**Monday 1st June**

For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking,

but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

Romans 14: 17

Paul wrote these words to the church in Rome, addressing some of the questions they had about what it is permissible for a Christian to eat or drink. But in this verse Paul refocuses them on what really counts. He describes the attributes of the kingdom – righteous, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Anyone up for more of that? My hand shot up! Isn’t this just what we need in our world today? In the last few days we have heard of the shocking police brutality case in Miami where George Floyd lost his life. The world needs the righteousness of Jesus – a return to the right fear of the Lord. Here in the UK as we begin to look forward to being out and about again, we see increased fear and division about how and when that happens. The world needs the Prince of Peace – the ONLY way to know peace in every storm, and reconciliation that goes deep and wisdom from heaven. The global community is still in shock as the coronavirus has marched across the globe leaving loss and devastation in its wake. The world needs joy in the Holy Spirit - a joy which can say that whatever comes ‘it is well with my soul’ and which is fuelled by His Presence within us. Everybody wants a King like Jesus! His kingdom reign is marked by righteousness, peace and joy.

*Lord, let your kingdom come, let your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. We pray today that as your children we may carry your kingdom attributes in a broken and hurting world. We ask you to increase in us, so that righteousness, peace and joy will be what are known for. Thank you that ‘of the increase of your government and of peace, there will be no end’. We look forward to the day when the earth is filled with your glory. In Jesus name.  Amen.*



The world needs joy in the Holy Spirit - a joy which can say that whatever comes ‘it is well with my soul’ and which is fuelled by His Presence within us.