**At Home Order of Service**

**Sunday 19th of September 2021 6.00pm**

**This Sunday’s theme**

**“Jostling for position”**

## Welcome and Notices (Duty Leader)

In our worship today on this 16th Sunday after Trinity let us remember that the love of God for his people and for his church knows no limits. The Psalmist talks of God’s love reaching up to the heavens and his justice to the depth of the ocean, and yet he blesses us as individuals with the gifts of his Spirit so that his Church, his people might be a light in this place, to his glory.

[All I once held dear - Robin Mark - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oxpPIa-BskY)

**All I once held dear, built my life upon**  
All this world reveres and wars to own  
All I once thought gain I have counted loss  
Spent and worthless now, compared to this

Knowing You, Jesus  
Knowing You  
There is no greater thing  
You're my all, You're the best  
You're my joy, my righteousness  
And I love You, Lord

Now my heart's desire is to know You more  
To be found in You and known as Yours  
To possess by faith what I could not earn  
All-surpassing gift of righteousness

Knowing ….

Oh, to know the power of Your risen life  
And to know You in Your sufferings  
To become like You in Your death, my Lord  
So with You to live and never die

Knowing …

[Our God is an Awesome God! - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=smZwG-auxC8)

**Our God is an awesome God**  
He reigns from heaven above  
With wisdom, power, and love  
Our God is an awesome God x 4

Father God, we bring our offering of worship and with it the service of our lives through this coming week. May we go from this place knowing that we have met with you and been blessed by your Spirit, to live and work to your glory. Amen

Living God whose Word became flesh in Jesus and whose Spirit of Truth speaks into our hearts all honour and glory and worship belong to you. As our praises pronounce your wonder may our lives overflow with love, that our words and deeds might tell of your goodness and declare your infinite grace. **Amen**.

**Confession**

Gracious God with gratitude and gladness we hear your promise of liberation: that in Christ we are forgiven and set free, and restored to serve you. Thanks be to you, Living God! **Amen.**

**Collect,** Lord of creation,

whose glory is around and within us:

open our eyes to your wonders,

that we may serve you with reverence

and know your peace at our lives’ end,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

[**Guided Lectio Divina:**](https://team.org/blog/guided-lectio-divina)

**Jesus predicts his death for the second time.**

**Mark 9.30-37**

**30**They left that place and passed through Galilee. Jesus did not want anyone to know where they were, **31**because he was teaching his disciples. He said to them, “The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men. They will kill him, and after three days he will rise.” **32**But they did not understand what he meant and were afraid to ask him about it.

**33**They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the road?” **34**But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest.

**35**Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, “Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all.”

**36**He took a little child whom he placed among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, **37**“Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me.”

For thousands of years, believers have used *lectio divina* as a way to meditate on God’s word and draw closer to Him. Readers take in the text four times, asking four simple questions. Then, they listen for the Lord’s voice.

This method of reading Scripture is powerful in everyday life. And in times of distress, it gently causes us to slow down, quiet our souls and remember that Jesus is present with us. Wherever you are in life, we want to invite you to an online lectio divina experience.

“Lectio divina” means “sacred reading.” It is a way of reading scripture to have an encounter with God through the text. Since we’re not primarily reading for information, we go through the text slowly and prayerfully. We read the passage four times and ask four simple questions:

* **“What does the text say?”**
* **“What does the text say to me?”**
* **“What do I want to say to God about the text?”**
* **“What difference does the text make in my life?”**

Let’s walk through a lectio divina together by praying through Mark 9: 30-37, in which Jesus predicts his death for the second time.

**For the first reading, I ask the question: “What does the text say?”**

Pay attention to what is happening in the passage: Where does this takes place? Who is present? And carefully observe Jesus’ and the disciples responses. There will be a short pause after the reading for a time of reflection.

**Pause for a moment now to reflect, asking, “What does the text say?”**

**Read the passage a second time. This time, ask yourself, “What does the text say to me?**

* What phrases or words stand out to you?
* Is there something that God might want to raise in front of you in prayer?
* What are the resonances between the text and what is going on in your own life?

Perhaps you have seen an argument between two followers of Jesus. What was it over how did it make you feel? Pay attention to whatever it is, and take a moment to sit with it.

**Pause for a moment now to reflect asking, “What does the text say to me?”**

**For the third reading, we ask, “What do I want to say to God about the text? What is my response to Him?”**

Maybe you’ll feel moved to say, “God, I feel like the last, thank I can be first with you. Make me small like the child and my faith uncomplicated. Show me who You really are and how you dealt with disagreements.” It sometimes helps to express these difficult feelings in prayer, and sometimes a Scripture passage like this will help you do that. Again, there will be a short pause after the reading.

Read the passage again:

**Pause for a moment now to reflect asking, “What do I want to say to God about the text?”**

**Read the text one last time. For this reading, ask the question, “What difference does the text make in my life?”**

Perhaps you’re reminded of a time when God gave you a reminder of how simple faith should be, or a time when you were brought into the centre so who you were and your gifts could be to be used by Jesus. What might the Holy Spirit want to say to you through this passage today? If you wish to follow up contact Clive

**Sharing and Caring will take place in the Zoom service in the evening.**

**Intercessions and Lord’s Prayer**

Generous God, you have nourished us with your word. Take us, bless us and send us, that our lips be touched with the gentleness of your peace; that our hearts burn with your passion and integrity; that our lives declare the good news of your love for the whole creation, in the name of Christ, **Amen**

[Send The Fire (with lyrics) - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6qydwzaeVa0)

O God of burning cleansing flame  
Send the fire  
Your blood-bought gift today we claim  
Send the fire today  
Look down and see this waiting host  
And send the promised Holy Ghost  
We need another Pentecost  
Send the fire today Send the fire today

God of Elijah hear our cry  
Send the fire  
And make us fit to live or die  
Send the fire today  
To burn up every trace of sin  
To bring the light and glory in  
The revolution now begin  
Send the fire today Send the fire today

It's fire we want for fire we plead  
Send the fire  
The fire will meet our every need  
Send the fire today  
For strength to always do what's right  
For grace to conquer in the fight  
For power to walk the world in white  
Send the fire today Send the fire today

To make our weak hearts strong and brave  
Send the fire  
To live a dying world to save  
Send the fire today  
Oh see us on Your altar lay  
We give our lives to You today  
So crown the offering now we pray  
Send the fire today Send the fire today  
Send the fire today

Faithful God whose Word does not return empty but accomplishes all that you purpose, may your blessings fall like rain to water the earth, nourishing seed for our food, and filling us with the abundance of your love, through Jesus Christ your living Word. **Amen.**