## Stoke Newington SDA Church Sabbath 21 March 2020

## Programme 10.30am

Opening Prayer	-	Focus on Health, strength, resting in God's faithfulness
Hymns of meditation	-	92 - This is my Father's World
	-	99 - God will take care of you
	-	100 - Great is Thy Faithfulness
Scripture Reading	-	Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, an
		ever-present help in trouble."
Reading	-	Pray to Reflect Christ's Unfathomable Love
Closing Song	-	8 - We Gather Together
Closing Prayer	-	Focus on front line staff / healthcare workers

## Reading - Pray to Reflect Christ's Unfathomable Love

He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Romans 8:32, NKJV

Who can measure the love Christ felt for a lost world as He hung upon the cross, suffering for the sins of the guilty? This love was immeasurable, infinite. Christ has shown that His love was stronger than death. He was accomplishing humanity's salvation; and although He had the most fearful conflict with the powers of darkness, yet, amid it all, His love grew stronger and stronger.... The price was paid to purchase the redemption of men and women, when, in the last soul struggle, the blessed words were uttered which seemed to resound through creation: "It is finished."

The length, the breadth, the height, the depth, of such amazing love we cannot fathom. The contemplation of the matchless depths of a Savior's love should fill the mind, touch and melt the soul, refine and elevate the affections, and completely transform the whole character....

Some have limited views of the atonement. They think that Christ suffered only a small portion of the penalty of the law of God; they suppose that, while the wrath of God was felt by His dear Son, He had, through all His painful sufferings, the evidence of His Father's love and acceptance; that the portals of the tomb before Him were illuminated with bright hope, and that He had the abiding evidence of His future glory. Here is a great mistake. Christ's keenest anguish was a sense of His Father's displeasure. His mental agony because of this was of such intensity that many can have but faint conception of it....

Here is love that no language can express. It passes knowledge. Great is the mystery of godliness. Our souls should be enlivened, elevated, and enraptured with the theme of the love of the Father and the Son to humanity. The followers of Christ should here learn to reflect in some degree that mysterious love preparatory to joining all the redeemed in ascribing "blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, ... unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever."—Testimonies for the Church 2:212-215.

(The reading is taken from Ellen G White's devotional "To be like Jesus")