**Saturday 25th July**

Colossians 1: 15-17

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

There is an apocryphal tale of a child at Sunday school whose teacher asked the class, ‘what is grey, lives in a tree and has a bushy tale?’ A little boy piped up, ‘Well I know the answer must be Jesus, but it sure sounds like a squirrel!’

The answer must be Jesus! The little boy was used to giving the right answers. But actually, to every question of substance, the answer IS Jesus, or at least, the answer can be found in Him. In these verses, Paul is seeking adequate words to describe the eternal nature and supremacy of Jesus. Before the world was created, Jesus was there, one with the Father.

The universe, visible and invisible, came into existence through Jesus. His is the first and the last, the beginning and the end, the One who reigns high over all, the One who gave Himself for us, so that we could know God, and belong to Him. He is the solution to every question, problem or difficulty we could experience or imagine. I was talking to someone earlier today, and we were encouraging one another with the truth that although the future seems uncertain and unknown, Jesus is already there.

*Lord Jesus, King of kings, great and wonderful Saviour, we praise you, that in you all things hold together. We worship you because you didn’t just create the world and retreat, but you are intimately involved in sustaining life, and every good gift comes from you. We thank you that we have the assurance and security of knowing you, and you know the future – that you are already there, and that you will lead and guide us if we look to you. Amen*