Dear friend
I enclose this week's virtual service. A couple of hymns to start with.
'Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine', Fanny Crosby's hymn sung by the Northern Baptist Association:
https://youtu.be/yuyf1YQvcwY

'O thou not made with hands', Old 120th, from Wakefield Cathedral:
https://youtu.be/l6ekyldikBs

'He that shall endure to the end', a chorale from Mendelssohn's oratorio, Elijah, sung by the Century Singers. The text is taken from Mark 13.13 and echoed also in the passage from Hebrews:
https://youtu.be/NpnwE6IcHDc

Here is the Introit and Kyrie of the luxuriant 6-part Requiem (Missa pro defunctis) by the renaissance Portuguese composer, Manuel Cardoso, sung by Cantum Mensurable:
https://youtu.be/-I0HQxN0g_c

and finally from Martin, a hymn we have included before, but here in a different, splendid version, Wintley Phipps – 'It Is Well With My Soul'.
This hymn was chosen by Amanda Khozi Mukwashi, the chief executive of Christian Aid, as her favourite disc when interviewed recently by Lauren Laverne on 'Desert Island Discs'. Wintley Phipps has a deep golden voice, and he introduces the song. The hymn was penned by Horatio Spafford and composed by Philip Bliss, after traumatic events in Spafford's life, the death of his four-year-old son; the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, which ruined him financially, and the loss of his four daughters when their ship, crossing the Atlantic Ocean, was hit by another, and sank. His wife survived and afterwards, as Spafford travelled to be united with his grieving wife, he was inspired to write these words as his ship passed near where his daughters had drowned:
https://youtu.be/E8HffdyLd0c

I hope there is something here that hits the spot.
With all good wishes
Chris

VIRTUAL SERVICE 14.11.21
REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

God hath not promised
Skies always blue, flower-strewn pathways
All our lives through;
God hath not promised
Sun without rain, joy without sorrow,
Peace without pain.
But God hath promised
Strength for the day, rest for the labour, Light for the way,
Grace for trials, help from above,
Unfailing sympathy, undying love.
(Annie Johnson Flint)

CONFESSION Lord, we need your help.
We need a calm mind: grant us your peace.
We need a clear head; grant us your wisdom.
We need to be careful; grant us your patience.
We need to be inspired; grant us your enthusiasm. Keep us from all panic as we trust in your power to keep us this day. *(K A Clegg)*
"I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more. Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin". (Hebrews 10.17-18)

COLLECT Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things in thy beloved Son, the King of all; govern the hearts and minds of those in authority and bring the families of the nations, divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin, to be subject to his just and gentle rule; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

READINGS Daniel 12.1-3, Psalm 16, Hebrews 10.11-25, Mark 13.1-8.

REFLECTION The disciples were awestruck at the magnificence of the Temple in Jerusalem, a physical symbol of the Jewish nation, completed under Herod's jurisdiction. However, Jesus warned of its destruction, a teaching that would be distorted in evidence for the prosecution at his trial. When a few of the disciples asked him "when will this be, and how will we know?", Jesus answered them indirectly with a warning to watch out for false teachers who profess to speak in his name. Throughout history, there have been magnetic personalities, false "messiahs", who have distorted biblical teaching for their own ends, extracting money from their victims or inciting them to acts of violence.
It was tempting then, as now, to focus on the horrors of wars and natural disasters, but Jesus likens these to birth pangs. Our "contractions" may become more frequent as humanity's pride and greed pollute and destroy the world, but if we can trust in God, if we can "provoke one another to love and good deeds", we are promised the joy of his kingdom. Like the Temple, some of our church buildings will be decommissioned or dismantled, but if we allow God's Holy Spirit to live inside us, his love cannot be destroyed.

PRAYERS We pray you, Lord, to direct and guide your Church with your unfailing care, that it may be vigilant in times of quiet, and daring in times of trouble, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *(Franciscan Breviary)*



Lord, as we witness nations rising against nations, we pray for peace and understanding, for the coming of your KIngdom here on earth. We give thanks for the sacrifice of those who gave their lives that we might live in safety. We pray for all who strive for peace.
We offer up our prayers for the sick and suffering, the victims of earthquake, famine and other disasters, those injured in battle or man's violence. Comfort and heal them in their sufferings. Especially we pray for…….

We say together the **LORD's PRAYER**
We share **THE GRACE**

