

## Holding the Silence 2026

### Daily Readings from Sunday 5th - Saturday 18th April 2026

#### Collect for Sunday 5th - Saturday 11th April

God of glory, by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell: fill your church with faith and hope; for a new day has dawned and the way of life stands open in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### Collect for Sunday 12th - Saturday 18th April

Risen Christ for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred: open the doors of our hearts, that we may seek the good of others and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace, to the praise of God the Father. Amen.

### Daily Readings

#### Sunday 5th April

We are witnesses to all that he did in Jerusalem and Judea. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people, but to us who were chosen as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. *Acts 10.39-41*

Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green. *J.M.C. Crum*

#### Monday 6th April

Jesus said, 'This is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up upon the last day. *John 6.39*

The biggest contributor to happiness is not having tons of stuff, but knowing your address in the universe of meaning. *Chris Arnade*

#### Tuesday 7th April

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! All the earth shall worship you, sing to you, sing praise to your name. *Psalms 66, 1, 2a, 3*

If God had wanted to be a big secret, He would not have created babbling brooks and whispering pines. *Robert Brault*

#### Wednesday 8th April

Bless our God, O you peoples; make the voice of his praise to be heard, who holds our souls in life and suffers not our feet to slip. *Psalms 66.7,8*

I think it pisses God off if you walk by the colour purple in a field somewhere and don't notice it ... People think pleasing God is all God cares about. But any fool living in the world can see it is always trying to please us back. *Alice Walker*

#### Thursday 9th April

Jesus stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' They were startled and terrified, and thought they were seeing a ghost. He said, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts rise in your hearts? Look at my hands and feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have. He showed them his hands and feet. *Luke 24.36b-39*

Our life is what our thoughts make of it. *Marcus Aurelius*

#### Friday 10th April

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'If we are questioned today because a good deed was done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man was healed, let it be known to all the people of Israel that he is in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. *Acts 4.8-10*

We hold our smallness to your greatness; Our fear to your love; Our humble acts of thanksgiving to your great generosity; Ourselves to you. *Anon*

#### Saturday 11th April

Later he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were sitting at the table; and he upbraided them for their lack of faith and stubbornness, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen. He said, 'Go onto all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation.' *Mark 16.14-15*

God's presence is not discerned at the time when it is upon us, but afterwards, when we look back at what is gone and over.

*John Henry Newman*

### **Sunday 12th April**

A week later the disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God.'

*John 20.26-28*

Faith is courage. It is creative, while despair is always destructive. *David S. Muzzey*

### **Monday 13th April**

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*

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

### **Tuesday 14th April**

We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love. *Ephesians 4.14-16*

Faith can move mountains, but don't be surprised if God hands you a shovel. *Anon*

### **Wednesday 15th April**

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. *John 3.16,17*

Jesus is not a figure in a book. He is a living presence. *William Barclay*

### **Thursday 16th April**

God destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the richness of his grace that he lavished on us. *Ephesians 1.5-7*

Your life is shaped by the end you live for. You are made in the image of God.

*Marva J. Dawn*

### **Friday 17th April**

One thing have I asked of the Lord and that alone I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the fair beauty of the Lord and to seek his will in his temple. I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord, be strong and he shall comfort your heart; wait patiently for the Lord. *Psalms 27.4,6-8*

God hold you, enfold you, and keep you wrapped around his heart: may you be known by love. *Paul Field*

### **Saturday 18th April**

Happy are those who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the Lord their God; who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them; who keeps his promise for ever; who gives justice to those who suffer wrong and bread to those who hunger. *Psalms 146.4-6*

Time is eternity; and we live in eternity now. *Herman Melville*

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