

Holding the Silence 2026

Daily Readings from Sunday 12th - Saturday 25th July

Collect for Sunday 12th - Saturday 18th July

Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as a mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Collect for Sunday 19th - Saturday 25th July

God, your Son left the riches of heaven and became poor for our sake: when we prosper save us from pride, when we are needy save us from despair, that we may trust in you alone, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Daily Readings

Sunday 12th July

He said, **I do not understand the mystery of grace**

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only that it meets us where we are and does not leave us where it found us. Anne Lamott

He said to them, 'Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.

Luke 12.15

To know God is to love God, therefore the paths of knowledge and devotion come to the same.

William Johnston

Monday 13th July

Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and turn away from evil. It will be a healing for your flesh and a refreshment for your body.

Proverbs 3.7-8

This is the lesson of the age - events pass, things change, trauma fades, good fortune rises, fades and rises again, but different.

Mary Oliver

Tuesday 14th July

Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge,

but those who hate to be rebuked are stupid. The good obtain favour from the Lord, but those who devise evil he condemns.

Proverbs 12.1-2

Compassion is the sometimes fatal capacity to feel what it is like to live inside somebody else's skin. It is the knowledge that there can never really be any peace and joy for me until there is peace and joy for you too. *Frederick Buechner*

Wednesday 15th July

They shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning hooks, nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more; but they shall all sit down under their own vines and under their own fig trees, and no one shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken. *Micah 4.3b-4*

Hate has caused a lot of problems in our world, but it has not yet solved one. *Maya Angelou*

Thursday 16th July

He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God. Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. *Matthew 16.15-17*

Faith is taking the first step, even when you don't see the whole staircase.

Martin Luther King

Friday 17th July

As you go proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

Matthew 10.7,8

Make two homes for yourself, my daughter. One actual home ... and the other a spiritual home which thou are able to carry with thee always. *Catherine of Sienna*

Saturday 18th July

Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of the boy instantly. Then the disciples asked him privately, 'Why could we not cast it out?'

He said to them, 'Because of your little faith. For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.' *Matthew 17.18-20*

The gospel is about grace and we all know that grace is about us receiving from God blessings that we don't deserve. *Tony Campolo*

Sunday 19th July

Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is there your heart will be also. *Luke 12.32-34*

Whoever you are, no matter how lonely, the world offers itself to your imagination, calling to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting - over and over announcing your place in the family of things. *Mary Oliver*

Monday 20th July

So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. For judgement will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgement. *James 2.12*

Before we can surrender ourselves, we must become ourselves. No one can give up what they do not possess. *Thomas Merton*

Tuesday 21st July

What do you think? If a shepherd has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. So it is not the will of your Father in heaven that one of these little ones should be lost. *Matthew 18.10-14*

We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit. *Aristotle*

Wednesday 22nd July

Truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you

by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them. *Matthew 18.19,20*

Those who say it can't be done are usually interrupted by others doing it. *James Baldwin*

Thursday 23rd July

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. *1 Peter 2.9*

God doesn't want your careful virtue. He wants your reckless generosity. *Francis Spufford*

Friday 24th July

For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. *Isaiah 61.11*

Love arrives and, in its train, come ecstasies, old memories of pleasure, ancient histories of pain. Yet if we are bold, love strikes away the chains of fear from our souls. *Maya Angelou*

Saturday 25th July

You will show me the path of life; in your presence is the fullness of joy and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore. *Psalms 16.10*

I do not understand the mystery of grace - only that it meets us where we are and does not leave us where it found us. *Anne Lamott*

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Thursday and Friday at 12 noon on our
YouTube channel**