

## **Where is God in all of this?**

As I walked down the road early this morning the world seemed perfectly normal, if a little quiet, the sun was shining, the birds singing, the stream flowing. It was a beautiful spring morning. Behind this scene of normality however we all know that we are facing a crisis which is causing disruption and anxiety unlike anything we have faced since the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War. The coronavirus dominates every new bulletin, it is the subject of our thoughts and conversations. It threatens to cause havoc unlike any we have known before.

There was one question in my mind as I walked down the road. Where is God in all of this? I am not suggesting by my question that we can in any way blame God for this virus or for not acting to prevent it. That isn't how God works. But is he doing anything? As I posed this question to myself, and indeed to God, it seemed to me that there are a number of ways we see God at work in the present time.

### Acts of kindness

This pandemic has galvanised communities in support of one another. People have offered help to their neighbours and others in need and there is a real spirit of togetherness, Jesus called on his followers to live like this. He told them, 'by your love for one another will they know that you are my disciples'.

### Commitment to serve

Whilst many of us follow the government's instruction to stay at home and keep our distance from each other, there are still many who have to go to work each day, NHS staff, shop workers, lorry drivers and others. They put themselves at risk to serve others. This is what Jesus did when he went to the cross, making the ultimate sacrifice for mankind.

### Science

God calls us to serve him with every part of our being. This includes our brains. In this country and across the world we have some of the brightest scientists working flat out to produce a vaccine against Covid-19. In the future this will be used to protect us against the virus and make our world a safer place.

### Nature

We live in a beautiful world. We know that it is a fragile world and we do not always treat it well. Yet it continues to provide the food and water we need. God's providence is still evident and, what is more, there are signs of hope as air quality improves and fish can be seen once again in the waterways of Venice.

God has not deserted us. He is working in his world in many and various ways as he always does.

Lord help us to see you at work.