

## April 1<sup>st</sup> Thought

We are so lucky to live in the countryside. My husband taking the dog out on a social distancing walk took this picture of anemones. These shy flowers herald Spring's arrival; before the trees have their leaves they cover the forest floor and then disappear to recur next year.



Each flower is unique and special and needed to make the whole picture have any meaning. Each of us need each other to face the world; we can support and help those around us and they too support and help us.

Hymn "O Lord my God!", by Stuart K. Hine (1899-1989)

When through the woods and forest glades I wander  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,  
And hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze:

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

This hymn helps us realise that all around us we can see God's handiwork. God teaches us in spring that things come again, they may seem dead but new life can be found. Amidst all the worry, problems and fear. We find that there are acts of kindness, people going the extra step to help those around them, I have had many asking if they can help, as our family self isolated. We are like that little flower, we may not be able to make a major difference but the little we do, speaking on the phone to someone who is isolated,

doing the shopping for a neighbour, praying for our friends and neighbours. All this helps create a big picture, a picture showing that the church of God is alive and Christ's love is flowing out through us.

Surviving through Turbulent Times by Max Lucado.

You'll get through this,  
It won't be painless,  
It won't be quick,  
But God will use this mess for good.  
In the meantime,  
Don't be foolish or naive,  
But don't despair either,  
With God's help, you will get through this.

Prayer

Lord thank you that you love and care for us all, you provide that person who talks to us or gives a smile and makes our day better. Help us not to despair but know your love is surrounding us. Help us to pass on your love to others; being your hands reaching out to those around us. We ask for your protection and strength for ourselves but also for those helping on the front line against Covid 19. Lord, we also ask that you will provide light for those who feel isolated or lonely help them realise that they are not alone, that people care about them. Thank you.

Amen