



Pentecost 13st October 2019



It is good to be fallen

Call to thoughtfulness Primary wonder Denise Levertov (1923-1997)

Days pass when I forget the mystery.
Problems insoluble and problems offering
their own ignored solutions
jostle for my attention, they crowd its antechamber
along with a host of diversions, my courtiers, wearing
their coloured clothes; cap and bells.

And then

once more the quiet mystery
is present to me, the throng's clamour
recedes: the mystery
that there is anything, anything at all,
let alone cosmos, joy, memory, everything,
rather than void: and that, O Lord,
Creator, Hallowed One, You still,
hour by hour sustain it.



Jeremiah's suggestion to those who feel they live in exile:

These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon.

Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon:

Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce.

Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease.

But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

A GATHERING PRAYER the sacrament of the present moment URC p 96 based on Jeremiah 29 1 4-7

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us, give us your peace!

LUKE 17 11-19 ... and he was a Samaritan, yep! another foreigner!

Some time to ponder some time to say thank you URC p 97



Random thoughts, with a get out of jail clause for the rich (that's most of us!)

OFFERTORY HYMN there is another way Words Shirley Murray Tune Yi Hun Gan 590 Piano

Wounded world that cries for healing -
here we hold each other's pain,
wounded systems, bruised and bleeding
bear the load, the scars of strain;
dollars ration out compassion,
hard decisions rule the day,
Jesus of the healing Spirit,
free us to another way!

Through our nation's spent frustration,
through the corridors of stress
may there move a kindlier wisdom
all may feel, and all may bless;
tax and tithe are for a purpose
shared to shield the poor and weak:
past the symptoms of our sickness
let the voice of justice speak.

Honour those whose loving spirit
nurses hope, restores and heals,
towel and basin used in service
like the Christ who comes and kneels;
in the tending, in the mending
may we see the right and fair,
in our common quest for wholeness
heal each other by our care.



We gather at a table and share gifts and hope and gratitude

We break bread and we will toast past and the future

We remember to say thank you for the family of St John's and all our other families.

We remember the family of the stranger too; He or she, the foreigner, who stands in our midst and bids us:

Welcome

We will not be forgetful at the feast of life, the sacrament of now

Let there be no solemn silence

God detests our solemn assemblies!

- **Music: *Second time around* Andre Previn** -

HYMN 702 Lord in love and perfect wisdom

Tryst, spoken together

Lord, as we rise to leave this shell of worship, called to the risk of unprotected living,
willing to be at one with all your people;

Lord, we ask for courage.

For all the strain with living interwoven, for the demands each day will make upon us
and for the love we owe the modern city;

Lord, make us cheerful.

Give us an eye for opening to serve you; make us alert when calm is interrupted,
ready and wise to use the unexpected;

Lord, sharpen our insight.

Lift from our life the blanket of convention, give us the nerve to lose our life to others,
be with your Church in death and resurrection;

Lord of all ages, may we greet you in our day!

The Blessing after which we sing

**May the God of peace go with us as we travel from this place
May the Love of Jesus keep us firm in hope and full of grace**