


**Worship ... Service ...Witness ... in the name of Jesus**

## **Beckminster Welcomes You**

**Check Out Our Website @ [www.beckminsterchurch](http://www.beckminsterchurch)**


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Dear Friends

As we all know we are living in very trying and difficult times. We are required by current circumstances to suddenly change the way we have been used to live. This coincides with the period during which we, as Christians, join Jesus on the most challenging journey of his life and ministry; this would inevitably lead to his death on the cross. Fortunately the cross wasn't the end; three days later he rose and changed his disciples' despair and confusion into a new life of celebration. I am probably repeating a message you have heard many times; but I feel it is important to remind each other of the added challenge we have as Christians; to keep hope and confidence that Jesus is with us at this time of great uncertainty and that we will get through this.

The leadership of our church at Beckminster would like to inform you that our premises - including the church Office - are closed until further notice. We will continue to communicate to you through the website, telephone and email about any change or new development. In the meantime please let us double our efforts to

look after and care for each other. You will be amazed at how much a simple telephone call or an email can mean to somebody who would otherwise feel isolated.

A colleague of mine emailed the poem below which I found very meaningful and relevant to how we feel at the moment.

The Lord is with us.

Paul

### **Pandemic**

What if you thought of it  
as the Jews consider the Sabbath—  
the most sacred of times?

Cease from travel.

Cease from buying and selling.

Give up, just for now,  
on trying to make the world  
different than it is.

Sing. Pray.

Touch only those to whom you commit your life.

Center down.

And when your body has become still,  
reach out with your heart.

Know that we are connected  
in ways that are terrifying and beautiful.

(You could hardly deny it now.)

Know that our lives  
are in one another's hands.

(Surely, that has come clear.)

Do not reach out your hands.

Reach out your heart.

Reach out your words.

Reach out all the tendrils  
of compassion that move, invisibly,  
where we cannot touch.

Promise this world your love—  
for better or for worse,  
in sickness and in health,  
so long as we all shall live.

Lynn Ungar 3/11/20

As you know our church at Beckminster is closed for worship from now until further notice. After careful consideration the leadership has taken the decision that from Sunday, 29th March the church sanctuary will be open from 10.00am to 12 noon to offer space for individual quiet mediation or silent reflection. Members will be encouraged to stay as little or as long as they wish. It could be 5 minutes, 20 minutes or half an hour. Given the size of our sanctuary, social distancing will be possible and it is hoped that people will come and go throughout those two hours. Appropriate organ music or on a CD will be played during some of the time of silence.

Coffee Bar will not be open nor any other gathering - before or after - will be encouraged.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation

Paul

**CHURCH ADMINISTRATION.** As I am now working from home can you please send any emails to me on [info@beckminsterchurch.co.uk](mailto:info@beckminsterchurch.co.uk) and telephone me on 01902 761322. Sue