

The Salvation Army Hadleigh Temple Songsters

Pause for Thought Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Another week in 'lockdown' which promises us further lessening of restrictions and as the saying goes 'a light at the end of the tunnel'. We also passed midsummer at the weekend having 16hours 38minutes of daylight the maximum in any one day of the year.

Celebrations take place in all sorts of cultures and we are reminded of the skills of our ancestors 3500 years ago at Stonehenge able to catch the sun rise between two huge stones before an altar.

Light has always been a focus for our thinking as Christians, we know light always involves the removal of darkness as expressed in the first act of creation 'God saw that the light was good' (Gen.1:3) and the birth of Jesus brought the light to humanity.

Jesus came as the light of the world, breaking through the darkness of sin by his sacrifice on the Cross. It follows that believers are a light to the world as well. Jesus describes his disciples and followers as light and light bearers as described in (Matthew 5:14-16).

Light possesses power essential to true life, 'to be in the light' is simply to live in the light both now and in the hereafter.

The acceptance of that Light is of a course a personal decision for all of us either to accept or reject. Many of you will be familiar with the painting 'Light of the World' by Holman Hunt picturing Christ knocking on a door, if you look closely you will see there is no handle on the door it has to be opened from the inside, representing the personal decision of acceptance that we have taken. Do look up the painting to see this representation.

The words of Song 834 we read and sing:

God is our light and God is our sunshine,  
Lighting our pathway from day unto day,  
In him we trust when all else seems dreary,  
For with his sunshine he brightens our way.

May we have many long days of God's sunshine in our lives now and in days to come.

Prayer.

Thank you for your Light, we know there are many in the world today who are anxious and concerned about the future in so many ways, and we bring them to you in prayer, may we be guided in our words and actions to bring light to their darkness.

Amen.

Keep safe and well

God bless

LOUISE

