

Good morning and welcome to our worship for Sunday May 3.

This is the seventh Sunday that we've spent apart but miraculously – because of the internet – we can be together in a new way. God is always doing new things and because of Coronavirus we have been introduced to a whole load of new things in one go. God is good!

Here is the YouTube link to the service for today which is led by Bryan and Joy Steele. Just click on Play All. Graham Dunn brings us the word from Luke 5:1-11 and leads us in communion. Make sure you have your bread and wine/juice ready beforehand!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-h4Du5HVSms>

The scripture describes Jesus calling his first disciples as they were fishing in the Sea of Galilee. He chose them very deliberately, not because they were the most intelligent or gifted people around but because he could see their potential.

Because we are also disciples, we know that we have been chosen by Jesus – handpicked in the same way as all the other disciples. We may wonder why Jesus chose people who were flawed and prone to let him down and we may wonder why he chose us in our frailty and brokenness, but he knows what he's doing.

It says in one of my most favourite verses in the whole of the Bible Ephesians 1:4

"For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love".

What wonderful words! The first disciples were to be "fishers of people" and so are we. Again, we may wonder, I don't think I'm any good at that, or how can we do that while we're in lockdown – but God knows! As we stay close to him, he will guide us and lead us, and like the first disciples, when we work together, we'll see miracles that we never thought possible.

As usual, Rhoda has prepared sessions for pre-school, kids and youth on the OBC YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuxgARly413TNTpGOPPzYyA>

And there are worksheets for each of the groups with all the links on them.

Childrens Service - 03 May - Adventure.pdf

Childrens Service - 03 May - Discover and Explore.pdf

Youth Service - 03 May - Connect and Encounter.pdf

There are details of other services and meetings on the ChurchSuite Newsletter you received on Friday. For help with connecting to Zoom, please contact Ebe on admin@oakhambaptistchurch.org.uk during office hours.

Can I just mention one other resource that I have found really helpful in these days of lockdown, especially if you engage with a more contemplative style of spirituality :

<https://renovare.org/>

Again, please feel free to send me your comments and feedback on

secretary@oakhambaptist.org.uk.

Every blessing

Julie