



16th June 2024
 We extend a warm welcome to
 Kathy Dymond and to all
 our members, friends and
 visitors



For meditation: Your purposes stand firm, O God. Your power trustworthy, your rest safe, your truth beyond telling, your searching without end, your love un-forgotten and your indwelling for ever. Indian mystic (c1608 – 1649)

NEWS AND VIEWS

Today is Father's Day. There are some suggestions that the idea of Father's Day may originate in pagan sun worship. Some branches of paganism see the Sun as the father of the universe. Since the summer solstice occurs around the same time of year as Father's Day, some people see a link between the two. The idea of a special day to honour fathers and celebrate fatherhood was introduced from the United States. Father's Day has been celebrated in June since 1910 in the USA. The celebrations in the United Kingdom are thought to have been inspired by the American custom of Father's Day.

POINTS FOR PRAYER

Heavenly Father, you see us just as we are, deep inside – not just the outside stuff. You remind us that it is our hearts that need to be changed. As we come before you today, we pray that you will show us your pattern for our lives. Make us willing to change and be changed. God chose David even though he was the youngest son. God, who can change and equip anyone for anything, chooses us. Show us anew how privileged we are to belong to you. .
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In the circuit we are being supported in prayer today and we remember too the students at Chapel House, Walcot as they prepare to head off for the Summer.

LECTIONARY READINGS – 23rd June

- 1 Samuel 17: 32-49
- Psalm 9: 9-20
- Mark 4: 35-41
- 2 Corinthians 6: 1-13

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Jesus went on to say, "The Kingdom of God is like this. A man scatters seed in his field. He sleeps at night, is up and about during the day, and all the while the seeds are sprouting and growing. Yet he does not know how it happens. The soil itself makes the plants grow and bear fruit; first the tender stalk appears, then the ear, and finally the ear full of corn. When the corn is ripe, the man starts cutting it with his sickle, because harvest time has come. Mark 4: 26 -29

DIARY

Thursday 20th June

Café 9.30 – 12 noon
 All welcome.

Sunday 23rd June

Morning worship 11.00am
 led by Michael Lowe

When our confidence is shaken
 In beliefs we thought secure;
 When the spirit in its sickness
 Seeks but cannot find a cure;
 God is active in the tensions
 Of a faith not yet mature.

Solar systems, void of meaning,
 Freeze the spirit into stone;
 Always our researches lead us
 To the ultimate Unknown;
 Faith must die, or come full circle
 To its source in God alone.

In the discipline of praying,
 When it's hardest to believe;
 In the drudgery of caring,
 When it's not enough to grieve;
 Faith, maturing, learns acceptance
 Of the insights we receive.

God is love; and thus redeems us
 In the Christ we crucify;
 This is God's eternal answer
 To the world's eternal why;
 May we in this faith maturing
 Be content to live and die.

Fred Pratt Green

The Scriptures have much to say for the consolation of the disillusioned. They urge people to lift their eyes from the broken toys that have disappointed them, to the splendours that endure for evermore. F W Boreham

