



Pentecost 21st July 2019

Hospitality and possibility



Call to mindfulness

Shirley Murray

based on Amos 8 1-12

Now is the time for a reckoning, now all is flowering and flourishing,

God, help your children

mindfully listen:

soon there may be just a silent spring.

Silent the voices in bush and tree, silent the creatures of air and sea,

God, help your children

mindfully listen:

ours are the hands that took earth for free.

We are the root of the earth's unease, we are the pirates who dredge the seas,

God, help your children

mindfully listen:

ours is the creed doing as we please.

We are the spenders of precious store, we are the greedy who take no score,

God, help your children

mindfully listen:

ours are the mouths wanting more and more.

We take the bounty of all you give, we are the sorrow that makes you grieve,

God, help your children

mindfully listen,

mindfully choose how the world will live!



HYMN 118 Womb of life, and source of being Tune Lewis Folk Melody 718

PRAYER Like a green olive tree URC p 72

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!



AMOS 8 1-12 ... a basket of summer fruit!

HYMN Twisted values Words Martin Leckebusch Tune Yr Hun Gan 590

In an age of twisted values we have lost the truth we need;
in sophisticated language we have justified our greed;
by our struggle for possessions we have robbed the poor and weak ?
hear our cry and heal our nation: your forgiveness, Lord, we seek.

We have built discrimination on our prejudice and fear;
hatred swiftly turns to cruelty if we hold resentments dear.
For communities divided by the walls of class and race
hear our cry and heal our nation: show us, Lord, your love and grace.

When our families are broken; when our homes are full of strife;
when our children are bewildered, when they lose their way in life;
when we fail to give the aged all the care we know we should?
hear our cry and heal our nation with your tender fatherhood.



We who hear your word so often choose so rarely to obey;
turn us from our willful blindness, give us truth to light our way.
In the power of your Spirit come to cleanse us, make us new:
hear our cry and heal our nation, till our nation honours you.

HymnQuest ID: 73305



GENESIS 18 1 -10a HOSPITALITY ... the seeds we unwittingly sow



HYMN Our quirky God will surprise us!

Words John Campbell Tune On Ilkley Moor

Three strangers came to Abraham,
at Mamre's sacred trees.

Welcomed and fed, they prophesied
that Sarah soon would bear a child.

And that's when Sarah laughed, right there and then she laughed; she laughed and laughed and laughed!

How could her body bear a child?
For she and Abe were old!
Such things could never, never be,
who did those strangers think they were?

Refrain

Yet soon her body showed the signs
that she would bear a child;
nine months and then the son was born
who now was right, and who was wrong?

Refrain

Now Sarah wants us all to share
the laughter our God brings.
Sometimes we all will be surprised
by things our quirky God can do.

Then ev'ryone will laugh, with God we'll surely laugh, and laugh and laugh and laugh!

HymnQuest ID: 86863



OFFERTORY HYMN Let us not laugh Words John Campbell Tune Epiphany 240

Let us not laugh if our laughing is weary; tired with the tiredness of dreams unfulfilled.
Let us not laugh if our laughter, like Sarah's, dare not receive all the joy that you've willed.

Let us not laugh if our laughing resists you; stood like some Sarah in deserts of pain.
Let us not laugh if our laughter refuses your invitation to live once again.

Let us not laugh if our laughing just mocks you, gently despising all hope as absurd.
Let us not laugh if our laughter will harm us, cutting us off from the risk of your love.

Let us not laugh 'til our laughing is joyous, touched by the promise of life that you bring.
Let us not laugh 'til rebirth and renewal capture our spirits and make our hearts sing!

Then let us laugh with the laughter of heaven; share your delight at the friendship you've won;
hoping, believing and trusting whatever, laugh with a laughter that's never undone!

HymnQuest ID: 86770

REFLECTION Susan Durber; a meditation on Luke 38-42 The human part

Time to be still:

to retrace our footsteps and our words, to seek forgiveness and healing

to reclaim our capacity for compassion and creativity: to trust what God is calling us to be

HYMN 622 we sing a love

Lord, set your blessing upon us as we begin this new week together
Confirm us in the truth by which we rightly live; confront us with the truth from which we wrongly turn
We ask not for what we want, but for what you know we need
As we offer ourselves and the days ahead for you and to you
May our faith, unbound from fear, pride or anxiety, speak of your boundless grace, forgiveness and love.
Make us your disciples, faithful disciples, open to the rush of your breath and the depth of your love
Whatever the path we choose, may we trust in your guiding wisdom
Help us rise to the journey as people of the way and many ways

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

