

Holding the Silence 2026

Daily Readings from Sunday 26th July - Saturday 8th August

Collect for Sunday 26th July - Saturday 1st August

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.

Collect for Sunday 2nd - Saturday 8th August

Gracious father, revive your church in our day, make her holy, strong and faithful, for your glory's sake, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Daily Readings

Sunday 26th 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 27th 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*

By revealing the grace of connection no matter what is happening, love releases us from our efforts to control life. Love opens our hearts wide enough to admit the unknown, the ungovernable. *Sharon Salzberg*

Tuesday 28th 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 29th 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 30th 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*

In God's sight we do not fall, in our sight we do not stand. As I see it both of these are true, but the deeper insight belongs to God. *Julian of Norwich*

Friday 31st 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 1st August

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*

We do not want merely to see beauty, though, God knows, even that is beauty enough. We want something else which can hardly be put into words, to be united with the beauty we see, to pass into it, to receive it into ourselves, to bathe in it. *C.S. Lewis*

Sunday 2nd August

He said to the crowds, 'When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain', and so it happens ... You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the earth and the sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?' *Luke 12.55.56*

Which understanding is it then that does not seek to make some sense of life and living, dying and the dead? *Thomas Lynch*

Monday 3rd August

God said to Joshua, 'As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous; for you shall put this people in possession of the land that I swore to give them.' *Joshua 1.5*

God is always at work, but that work is not always visible. *Rowan Williams*

Tuesday 4th August

Truly, his salvation is near to those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land. Mercy and truth are met together, righteousness and peace have kissed each other. *Psalms 85.9,10*

The more carefully you listen to the voice within you, the better you will hear what is sounding outside. *Dag Hammarskjöld*

Wednesday 5th August

If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. *John 15.7,8*

God is someone present in the quick of being ... in existence as it exists, in the fibre. In the pulse of the world. *Dennis Potter*

Thursday 6th August

As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that that you have sent me. *John 17.19,20*

Action springs not from thought, but from a readiness for responsibility. *Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

Friday 7th August

A lawyer asked a question to test him. 'Teacher, which commandment is the greatest?' He said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' *Matthew 22.36-39*

In the joy of others lies our own. In the good of others lies our own. In the progress of others lies our own. *Bhagwan Swaminarian*

Saturday 8th August

Be joyful in God all the earth; sing the glory of his name, sing the glory of his praise. Say to God, 'How awesome are your deeds!' *Psalms 66.1,2a*

Love is holy because it is like grace – the worthiness of its object is never really what matters. *Marilynne Robinson*

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Thursday and Friday at 12 noon on our
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