He calls us forward. He calls us higher. As we follow Him, taking each step in His strength, so we begin to see things differently. Our perspective changes, just as your perspective changes from the base of a mountain, as you ascend a mountain, and when you reach the heights.

*Father, would you take us higher today? We confess that sometimes the road ahead looks overwhelming, but thank you that you are Sovereign and you are our strength. Guide us as we continue to journey with you. Protect us when we feel discouraged. And help us to see our lives, our communities and our world from your perspective. As you reveal to us your heart, draw us to pray in line with your will. In Jesus name. Amen*

PS Do join with our ‘Pray for our Communities’ at 6.30 pm on your doorstep, at your gate, or prayer walking down your street. What is God’s heart for the people in your neighbourhood? How does He want to bless, heal and bring them hope?

