**Call to Prayer**

**Jeremiah 33:3**

***Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.***

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ As we face the uncertainty surrounding the present coronavirus pandemic and the fact that we cannot see, feel or touch the problem it can lead us to become either sceptical about its seriousness or terrified of what it could do to us or our loved ones. There is no doubt we face the greatest test that our nation has faced since the end of the Second World War. It proves once again that we really do not have all the answers to life’s problems.

However even in the uncertainly and the need to listen carefully to the scientific and medical experts who are seeking to help our nation get through these difficult times. I believe there is One who does have all the answers and we can pray to Him.

I have no doubt that we have all been earnestly praying in these days, but I have been led to believe that although we cannot come together as a congregation we can still pray together. I would like to suggest that we as a congregation endeavour to set aside time each day at the same time if possible to pray about the present situation; and I would suggest 11.00a.m.

It may be that for some that is not possible, but let us pray every day at whatever time is suitable for each one of us.

Let us pray for doctors, nurses, scientists, emergency service workers and indeed all who would seek to respond in these difficult days. Pray for the vulnerable folk in society; let us pray for those who have had to self-isolate, and for folk who contract the virus that they will make a full recovery. Let us pray for families with children who are at home because our schools are closing, that they can cope with the need to keep the children interested and occupied.

Let us pray for our congregation and the folk in our nation. Pray for folk whose employment and income is adversely affected by not being able to work.

Pray for our politicians in Westminster and Holyrood that God will sustain them and inspire them with His Holy Spirit that their decisions will be in accordance with His will and purposes.

Let us all remember that God is Sovereign and that he has shown the depth his love for us by sending his Son Jesus into our world to be our Saviour and our Lord. He will not abandon us now in our time of need.

God Bless you all. Jack McHugh