Wednesday 13th January

I won't use this during prayers but you might like to listen to it in a quiet moment either before or after our time together. It's based on the reading from 1 Corinthians that is one of the suggestions for morning prayer in the lectionary for the 13th January.

Eye Has Not Seen - YouTube

Eye has not seen, ear has not heard what God has ready for those who love him; Spirit of love, come, give us the mind of Jesus, teach us the wisdom of God.

Opening Prayer

God of a deep and deepening peace, God of a calm that steadies our pace: may we take whatever moment we need to gather ourselves for the journey ahead. May we feel the rock of your presence beneath us; the assurance of shelter you provide in embrace; and the promise of company gathered close by your spirit; so that as we approach the unknown ahead we remember a strength that can never give way.

Amen.

From the Corrymeela Community, Prayers in a time of pandemic

Reading: 1 Corinthians 2

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

"What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is

truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

"For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?"

But we have the mind of Christ.

NRSV

Silence and reflection

Let us pray.

God of life, you have created every human being in your image and likeness. We sing your praise for the gift of our many cultures, expressions of faith, traditions and ethnicities. Grant us the courage always to stand against injustice and hatred based on race, class, gender, religion, and fear of those not like ourselves.

God of peace, God of love, in you is our hope!

Merciful God, you have shown us in Christ that we are one in you. Teach us to use this gift in the world so that believers of all faiths in every country may be able to listen to each other and live in peace.

God of peace, God of love, in you is our hope!

O Jesus, you came into the world and shared fully in our humanity. You know the hardships of life for people who suffer in so many different ways. May the Spirit of compassion move us to share our time, life and goods with all those in need.

God of peace, God of love, in you is our hope!

Holy Spirit, you hear the fury of your wounded creation and the cries of those already suffering from climate change. Guide us toward new behaviours. May we learn to live in harmony as part of your creation.

God of peace, God of love, in you is our hope!

And for the needs of the communities in which we live and work, and for all people, especially those in our circles of connection who are living with extra burdens and difficulties today.

We pray for Just wondered if we can say a prayers for Jane William's daughter. Jane is one of our LPA/LWL tutors in Lyme Bay Deanery and she sent this message through yesterday afternoon.

If you've got spare prayers, would you please pray for my daughter, Lia (28 and severely disabled), she's probably got a chest infection but her oxygen levels are too low so her carers have called an ambulance which is understandably taking a long time, (and of course we're not allowed to be with her).

With the words that Jesus taught us, let us now pray together:

Our Father...

Spirituality and solidarity are inseparably linked. Prayer and action belong together. When we abide in Christ, we receive the Spirit of courage and wisdom to act against all injustice and oppression. We say together:

Pray and work that God may reign. Throughout your day let the Word of God breathe life into work and rest. Maintain inner silence in all things so as to dwell in Christ. Be filled with the spirit of the Beatitudes: joy, simplicity, mercy.

These words are recited daily by the Sisters of the Grandchamp Community.

Be one, so that the world may believe! Abide in God's love, go into the world and bear the fruits of this love.

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and all peace in faith, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Resources for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2021 – including the slide show images

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2021 (ctbi.org.uk)