

**Lectionary**  
Readings for every day  
You Select!



in the HCUC

**No. 9**

**For 19 June 2016**

**Dear Friends**

At the present moment there are truly millions, yes millions, of people around the world who are daily struggling to survive. Do we need a list to prove it? Think of the 4-5 million who have escaped from the terror, destruction, starvation, death in their homeland. Our TV news items confirm this brutal reality with on-the-spot technicolour detail. The Aid Agencies report the numbers from the most devastated zones and they show us the families in temporary tents and the bewildered children and the tiny skeletal bodies of the starving children. It is a disgusting story of man's inhumanity to man.

In recent weeks I have found myself drawn back to sitting with the crowds on the hillside, listening to the poetry and wisdom of Jesus. We know it as the Sermon on the Mount. (Found mostly in Matthew Chapters 5-7)

Yes! Poets are often our greatest prophets. Certainly Jesus was right up there with the greatest. History shows us that again and again the powerful ego-driven leaders feared the poets and tried to silence them.

When we look at what Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount it is so easy to make it into a legal document. It echoes the story of Moses on the mount, giving a whole bunch of laws, so we get to feel that we should see Jesus giving us another bunch of rules to interpret literally.

For example, it is not much help to refugees to say "Don't worry about what food you will have tomorrow" — especially when their children have had no food for the previous two weeks. Or again, "Don't worry about clothes as you shelter in the rain, as winter races towards you."

It is always the right time to look at the poetry of Jesus ( and never more right time than today and tomorrow);

**Sincerely - Lester**

	<b>Psalm</b>	<b>Epistle/OT</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
Monday 20 June:	60:1-5, 11-end	2 Kings 17:5-8, 13-15,18	Matt 7:1-5
Tuesday 21 June:	48:1-2,8-end	2 Kings 19:9b-11, 14-21,31-36	Matt 7:6,12-14
Wednesday 22 June:	119:33-40	2 Kings 22:8-13; 23:1-3	Matt 7:15-20
Thursday 23 June:	79:1-9,12	2 Kings 24:8-17	Matt 7:21-end
Friday 24 June:	85:7-13	Isa 40:1-11	Luke 3:1-17
Saturday 25 June:	74:1-3, 21-end	Lam 2:2,10-14, 18-19	Matt 8:5-17

	<b>Psalm</b>	<b>Epistle/OT</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
Monday 27 June:	50:16-23	Amos 2:6-10,13-end	Matt 8:18-22
Tuesday 28 June:	5:8-end	Amos 3:1-8; 4:11-12	Matt 8:23-27
Wednesday 29 June:	125	Acts 12:1-11	Matt 16:13-19
Thursday 30 June:	19:7-10	Amos 7:10-end	Matt 9:1-8
Friday 1 July:	119:1-8	Amos 8:4-6,9-12	Matt 9:9-13
Saturday 2 July:	85:8-end	Amos 9:11-end	Matt 9:14-17
Sunday 3 July <b><u>Pentecost 7</u></b> Ps 30; 2 Kings 5:1-14; Gal 6:(1-6),7-16; Luke 10:1-11,16-20			

	<b>Psalm</b>	<b>Epistle/OT</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
Monday 4 July:	145:2-9	Hosea 2:14-16,19,20	Matt 9:18-26
Tuesday 5 July:	103:8-12	Hosea 8:4-7,11-13	Matt 9:32-end
Wednesday 6 July:	115:3-10	Hosea 10:1-3,7-8,12	Matt 10:1-7
Thursday 7 July:	105:1-7	Hosea 11:1,3-4,8,9	Matt 10:7-15
Friday 8 July:	80:1-7	Hosea 14:2-end	Matt 10:16-23
Saturday 9 July:	51:1-7	Isa 6:1-8	Matt 10:24-33
Sunday 10 July <b><u>Pentecost 8</u></b> Ps 82; Amos 7:7-17; Col 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37			

## REJOICE!

The poet speaks.

- \* “Seek first the Kingdom ...” (Matt 6:33) Jesus never led us to understand the Kingdom as a piece of real estate, or place we can travel to. Instead he was pointing to an attitude of mind, an awareness of a different way of seeing life. He is the one who never pointed to himself but to a thousand images which hint at “something” that is vast, beyond literal definition.
- \* Rejoice that flowing through every corner of the universe is some divine intelligence and energy that is vaster than our highest intelligence and is the source of all energy, It is a creating, friendly force—always drawing us forward into deeper awareness, wider vision, and more loving-kindness. We are part of something greater than ourselves.
- \* Rejoice! This mysterious intelligence (we too glibly call “God”) has been from before time, and ever delighting in evolving this universe (we call it evolution). We as humans are the result of billions of years of patient development—here you are living at the forward most developed tip of this incredible loving process. Rejoice at every step of becoming more awake to this experience. No wonder Jesus kept pointing and tapping us on the shoulder to be more wide awake.
- \* Rejoice that we are not this body we now wear. It is a beautiful sculptured tool, that enables us to use it in order to discover the “I AM” that is our true being, the soul-invisible. We need this tool, this physical body to express the wonder, love and brilliance of infinite intelligence. So this calls for us to value, respect and look after this amazing gift.
- \* Rejoice—because to know this truth, beauty and bliss it lifts us to a height which enables us to “see” the universe and live from a new perspective. So don’t worry about what you are going to eat, and what sort of clothes you are going to wear; what you are is more important than what you eat and what you wear.

If God, the creative intelligence and unlimited energy is for us, who or what can ever be against us.

## MORE POETS - More Wisdom, Truth, Love

(from three Western Christians)

- ⊙ The future is more beautiful than all the pasts.
  - ⊙ These perspectives will appear absurd to those who don’t see that life is from its origins, groping, adventurous, and dangerous.  
  
But these perspectives will grow, like an irresistible idea on the horizon of new generations.
  - ⊙ A transformation of love is quite possible. What paralyzes life is the failure to believe and failure to dare.  
  
The day will come when after harnessing space, the winds, the tides and gravitation, we shall harness for God the energies of love.  
  
And on that day, for the second time in the history of the world, we shall have discovered FIRE!
- (Teilhard de Chardin—  
Scientist—Mystic—Poet)

◆ Do you want to know what goes on in the core of the Trinity? I will tell you:

In the core of the Trinity the Father laughs and gives birth to the Son.

The Son laughs back to the Father and gives birth to the Spirit.

The whole Trinity laughs and gives birth to us.

(Meister Eckhart)

◆ At the last we will clearly see in God the secret wisdom that now is hidden from us. Then none of us will be stirred to say:-  
“Lord, if we had known these things then all would have been well.”

Instead, we will all say, with one voice:

“Lord, may you be blessed!  
For it is thus: it IS well.”

(Julian of Norwich—  
Poet—Mystic—Saint)