

## SUNDAY DEVOTIONS FOR 27<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020 – KEYSTON'S ANNIVERSARY - 233 YEARS

If you wish to join in with our telephone worship, please call **0333 011 0616**, then enter the access code, **286 7552** followed by # (not £ as the lady says!). You will be asked to say your name and enter # and, in a moment or two you will be connected. Please dial in before 11am.

1. **Call:** Your word is everlasting, Lord. It is firmly fixed in heaven. Your faithfulness endures for all generations. Psalm 119: 89-90
2. **Prayer:** O Father, Son and Spirit, Holy Trinity, present wherever our hearts are open and our soul laid bare, bless us as we gather today for worship, fellowship and prayer. Even though we meet over the airwaves we pray that you will bind our hearts as one, as you are one, Father, Son and Spirit. We know your faithfulness endures at all times and we pray you will move among us now, touching our hearts and bending our wills to be more like you. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen**
3. **Reading:** Exodus 17:1-7
4. **Prayer:** (Adoration) Father God, be the one that exists between us, the focus of our lives and worship, our unity of faith. Precious Jesus, be the peace that is shared between us, the compassion we show to others, our unity of love. Holy Spirit, kindle the flame that burns within us, the light that will shine in the darkness, our unity of hope.  
You are a Gracious Father, and as we gather to give thanks for the church at Keyston, we are grateful you have made us hunger and thirst for you. Satisfy the longings you have implanted that we may find you in life, and find life in you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**
5. **Reading:** Psalm 78:1-4 & 12-16
6. **Prayer:** (Confession) O God, you call us to unity, to be of one mind with our brothers and sisters in Christ, yet sometimes we struggle with relationships, a little reminiscent of the world in which we live. The psalmist reminds that we need to put our trust in what you can do to save your people and your Word is clear about the relationship we must have with each other. Forgive us, Lord, for within the Godhead we see a oneness that we should imitate. Grant us the grace to love those who we find challenging and the wisdom to know when it is our turn to say sorry. You are the God of love, your Son gave us a new commandment, that we should love one another, even as you love us, the unworthy and the wandering. Give us a mind forgetful of past ill-will and a heart to love one another; through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Saviour. **Amen.**
7. **Reading:** Philippians 2:1-13
8. **Prayer:** (Thanksgiving) Heavenly Father, thank You that we are celebrating this church anniversary. We thank You that we are all One in Christ, and we pray that as members of Your body, Your Holy Spirit would knit us together in the bonds of unity and love.  
Lord, You have promised that You are the One that would build Your Church and we ask that You would continue to equip each of us, both individually and corporately with the talents and gifts that may be used to Your praise and glory for the edification of the rest of the saints of God.  
Protect us from the wiles of the enemy who seeks to destroy and cause divisions among Your body. Help us to be sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable and gentle one towards each other. Let us not be motivated by selfishness but in humility may we seek to regard the needs and necessities of others before our own.  
Give wisdom to the members, friends, elders and ministers and give wisdom to those that teach and a teachable spirit to those that listen.  
We know that the current times are difficult but still pray that You will reveal your plan for this chapel and that we will be equipped to carry out your will.  
Lord, we thank you for all that you have been and all that you are. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, the chief cornerstone of your Church. **Amen**
9. **Reading:** Matthew 21:23-32
10. **Prayer: (Your turn now.)** Pray for those things that come to you from the bible readings. Pray for the world situation, your own community and family and friends. Pray for those that are suffering and those that work tirelessly to help others. Pray for our governments and leaders. Pray for your church and fellowships. Remember those that are unwell.
11. **Lord's Prayer.**
12. **Closing Prayer:** Lord God, on this special day, we bless you for the gift of life, for your guiding hand upon us, and your sustaining love within us. But most of all, we bless you for Jesus Christ, your Son, our Saviour, for the living presence of your Spirit, for your Church, the body of Christ, for the ministry of Word and Sacrament and all the means of grace. **Amen**
13. **Grace:** May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore. Amen

**Communion will follow this service**