

Holding the Silence 2026

Daily Readings from Sunday 3rd - Saturday 16th May 2026

Collect for Sunday 3rd - Saturday 9th May

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns now and for ever. Amen.

Collect for Sunday 10th - Saturday 16th May

Risen Christ, by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples: help your church to obey your command and to draw the nations to the fire of your love, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Daily Readings

Sunday 3rd May

Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you. 'Where I am going you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. *John 13.33-35*

Clear moments are so short. There is much more darkness. More ocean than firm land; more shadow than form. *Adam Zagajewski*

Monday 4th May

Jesus said, 'Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. *John 14.23,24*

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

Tuesday 5th May

Peace I leave with you: my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, 'I am going away and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to my Father, because the Father is greater than I'. *John 14.27,28*

In Jesus there is the quiet, strong serenity of one who seeks to conquer by love, and not by strife of words. *William Barclay*

Wednesday 6th May

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. *John 15.1-4*

O Lord, baptise our hearts into a sense of the conditions and needs of all people. *George Fox*

Thursday 7th May

As my Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. if you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and your joy may be complete. *John 15.9-11*

O Lord, you have made us very small, and we bring our years to an end like a tale that is told. Help us to remember that beyond our brief day is the eternity of your love. *Reinhold Niebuhr*

Friday 8th May

Jesus said to his disciples, 'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. *John 15.12-14*

Only by embracing all can we become the arms of God. *Coleman Barks*

Saturday 9th May

Remember the word that I said to you, 'Servants are not greater than their master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you; if they kept my word, they will keep yours also.

But they will do all these things to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me. *John 15.20-21*

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

Sunday 10th May

A woman called Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira, and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and all her household were baptised, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' *Acts 16.14-17*

Being myself includes taking risks with myself, trying new ways of being myself, so that I can see who I want to be. *Hugh Prather*

Monday 11th May

When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You are also to testify, because you have been with me from the beginning. *John 15.26,27*

To live a spiritual life is to discover a way of being that encompasses all we are as human beings, connecting our inner person and our outer life, reflecting our best aspirations and our less-than-perfect realities. *Ian Adams*

Tuesday 12th May

I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin, righteousness and judgement: about sin because they do not believe in me, about righteousness because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgement because the ruler of this world has been condemned. *John 16.7-11*

When we lose one blessing, another is often most unexpectedly given in its place. *C.S. Lewis*

Wednesday 13th May

When the spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. *John 16.13-15*

The essential gift is aliveness – coming alive towards other people, coming alive to the glory and tragedy of this world. *John V. Taylor*

Thursday 14th May

He opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning in Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. *Luke 24.45-48*

Grace is the perennial infusion of springtime into the winter of bleakness. *John O'Donohue*

Friday 15th May

You have pain now; but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. On that day you will ask nothing of me. Very truly I tell you, if you ask anything of the Father in my name he will give it to you. *John 16. 22,23*

Courage is not the absence of fear – it is inspiring others to move beyond it. *Nelson Mandela*

Saturday 16th May

I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Romans 8.38,39*

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

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