

St. Andrew's Church, Coniston, Prayer & Praise, 24 June 2020

Ember Day, Birth of John the Baptist

Call to Prayer

**Most powerful Holy Spirit,
come down
upon us and subdue us. From heaven,
where the ordinary
is made glorious,
and glory seems but ordinary, bathe us
with the brilliance
of Your light like dew.**

O Breath of Life come sweeping through us

<https://youtu.be/rKz1BwFe6uE>

Isaiah 40:1-5

Comfort for God's People

40 Comfort, comfort my people,
says your God.

² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and proclaim to her
that her hard service has been completed,
that her sin has been paid for,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

³ A voice of one calling:
"In the wilderness prepare
the way for the LORD ^[a];
make straight in the desert
a highway for our God. ^[b]

⁴ Every valley shall be raised up,
every mountain and hill made low;
the rough ground shall become level,
the rugged places a plain.

⁵ And the glory of the LORD will be revealed,
and all people will see it together.
For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

Luke 1: 76:79

⁷⁶ And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High;
for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him,

⁷⁷ to give his people the knowledge of salvation
through the forgiveness of their sins,

⁷⁸ because of the tender mercy of our God,

by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven
79 to shine on those living in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the path of peace.”

Come to the Wild Places Prophetic Word Video

This is a word given to Julie Jackson

<https://youtu.be/klosuzd0XBE>

Meditation

We have come through an entire spring in Lockdown. We are now entering summer. The days are getting shorter. Outside the world is changing. We are being unlocked. Beginning to shake free of the shackles that have kept us housebound. As we slowly take our first steps, socially distanced, masked, blessing one another in the love of Christ, we have an opportunity to see things with new eyes. Do you hear His call? Listen to what the Spirit says to His people.

**Spirit of God, speak to me in language my heart can embrace,
in language my mind can understand,
in the language of silence that sinks deep into my soul.
Spirit of God, speak to me words of transformation,
words of empowerment, words of grace.**

Bow down and surrender

I Surrender

<https://youtu.be/s7jXASBWwwI>

On those who feel alone and unloved:
pour out your Spirit, gracious God.

On those who weep tears of anxiety:
pour out your Spirit, gracious God.

Where there is conflict, violence and strife:
pour out your Spirit, gracious God.

On those who face pressure and stress:
pour out your Spirit, gracious God.

Where people are interested only in gain:
pour out your Spirit, gracious God.

On those who are oppressed:
pour out your Spirit, gracious God.

Where the consequences of actions are ignored:
pour out your Spirit, gracious God.

On all who suffer cruelty and neglect:
pour out your Spirit, gracious God.

On those who are struggling with addiction:
pour out your Spirit, gracious God.

On your children gathered here:

pour out your Spirit, gracious God,
that we may bear your fruit in our world

Collect

Almighty God,
by whose providence your servant John the Baptist
was wonderfully born,
and sent to prepare the way of your Son our Saviour
by the preaching of repentance:
lead us to repent according to his preaching
and, after his example,
constantly to speak the truth, boldly to rebuke vice,
and patiently to suffer for the truth's sake;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

A version of the Lord's Prayer *by James Cotter*

**Eternal Spirit, Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer,
Love Maker**

**Source of all that is and shall be,
Father and mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven;**

**The Hallowing of your Name echo
through the universe!**

**The way of your Justice be followed by the
peoples of the world!**

**Your Heavenly will be done by all created
beings!**

**Your Commonwealth of Peace and Freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth!**

**With the bread that we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another,
forgive us.**

**In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.**

**From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is
Love, now and for ever. Amen.**

Hymn Give them all to Jesus

<https://youtu.be/-wOPEHvJDsE>

Blessing

Fear not, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name; you are mine.

Fear not, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name; you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.

When you walk through fire, you shall not be burned.

I have called you by name; you are mine.

Glory to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit.

Fear not, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name; you are mine.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ, Amen!