**Sunday 14th June**

Romans 3: 22-23

This righteousness is given through faith inJesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, **23**for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, **24**and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

We need Jesus. Every – single – one of us. There is no way through without Him. As we watch unrest and violence spreading around the globe in pandemic style we see a clear display of our need of a Saviour played out, right in front of our eyes. If you want to know the indictment, read the preceding verses of Romans 3 (9-20).  It is summarised in v. 23 ‘All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God’. All – a great leveller that! Irrespective of race or position or anything else we choose to use to identify ourselves. We all need a Saviour. And there is only one. We look all over for a different saviour, but there is no other. Jesus is uniquely able to save, because he alone lived a perfect life, because he paid the price, took the penalty, in His own body. And He knows what we need - a heart transplant. This problem requires a drastic solution. It is only by getting to the heart of the matter that anything can actually change. Thanks be to God for His amazing love, that he didn’t just leave us to reap what we have sown! Thanks be to God for His mercy that He has provided the remedy in Jesus! Just as *All* have sinned, so *All* are justified freely by His grace. What a powerful God we have that he can transform the human heart! But we need to accept this gift. We need to recognise our need of Jesus. Submit yourself to His radical heart-surgery today. Be born again. Start a new life. Pray for revival to sweep across the globe – that young and old will turn to Jesus

*Father, We come to you in repentance today, recognising the leanings of the human heart towards distrust, division, hatred and violence. Forgive us for the times when we have pointed the finger at those that we perceive as different. Forgive us for times when we have tolerated wrong attitudes in our own hearts. Lord, what great love you have shown us! Thank you that you didn’t leave us in our sin, but you have provided a way out, a new life, a clean heart, through Jesus. Lord I need that gift of grace. I need Jesus to come and change my heart. We pray for our nation and ask you Lord to turn our hearts toward you again. Amen*

