**Sermon Notes- Sunday 14th September**

 **The Nicene Creed part 2 Jesus: God Incarnate**

When we think of the incarnation recall those carols that we sing every Christmas that declare his divine and human identity?

**‘We believe in One Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father’ Read Hebrews 1:1-3**

* What does this passage suggest to you about God’s desire to relate and be in relationship with us?
* What does it tell us about the identity of Jesus within the Godhead and the purpose for which Jesus was sent?

**‘God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God.’ Read John 1:1-5** John helps us see how Jesus fits into the cosmic story of God, before creation and before time when only God existed. Jesus is God’s light and love coming into the world.

* In what situations do you most need to see God’s light and to know the darkness will not overcome it?
* As we live out our faith day by day, how can we reflect the light of God to our world?

‘**Begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father’ Read John 1:1-2, 14,18.** John reminds us that God the Father and God the Son are both God in the same way as each other. He was not made or created but has always existed timelessly with the Father.

* If Jesus reflects what God is truly like, what can you say God is like from what you see of the life of Jesus? God is….

**‘Through him all things were made’ Read Colossians 1:15-20**

The God we encounter in Jesus is the God who makes all things – and who rejoices in all that is. This includes us. God delights in us and looks at us in love.

* How can our lives and our relationships with others better reflect that joy?

**‘For us and our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man’. Read Phil 2:5-7**

* What does this suggest is God’s motive in sending Jesus?
* What do we see of the humility of Jesus demonstrated at his baptism by John?
* As Jesus came alongside the marginalised and despised is there someone you could stand alongside to share a joy or difficulty?

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