Jesus, we love you, and know that you love us.
Help us to understand how you want us to behave: towards you and towards others.
Amen.



## Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May

You make yourself known to us, and you are present in our lives even though we do not always recognise or acknowledge you. For all that you are, we thank you, loving God.

You do not leave us orphaned, but embrace us with parental love that encourages and comforts us. For all that you are, we thank you, loving God.

You ensure that we are not alone by filling us with your Spirit of truth, that inspires and empowers us. For all that you are, we thank you, loving God.

Thank you, Father, for your presence, your love and your encouragement. **Amen.** 

## Accentuate the Positive!

At this time it can be difficult to focus on the positive but we need to focus on the good things in life at the moment.

This week I give thanks for the following positives:

- Colleagues at work for their friendship and the laughter and support we have shared this week.
- Helpful & friendly bus drivers my usual bus stop was closed on Monday morning so I had to dash to the next one at the bottom of Lord Lane and inevitably the bus came down the road before I reached the bus stop but driver stopped for me and said "We always look after our regular customers"
- A friend from choir has had a nephew in Intensive Care on a ventilator for 5 weeks and this week she messaged with the news that he has been discharged from hospital and is at home. Praise the Lord!

Elizabeth

## Sing a new song worship activity

Actor, comedian and writer Matt Lucas reworked his famous song 'Thank You Baked Potato', to raise awareness of and money for the NHS during the coronavirus pandemic.

Why not have some fun and become a songwriter yourself by taking a really well-known hymn tune and writing some new fun lyrics, which say something about the spirit of love you have seen exhibited in the place where you live and say 'thank you' to those who help and comfort you. For example, I might be inspired to write about someone living near us who is hanging sweets from the tree overhanging their front garden wall as treats for passers-by, to the tune of 'Thine be the glory':

'Hey, lovely neighbours, thank you for the sweets, dangling in your garden, showering us with treats.

The first time that I saw them I thought it looked quite odd, but your bright-coloured gift-tree made me give thanks to God!'

I'm sure you can do better, but hopefully you get the idea! As the given psalm for this week, Psalm 66.8-20, sings in verse eight: 'Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard'!

By Tim Lowe minister of the United Reformed Church, serving with St Andrew's Roundhay, in Leeds.

Please send me any good news, positive moments, prayer requests or new songs you have written!

Please let me know by Wednesday evening so I can include in next week's prayer/newsletter. Thanks Elizabeth

## Prayer for the week

I am your child O God Help me always to show love And fill me with the Spirit of truth. Amen