



Pentecost 7th July 2019



Mace of the Scottish Parliament

Wisdom, Justice, Compassion, Integrity

Call to thoughtfulness Catchlight Kristen Geiser

If a spiritual life is to be real – authentic, courageous, tidal – then it will, by definition, depart in some nuanced way in some moments from the one your church or your family has offered.

**And if you are raising children, you are inviting them into something that you are on the cusp or the midst of rethinking
reconsidering
remembering
reimagining.**

As you experience your own departing and creating, and the offering of something to your children, you may notice a sense of worry and relief as they improvise their own spiritual life.

And yet these conversations often remain underground, whispered in backyard book clubs, or grocery store parking lots. We learn to keep the words hidden because they don't sound like the narratives of Good Christian Mothers.

Perhaps we need a new conversation to bring new possibility, capture the catchlight of mothering as holy improvisation and transform our notion of good.

HYMN 592 Like the murmur of the dove's song



PRAYER The Call of Wisdom (Proverbs 8 1-4) URC p62

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!

2 KINGS 5 1-14 Naaman hankers for familiar waters!



Irrawaddy River, Myanmar

HYMN 717 O Christ the healer we have come

Tune 392 Rockingham

Reflection: what brings us to the edge of things, and how do we move on?

HYMN A prayer for healing Words Shirley Murray Tune Promise 727

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 tithes are for a purpose shared to shield the poor and weak:
past the symptoms of our sickness, let the voice of justice speak.



Land of the free?

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.

HymnQuest ID: 72553

LUKE 10 1-11 Sting in the tail?

REFLECTION When resources and expectations don't quite match!

*Negative capability – is being capable of being in uncertainties, mysteries, doubts,
without any irritable reaching after fact and reason*

John Keats

OFFERTORY HYMN The universe to God in silence sings Words David Fox Tune Garelochside 712

The universe to God in silence sings its praise,
to echo Love's divine abyss
through all its silent ways.

And all created hosts, the angels, stars and sun
give praise to God in solemn dance;
as when all time began.

The earth, the air, the sea and every living thing
praise Christ, the uncreated, born
to be creation's king.

Christ's spirit makes us one, and, built in Christ, we find
humanity, the beating heart
and image of God's mind.

The Spirit's pulsing life shall find us, lost in night,
and in the peace of love and praise
shall lead us in the light.

HymnQuest ID: 62213



Prayers for others and for ourselves

Peace to this house URC p69

HYMN 644 O Jesus, I have promised

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
place

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

**practice random
acts of kindness.**

