



September 2020

Dear all,

Disciples of Christ

This month you have given us the inspiration for the readings and songs. God speaks to each of us, not just to 'leaders'. We are called, through our baptism to a common vocation. The Church – the whole people of God – is charged with continuing Christ's work, bearing witness to, and participating in, the mission of God.

We are called to be disciples – people who are actively seeking to know Jesus more deeply, to learn to love and live in his ways in every area of life. The way of Jesus is something to be learnt, and we need to be in relationship with God and others to learn it. We never stop being a disciple – there should be a commitment to learning, and we learn with other disciples.

And so this month, we will learn from each other. And don't worry if yours isn't here – there are more to come next month!

All God's blessings,

Karen, Fay, Suz, Bryan, Lynda and Jan

SUNDAY 6th SEPTEMBER

Reading: Psalm 23

Song: You're a Good, Good Father

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CqybaIesbuA>

"Our choice of favourite song/verse tends to vary from season to season but over this period, I've been really supported by Psalm 23. Although it is so well known, I've never related much to it before as it speaks of rest which only God has been able to provide at the moment. God's "rod and staff" providing guidance is something that I have needed. I've often repeated this Psalm during restless nights in recent weeks. This song talks about God's tender whispers in the dead of night, reminding us that we are not alone. Again, it has been a message that has kept me going when trying to make difficult decisions."

Oh, I've heard a thousand stories of what they
think you're like
But I've heard the tender whisper of love in
the dead of night
And you tell me that you're pleased
And that I'm never alone

You're a Good, Good Father
It's who you are, it's who you are, it's who
you are
And I'm loved by you
It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am

Oh, and I've seen many searching for answers
far and wide
But I know we're all searching
For answers only you provide
'Cause you know just what we need
Before we say a word

You're a Good, Good Father
It's who you are, it's who you are, it's who
you are
And I'm loved by you
It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am

'Cause you are perfect in all of your ways
You are perfect in all of your ways
You are perfect in all of your ways to us

You are perfect in all of your ways
You are perfect in all of your ways
You are perfect in all of your ways to us

Oh, it's love so undeniable
I, I can hardly speak
Peace so unexplainable
I, I can hardly think

As you call me deeper still
As you call me deeper still
As you call me deeper still
Into love, love, love

You're a Good, Good Father
It's who you are, it's who you are, it's who
you are
And I'm loved by you
It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am

You're a Good, Good Father ...

You're a Good, Good Father
(You are perfect in all of your ways)
It's who you are, it's who you are, it's who
you are
And I'm loved by you
(You are perfect in all of your ways)
It's who I am, it's who I am it's who I am

*(Chris Tomlin; Pat Barrett; Anthony Brown© 2014
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Publishing Designee, Vamos Publishing,
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SUNDAY 13th SEPTEMBER

Reading: Matthew 19:14

Song: Shall we Gather at the River
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-570Uopk_A

"I was given a picture of Jesus when I was about 4 or 5 years old. On this picture was this verse and it is something that I have always remembered. At this time when children are going back to school and perhaps anxious about what they have missed, we know that God loves them and let's pray for them and encourage them because Jesus loves them too. Although an oldie, this song reminds us of how much of Jesus' teaching was beside rivers and seas. In heaven, the Bible talks about there being so many beautiful things that we can't imagine it. Included is the river of life Revelation 22:1."

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| <p>1. Shall we gather at the river
Where bright angel feet have trod
With its crystal tide forever
Flowing by the throne of God?</p> <p>2. Yes, we'll gather at the river
The beautiful, the beautiful river
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God</p> | <p>3. Soon we'll reach the shining river
Soon our pilgrimage will cease
Soon our happy hearts will quiver
With the melody of peace</p> <p>4. Yes, we'll gather at the river
The beautiful, the beautiful river
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God</p> |
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SUNDAY 20th SEPTEMBER

Reading: 1 Corinthian 13: 13

Song: O Love that Will Not Let Me Go

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xJOUtCModPI>

"This sums up so much of what we are called to do – to have and demonstrate "faith, hope and love" even in the difficult times. I have been shown so much love from people I hardly know -neighbours who have checked up on me. This is a famous hymn with a story. The author, George Matheson, wrote this about it: *My hymn was composed in the manse of Inellan on the evening of June 6, 1882. I was at that time alone. It was the day of my sister's marriage, and the rest of my family were staying overnight in Glasgow. Something had happened to me which was known only to myself, and which caused me the most severe mental suffering. The hymn was the fruit of that suffering.*"

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| <p>1. O love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee:
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.</p> <p>2. O light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee:
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.</p> | <p>3. O joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee:
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.</p> <p>4. O cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee:
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.</p> |
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SUNDAY 27th SEPTEMBER

Reading: Acts 9:1-20

Song: Shine Jesus Shine

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J3iB30gCqAc>

"This is the account of Saul's conversion. He had been transformed on the road to Damascus from a hater of Christians to one of the greatest preachers of Christianity. This account is so meaningful for me because it shows that God welcomes anyone who comes to Him. He chooses the mostly unlikely people to do amazing jobs that no-one would expect. He is the God who does great things through people who seem "Wrong for the job"! This song is about God's light shining on us , transforming us, just like it did on Saul centuries ago."

1. Lord, the light of your love is shining,
In the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon
us,
Set us free by the truth You now bring
us,
Shine on me, shine on me.

*Shine, Jesus, shine,
Fill this land with the Father's glory;
Blaze, Spirit, blaze,
Set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
Flood the nations with grace and
mercy;
Send forth Your word,
Lord, and let there be light.*

2. Lord, I come to Your awesome
presence,
From the shadows into Your radiance;
By the blood I may enter Your
brightness,
Search me, try me, consume all my
darkness.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, shine ...

3. As we gaze on Your kingly brightness
So our faces display Your likeness.
Ever changing from glory to glory,
Mirrored here may our lives tell Your
story.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, shine ...

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