**Sermon Notes Sunday 8th November**

**‘Groaning now but hope for future glory’**

What have you been learning about climate change and your response to live more sustainably making changes to the way you live and the choices you make?

**Read Romans 8:18-27**

This passage sets the context for the groaning experienced in our human suffering and in creation. We may suffer now, but Paul reminds us that this world is not our home (1 Peter 2:11; Hebrews 11:13 ‘aliens and strangers on earth’). Awaiting us is a glorious future kingdom where death is defeated and tears of sorrow, pain and grief are all wiped away (Revelation 21:4). When we firmly lay hold of this promise from God, we can begin to view our current troubles as light and momentary compared to the far greater eternal weight of glory (Romans 8:18, 2 Corinthians 4:17).

* How can creation long for something (v19) or ‘wait in eager expectation’? What does the revealing of the sons of God refer to?
* Who subjected creation? Why? What does it mean that creation is subjected to frustration?
* What does it mean that the creation waits in hope that it will be liberated from death and decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God (v21)?
* What does it mean that creation is facing the pains of childbirth (v22)
* In what ways do you see human suffering and that of creation being connected?
* How might the hope for our future redemption also be connected (Revelation 21:1-5)
* How are we encouraged to respond to all that we have considered in recent weeks (v26-27)

**Pray for one another to continue to put into practise all that we have learnt in recent weeks on caring for our Creation.**