

Resources & Reflections

Week of June 28, 2020



Alas, we've not seen the Resurrection Window at the rear of our Sanctuary for some time. As we would leave worship, I found myself reflecting on its message of New Life. In a sense, the one question the window asks is: Will we rise to the window's challenge? Will we be people of New Life?

For 114 years, - in one way or another - we have answered that question with a "Yes." We have met the challenge.

On the next page is a hymn written by Tim Winslea. He is both clergy and a registered nurse. The hymn celebrates the 100th birthday of Kenilworth Presbyterian Church in Portland. I was the supply pastor of this 21 member church. Like us, Kenilworth has also answered "Yes." I do love Tim's hymn.

"The Sands of Time"

1. The sands of time so swiftly move through days of joy and sorrow. These flowing years that God has blest, give promise for tomorrow. We stand with all the hallowed saints, the faithful ones before us; We sing the story those saints began: God's endless hymn of promise.
2. Each generation knows the pain of broken dreams and failings; And still the song of faith they sing and gain the strength from singing. We stand with all the hallowed saints, the faithful ones before us; We sing the story those saints began, God's endless hymn of promise.
3. We hold a blessing in our hands, a fragile gift of glory, We pledge to those not yet with us to keep alive this story. We stand with all the hallowed saints, the faithful ones before us; We sing the story those saints began, God's endless hymn of promise.

A Prayer for Hamilton Church

By your Word, O God, your creation came forth,
and we were given the breath of life.
By your Word, O God, Christ was raised from the tomb,
and death was overcome by New Life.
By your Word, O God, men and women were called,
the church was born, charged to serve and witness.
By your Word, O God, the pioneers of Hamilton Church
on July 25th were moved to establish a new outpost.
Our congregation has been given life in the Spirit,
we bless and thank those who pioneered before us.
In their spirit, may we boldly proclaim good news
by the words of our mouths and the deeds of our lives,
rejoicing always in your powerful presence;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord. Amen.

A Week of Scripture Reading

Sunday - **4th Sunday after Pentecost** **June 28th**

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 13
An Epistle Reading: Romans 6:12-23
The Gospel Reading: Matthew 10:40-42

Monday - **June 29**

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 57
The Gospel Reading: Luke 22:52-62

Tuesday - **June 30**

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 54
The Gospel Reading: Luke 22:63-71

Wednesday - **July 1**

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 65
The Gospel Reading: Luke 23:1-12

Thursday - **July 2**

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 143
The Gospel Reading: Luke 23:13-25

Friday - **July 3**

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 88
A Gospel Reading: Luke 23:26-43

Saturday - **July 4 - Independence Day**

Old Testament: Deuteronomy 10:17-21
An Epistle Reading: Hebrews 11:8-16

Sunday - **5th Sunday after Pentecost** **July 5th**

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 13
An Epistle Reading: Romans 6:12-23
The Gospel Reading: Matthew 10:40-42



*If the mail is slow,
a start on the new week
is provided.*



For Our Country on July 4th

Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations yet unborn: Grant that we and all the people of this land may have the grace to maintain our liberties in righteousness, peace, forbearance and community; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

For God's Presence in My Life:

Steadfast Lover of us all, we come as persons seeking to:
live more genuinely,
learn more expansively,
love more deeply.

We want to base our lives on the love of Christ,
so that from day to day
we may be passionate and patient,
faithful and forgiving.

Open us to Your message for today. Amen.

FOR RACIAL HARMONY:

Gracious God, through the grace of your creation,
you made the nations of the world to be a family,
and your Son taught us that love is the uniting force.

Yet our world is like Babel, riven apart,
prejudice, arrogance, and pride bedevil us.

Help us to turn around this sorry situation.

Increase in us sympathy, tolerance, and goodwill,
give us to learn with appreciation the gifts
that other people and races bring us.

Grant us to see your image in our brothers & sisters.

Save us from jealousy, hatred, and fear –
that living together as members of one family,
and loving all of your creation,
we may confirm liberty mutual community for all;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Book of Common Order, Church of Scotland