

## Holding the Silence 2026

### Daily Readings from Sunday 14th - Saturday 27th June 2026

#### Collect for Sunday 14th - Saturday 20th June

Faithful God, whose mercy never fails: deepen our faithfulness to you and to your living Word, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### Collect for Sunday 21st - Saturday 27th June

God our Saviour, look on this wounded world in pity and in power; hold us fast to your promises of peace, won for us by your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

### Daily Readings

#### Sunday 14th June

Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture - 'I believed and so I spoke' - we also believe and so we speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving to the glory of God. *2 Corinthians 4.13-15*

The great thing in this world is not so much where you stand, as in what direction you are moving. *Oliver Wendell Holmes*

#### Monday 15th June

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. *Matthew 5. 7-10*

The wings of angels are often found on the back of the most unlikely people. *Eric Honeycut*

#### Tuesday 16th June

I have called you friends because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit,

fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. I am giving you these commands that you may love one another. *John 15.15b-17*

We delight in the beauty of the butterfly, but rarely acknowledge the changes it has gone through to achieve that beauty. *Maya Angelou*

#### Wednesday 17th June

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked abandon their ways, and the unrighteous their thoughts. Return to the Lord who will have mercy; and to our God who will richly pardon. 'For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways' says the Lord. *Isaiah 55.1-4*

We need the deeps of the world of the spirit, as well as the wide and varied outer world of knowledge and sense. *Evelyn Underhill*

#### Thursday 18th June

When you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled with your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5.23-25*

The Father has put us into the world not to walk through it with lowered eyes, but to search for him through things, events, people. Everything must reveal God to us. *Michel Quoist*

#### Friday 19th June

He said to one who had invited him, 'when you give a luncheon or a dinner do not invite your friends or your relatives or your rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you will be repaid. But invite the poor, the crippled, the lame and the blind. You will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous. *Luke 14.12-14*

To be religious is to give your life so that the world may be more beautiful, more just, more at peace; it is to prevent egotistical and self-serving ends from disrupting the harmony of the whole. *Arturo Paoli*

#### Saturday 20th June

You have heard it said to those of ancient times, 'you shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.' but I say, Do not swear at all' either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the

great king. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair black or white. Let your word be 'Yes, yes' or 'No, no'; anything more than this comes from the evil one. *Matthew 5.33-37*

Dear God, your work in the world is always done by sinners, or else it would never be done; help us to realise this and practise the grace and forgiveness you first gave us. *Nadia Bolz-Weber*

### **Sunday 21st June**

He said, 'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come. *Mark 4.26-29*

To live and work for the glory of God cannot remain an idea about which we think once in a while. It must become an interior, unceasing doxology. *Nadia Bolz-Weber*

### **Monday 22nd June**

You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you, 'Do not resist an evil-doer. If anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also, and if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well; and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile. *Matthew 5.38-41*

Truth sees God: wisdom gazes on God, and these produce a third, a holy, wondering delight in God. *Julian of Norwich*

### **Tuesday 23rd June**

You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbour and hate your enemy.' But I say, 'Love your enemy and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. Father is perfect. *Matthew 5.43-45*

I am convinced of this: good done anywhere is good done everywhere. *Maya Angelou*

### **Wednesday 24th June**

Whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they might be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever

you pray go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. *Matthew 6.5-6*

Prayer as a creative lacuna, as an ancient free form, and as a marvellous, stabilising idea, intrigued me greatly. *Michael Leunig*

### **Thursday 25th June**

As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth. I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. *John 17.18-21*

I am a swimming galaxy tonight. Angels prowl around me hoping I will toss them a fresh piece of light - here dears, here, my sack is full. *Meister Eckhart*

### **Friday 26th June**

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is there your heart will be also. *Matthew 6.19-21*

Above all the grace and gifts that Christ gives to his beloved is that of overcoming self. *Francis of Assisi*

### **Saturday 27th June**

Do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat? Or what will we drink? Or what will we wear?' For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. *Matthew 6.31-33*

We don't turn God into anything by the words we use, but we may be surprised into fresh insights as we explore new ways of expressing what we have always known. *Ann Lewin*

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