**At Home Order of Service**

**Sunday 3rd of October and 6.00pm on Zoom**

**This Sunday’s theme**

**“Let them come to me”**

## Welcome and Notices (Duty Leader)

In our worship today on this 18th 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.

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**.

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7zaLh6y9W7E**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7zaLh6y9W7E)

**Give me oil in my lamp**, keep me burning
Give me oil in my lamp, I pray
Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning
Keep me burning 'til the break of day

Sing hosanna, sing hosanna
Sing hosanna to the King of kings
Sing hosanna, sing hosanna
Sing hosanna, to the King

Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising

Sing hosanna…

Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting

Sing hosanna…

Give me love in my heart, keep me serving.

Sing hosanna…

**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,** God our judge and saviour, teach us to be open to your truth and to trust in your love, that we live each day with confidence in the salvation which is given through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

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

**Mark 10: 2-16 2**Some Pharisees came and tested him by asking, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” **3**“What did Moses command you?” he replied. **4**They said, “Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away.”**5**“It was because your hearts were hard that Moses wrote you this law,” Jesus replied. **6**“But at the beginning of creation God ‘made them male and female.’[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=+Mark+10%3A2-16&version=NIV#fen-NIV-24595a)] **7**‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife,[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=+Mark+10%3A2-16&version=NIV#fen-NIV-24596b)] **8**and the two will become one flesh.’[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=+Mark+10%3A2-16&version=NIV#fen-NIV-24597c)] So they are no longer two, but one flesh. **9**Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

**10**When they were in the house again, the disciples asked Jesus about this. **11**He answered, “Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her. **12**And if she divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery.” **13**People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. **14**When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. **15**Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.” **16**And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

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 10: 2-16.

**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. You may reflect on how Jesus used a child in Mark: 9

**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?

How does this passage 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, sometimes I feel like small like the child and barriers are put up to stop my access to you. Relationships are sometimes difficult and end, help me understand? Show me who You really are and how you dealt with disagreements? Then, and how you might now in this different world? 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.

**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**

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5\_RZqgCuEFs**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5_RZqgCuEFs)

**When I Feel The Touch** Of Your Hand Upon My Life,

It Causes Me To Sing A Song That I Love You, Lord.

So From Deep Within My Spirit Singeth Unto Thee,
You Are My King, You Are My God, And I Love You, Lord

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rsXvcIC\_zb0**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rsXvcIC_zb0)

**God sent His son** they called Him Jesus
He came to love heal and forgive
He lived and died to buy my pardon
An empty grave is there to prove my Saviour lives

Because He lives I can face tomorrow
Because He lives all fear is gone
Because I know He holds the future
And life is worth the living just because He lives

How sweet to hold a new born baby
And feel the pride and joy he brings
But greater still the calm assurance
This child can face uncertain days because He lives

Because He lives

And then one day I'll cross that river
I'll fight life's final war with pain
And then as death gives way to victory
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives

Because He lives

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 of creation, in the name of Christ, **Amen**

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.**