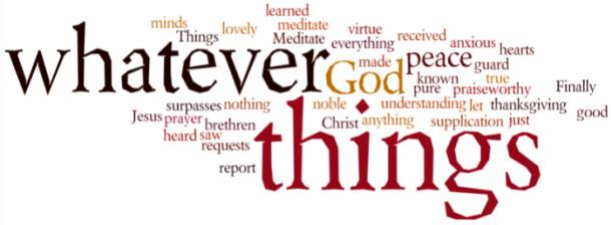

THINK ON THESE THINGS…..

Reading: Psalm 5:11,12

11 But let all who take refuge in you be glad;
let them ever sing for joy.
Spread your protection over them,
that those who love your name may rejoice in you.

12 Surely, Lord, you bless the righteous;
you surround them with your favour as with a shield.

Reflection:

On Wednesday evening I was invited to take part in the induction service of a new Methodist minister in the United Area. The service took place at the Methodist Church in Calne, and it being the very first "live" service in the church building since lockdown, they were taking all the guidance about signage and social distancing very seriously.

In addition, we all had to wear masks, which was an interesting experience as I (and my colleagues who wore glasses) kept steaming up! After I was called upon to read the URC Basis of Union in the vestry, the service began with around 15 folk present and the rest connecting via Zoom.

I must admit it felt really good to have a live congregation, however small, sitting in front of us, and although for most of us this was the very first time sharing live worship, it was a really positive and uplifting experience.

This coming Sunday we will be having our trial service here at Emmanuel, which we trust will go well, and enable us to go forward with setting a date for an official opening service. (Everyone will receive fuller details in the coming week). Until then, we take comfort in those words from the psalmist - But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy.
Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you.

Breath-prayer for today: Thank you Lord for the assurance of your protection over us at this time. As we get ever closer to the time we can be together in worship, be very near to us in all our planning and preparation.