



# The Sunday Supplement

Issue 13: 13th June 2020

## Call to Worship

This new day is fresh with possibility to encounter the Living Christ.

**With bright eyes, let us search.**

This new day is fresh with possibility to understand the Living Christ.

**With engaged minds, let us ponder.**

This new day is fresh with possibility to be moved by the Living Christ.

**With compassionate hearts, let us feel.**

This new day is fresh with possibility to respond to the Living Christ.

**With solid devotion, let us follow.**

This new day is fresh with possibility to serve the Living Christ.

**With humble intention, let us act.**

This new day is fresh with possibility to praise the Living Christ.

**With strong voices, let us sing.**

*Christine Sobania Johnson <http://freshlysqueezedliturgy.blogspot.com/>*



## Reading

Matthew 9:35 - 10:8



O God, giver of all good gifts,  
you have given me life.  
You have bestowed upon me your love  
and that love includes your plans for  
me.

What am I to do?  
All life is a call and a response.  
I pray for grace to hear God's voice  
and a heart to respond.  
I am ready to listen.

Help me to listen to the rhythm of each  
day, day by day,  
so that I am not overwhelmed with  
thoughts of the future.  
Yet guide me into that future so that I  
know who and whose I am.

I shall listen.  
I shall listen to the voices of those  
witnesses who have lived before me.  
I shall listen to those who are here to  
give me guidance and encouragement,  
for it is clear that whatever plans you  
have for me,  
I will never journey alone.

I will listen to my feelings as I grow and  
change,  
processes that I know will be lifelong.  
I shall listen to you.

And even though I want easy answers,  
I know that what you want is a  
relationship.  
So when I answer you,  
may my response be to my potential  
and to your love of all creatures on your  
good earth.  
Let me serve with the gifts you give me.

O God, I know that vocation is truly a gift  
of your love.  
What am I to do?  
I am ready to listen.

*Consider Your Call*

## Thought for the week



Great oaks from little acorns grow, it is said. Growth in this case is not instant, of course. Oak trees take about 75 years to reach their full height. The ancient woodlands of Epping Forest have many magnificent oaks. They have grown and developed over hundreds of years. Walking in these areas is a reminder of the value of slow but steady growth.

In recent times our usually hectic world has slowed down. Concerns over the spread of Covid-19 have led to the closure of schools, businesses, and churches. Life has changed beyond recognition for many of us. The gradual reopening of society has only just begun. At last there is at least some hope of 'getting back to normal'. Or is it just possible that the enforced slowdown could be the catalyst for change, transformation, new growth, new opportunities, new understanding?

Once the ministry of Jesus was underway, twelve people were chosen to help grow the work. With crowds gathering daily to hear him teach more workers were needed. Each of the men selected had been with Jesus since the beginning of his public ministry. They had learned from him and seen remarkable things happen. Jesus instructed them to start small. They were given the power to heal and to release the mentally distressed from oppression. No preaching was required, just a willingness to play a part in sharing the good news as they were able.

There was no time to waste. The travellers need not take supplies as hospitality would be offered along the way. Time should only be spent where they found themselves welcome. These twelve Jewish men were, for the time being at least, to remain among their own people. Time and space were needed for the work to grow. Great things would result from these small beginnings.

Slowly, gradually, possibilities are emerging for Christians to begin reaching out and sharing the good news. We have much to offer our own communities in the coming days. Preaching is not our first priority. The call is to bring healing of body and mind to those who have suffered either physically or mentally in recent months. It is Jesus himself who empowers and sends us. All we need will be provided on the way.

Great things may yet grow from these small beginnings. The twelve apostles were amazed at what happened when they stepped out on the road. As we do the same may God empower, inspire, and encourage us to play our part in the growth of the kingdom of heaven.

Great oaks from little acorns grow.

# Crown him with many crowns

Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne.  
Hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.  
Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee,  
And hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of life, who triumphed over the grave,  
And rose victorious in the strife for those He came to save.  
His glories now we sing, who died, and rose on high,  
Who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of peace, whose power a sceptre sways  
From pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise.  
His reign shall know no end, and round His pierced feet  
Fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown Him the Lord of love, behold His hands and side,  
Those wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.  
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For Thou has died for me;  
Thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.

---

## Blessing

So now we leave this space of worship  
And while so much of the road ahead is uncertain,  
the path constantly changing,  
we know some things that are as solid and sure  
as the ground beneath our feet,  
and the sky above our heads.

We know God is love.  
We know Christ's light endures.

We know the Holy Spirit is there,  
found in the space between all things,  
closer to us than our next breath,  
binding us to each other,  
until we meet we again,

Go in peace.