

## Holding the Silence 2024

### Daily Readings from Sunday 27th October - Saturday 9th November 2024

#### Collect for Sunday 27th October - Saturday 2nd November

Merciful God, teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty, that trusting in your word and obeying your will we may enter the unfailing joy of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### Collect for Sunday 3rd - Saturday 9th November

God of glory, touch our lives with the fire of your Spirit, that we with all creation may rejoice and sing your praise. through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Daily Readings

#### Sunday 27th October

He holds the priesthood permanently because he continues for ever. Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. For it is fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. He has no need to offer sacrifices day after day; for this he did when he offered himself. *Hebrews 7.25-27*

Let God be the God of love to me and through me. *Gerard Hughes*

#### Monday 28th October

You are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God. *Ephesians 2.19-22*

Rage and frenzy will pull down more in half an hour than prudence, deliberation and foresight can build up in 100 years. *Edmund Burke*

#### Tuesday 29th October

Jesus said to the crowd, 'What is the kingdom of God like? And to what should I compare it? It is like a mustard seed that someone took and

sowed in the garden; it grew and became a tree. and the birds made nests in its branches.

*Luke 13.18-19*

We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience. *Pierre Teilhard de Chardin*

#### Wednesday 30th October

Slaves, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, in singleness of heart as you obey Christ; not only while being watched, and in order to please them, but as slaves of Christ doing the will of God from the heart. Render service with enthusiasm, as to the Lord and not to men and women, knowing that whatever good we do, we will receive the same again from the Lord, whether we are slaves or free. *Ephesians 6.5-8*

Choose being kind over bring right and you will always be right. *Richard Carlson*

#### Thursday 31st October

Therefore take the whole armour of God so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day and having done everything to stand firm. Fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. Take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. *Ephesians 6.13-17*

To live with imagination, adventure and generosity *for* and *in* a world that frequently threatens to extinguish each of these truly human characteristics. This is the task of becoming truly human. *Ian Adams*

#### Friday 1st November

I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning, crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.' *Revelation 21.3b-4*

The soul passeth from form to form, and the mansions of the pilgrimage are manifold. *Georg Hermes*

#### Saturday 2nd November

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have

died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. *Wisdom 3.1-4*

When a blind man carries a lame man both go forward. *Swedish proverb*

### **Sunday 3rd November**

A scribe heard Jesus and the Sadducees disputing, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, 'Which commandment is the first of all?' Jesus answered, 'The first is "Hear O Israel, the Lord our God is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength." The second is this, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." There is no commandment greater than these.'

*Mark 12.28-31*

Someday, after mastering the winds, the waves, the tides and gravity, we shall harness for God the energies of love, then for the second time in the history of the world, man will have discovered fire. *Pierre Teilhard de Chardin*

### **Monday 4th November**

Jesus said to one that had invited him, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner do not invite your friends or relatives or your rich neighbours, in case they invite you in return and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet 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 say we love God and at the same time exercise cruelty towards the least creature is a contradiction in itself. *John Woolman*

### **Tuesday 5th November**

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

*Philippians 2.5-8*

Listen - are you breathing just a little and calling it a life? *Mary Oliver*

### **Wednesday 6th November**

Do all things without murmuring and arguing, so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which

you shine like stars in the world. It is by your holding fast to the word that I can boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labour in vain. *Philippians 2.14-16*

We are not necessarily doubting that God will do the best for us; we are wondering how painful the best will turn out to be. *C.S. Lewis*

### **Thursday 7th November**

The Pharisees and scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them. So he told them this parable: What woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it she calls her friends together, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents. *Luke 15.1,2, 8-10*

We must be ready to learn from one another, not claiming that we alone possess all truth and that somehow we have a corner on God.

*Desmond Tutu*

### **Friday 8th November**

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, Father, as you 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. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as you and I are one, I in them and you in me, completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.' *John 17. 21b- 23*

I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I know - the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve. *Albert Schweitzer*

### **Saturday 9th November**

Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust you with the true riches? If you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth. *Luke 16.10-13*

When love and skill work together expect a masterclass. *John Ruskin*

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