

Community is not about emotional harmony, but forgiveness and celebration. *Henri Nouwen*

Friday 23rd October

Refrain from strife and your sins will be fewer; for the hot-tempered kindle strife. The sinner disrupts friendships and sows discord among the peaceful. a hasty quarrel kindles a fire, a hasty dispute sheds blood. *Ecclesiasticus 28.8-9,11*

Abiding happiness and peace is theirs who choose goodness for its own sake - without expectation of any reward. *Anon*

Saturday 24th October

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon, do you love me more than these?' he said, 'Yes Lord; you know that I love you. Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' He asked Peter a second time too, saying, 'Tend my sheep.' The third time Peter felt hurt and said, 'Lord you know everything; you know that I love you.' And again Jesus said, 'Feed my sheep.' *John 21.15-17*

Christianity does not ask us to live in the shadow of the cross but in the fire of its creative action. We are transformed in the crucible of God's love. *Anon*



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St James's Church, Piccadilly

Holding the Silence

2020



Weekly Collects and Daily Readings from Sunday 11th - Saturday 24th October

Collect for Sunday 11th - Saturday 17th October

God, our judge and saviour, teach us to be open to your truth and to trust in your love; that we may live each day with confidence in the salvation which is given through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Collect for Sunday 18th - Saturday 24th October

Faithful Lord, whose steadfast love never ceases and whose mercies never come to an end: give us the grace to trust you and to receive the gifts of your love, new every morning, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Daily Readings:

Sunday 11th October

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be known to God. And the peace of God which passes all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. *Philippians 4.4-7*

Holiness comes wrapped in the ordinary. There are burning bushes all around you. Every tree is full of angels. Hidden beauty is waiting in every crumb.

Macrina Wiederkehr

Monday 12th October

No one after lighting a lamp puts it in a cellar, but on a lampstand, so that everyone can see the light. Your eye is the lamp of your body. If your eye is healthy your body is full of light; but if it is not healthy, you are full of darkness. Consider if your body is full of light or darkness. If it is full of light you will be a light for all.

Luke 11.33-35

We will be surprised who we find in heaven. God has a soft spot for sinner. His standards are quite low.

Desmond Tutu

Tuesday 13th October

Do not rob the poor or crush the afflicted, for the Lord pleads their cause and despoils those who despoil

them. Make no friends with angry people or hotheads, or you may learn from them and tangle yourself in a snare. *Proverbs 22. 22-25*

The depth of someone's spirituality is related to their willingness to step out and speak for another.

Rowan Williams

Wednesday 14th October

Woe to you Pharisees! You pay your tithes and neglect the love of God. You love to have a seat of honour and be treated with respect. You are like unmarked graves that people walk over without realising it. And woe to you lawyers! For you load people with burdens and do nothing to ease them. *Luke 11.42,43,46*

The world has two ways of getting rid of Jesus. The first is by crucifying him; the second is by worshipping him without following him. *Harry Emerson Fosdick*

Thursday 15th October

If we hope for what we do not see, we can wait with patience, and the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. *Romans 8.25-27*

Remember, no matter where you go, there you are. *Confucius*

Friday 16th October

O hope of Israel, its saviour in time of trouble, why should you be like a stranger, like a traveller turning aside for the night? Why should you be like someone confused, like a mighty warrior who cannot give help? You, O Lord are in the midst of us and we are called by your name; do not forsake us! *Jeremiah 14.8-9*

When we engage creatively, we depart from the fixed world of daily routine and grounded facts. We enter a kind of 'genesis foyer' where something that is not yet might begin to edge its way forward from silence into the world, from the invisible into form. *John O'Donohue*

Saturday 17th October

For the sake of Jesus Christ I have suffered the loss of many things, and I regard them as rubbish, lost in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God, based on faith. *Philippians 3.8b-9*

Action should be something added to the life of prayer, not something taken away from it. *St Thomas Aquinas*

Sunday 18th October

The Pharisees plotted to trap Jesus. They said, 'We know that you teach the way of God's truth, and regard people impartially. Tell us, is it lawful to pay taxes to the Emperor nor not?' but Jesus understood their malice and said, 'Show me the coin used for tax.' The denarius showed the Emperor's head and name. Jesus said, 'Therefore, give to the Emperor what belongs to him, and to God what is God's.'

Matthew 22.15-21

I have learned that God is to be shared before he is ever understood. *Mark Oakley*

Monday 19th October

Solomon prayed, 'And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a child; I do not know how to go out, or how to come in. I am in the midst of a great people, whom you have chosen, too numerous to count. Therefore give your servant an understanding mind, able to discern between good and evil. *1 Kings 3.7-9*

I slept and dreamt that life was joy. I woke and saw that life was service. I acted and behold! Service was joy. *Rabindranath Tagore*

Tuesday 20th October

St Paul writes, If anyone is detected in transgression, you who have received the spirit should restore such a one gently. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. Bear one another's burdens and you will fulfil the law of Christ. For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. All must test only their own work; then their work will become a source of pride. *Galatians 6.1-4*

We cannot live the spiritual life alone. The life of the spirit needs fertile ground to grow. This fertile ground includes not only a good inner disposition, but also a supportive milieu. *Henri Nouwen*

Wednesday 21st October

My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat. He expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. *Isaiah 5.1-2*

I get up, I walk, I fall down. Meanwhile I keep dancing. *Rabbi Hillel*

Thursday 22nd October

Here is a parable: a man had a fig tree in his vineyard that had had no fruit for three years. He wanted to cut it down, but his gardener suggested instead that they dig round it and feed it, and take it out the next year if there was still no fruit. *Luke 13.6-9*