**Blackburn’s Chapel Home Worship**

**Week of 4/13/2020 – Easter Week**

**Gathering prayer –** Holy and gracious God, this week is a time of joy and hope in the midst of everything else we may be struggling with. Your Son has risen, the tomb is empty, and death is overtaken. May we live today with the hope of the resurrection alive in our hearts. We pray you give us the boldness and confidence to share that love and hope with those who don’t yet know it. In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.

**Scripture – John 20:19-31**

**Reflection Questions**

1. We often talk about “doubting Thomas” when we read this passage. What strikes you about Thomas’ response to the other disciples? To Jesus?
2. Jesus longs for intimacy with his disciples. Where does your relationship with Christ stand right now? Is it easy or difficult for you to have faith in things not seen?

**Scripture – Psalm 16**

**Reflection**

1. Again, we come to a psalmist who isn’t shy about crying out to God in prayer in times of hardship. Do you find comfort in these words or something else?
2. The writer mentions the “sorrows” of those who run after other gods. Are there other gods (things emotions you’re idolizing above God) you’re chasing at this moment? Maybe control of the unknown? The news of the world above the Good News of Christ defeating death?

**Worship in Song**

Sandra McCracken – “Almighty God”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LSarQAEEX4I>

**Closing prayer –**

Lord, you will never abandon us. We may stray, we may doubt, we may chase other gods. But your love is constant and never ending and we are so thankful for your grace and presence. We take refuge in you. You make known to us the path of life at all times. We pray today, Lord, that our eyes are open to see it and that we have the boldness to choose life over death. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.