



Resources & Reflections for the week of July 26th

REFLECTING ON OUR LIFE

Most of us live from day to day, so swamped by the pressures and details of daily life that we don't take time to think about our goals in life. We're like the airplane pilot who radios the control tower and says, "Yeah, I'm lost, but I'm making great time."

- Roy Menniger

My heart is resting, O my God,
I will rejoice and sing;
My heart is at the secret source
Of every precious thing.
I thirst for springs of heavenly life,
And here all day they rise;
I seek the treasure of thy love,
And close at hand it lies.

- Anna Waring

Authentic self-love is not a matter of being curved inward upon the self. It is not narcissism, nor is it a grasping selfishness. It is self-acceptance and affirmation of one's own graciously-given worth and creaturely fineness - in spite of all the distortions and flaws.

- James B. Nelson

"I THANK YOU GOD"

i thank You God for most this amazing
day:for the leaping greenly spirits of trees
and a blue true dream of sky; and for everything
which is natural which is infinite which is yes

(i who have died am alive again today,
and this is the sun's birthday;this is the birth
day of life and of love and wings:and of the gay
great happening illimitably earth)

how should tasting touching hearing seeing
breathing any—lifted from the no
of all nothing—human merely being
doubt unimaginable You?

(now the ears of my ears awake and
now the eyes of my eyes are opened)

E. E. Cummings (1894-1962), is one of America's great poets. If you are wondering, the punctuation is as he wrote it; spaces are closed so the ideas run in a sense of breathless enthusiasm.

A PRAYER FOR HOPE

Loving God, by your Holy Spirit inspire me, as I fear losing hope. Give me a fresh vision of your love, that I may find again what I fear I have lost. Grant me your powerful deliverance; through the One who makes all things new, Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

A PRAYER FOR TRUST IN GOD

God, you are my help and comfort; you shelter and surround me in love so tender that I may know your presence with me, now and always. Amen.

A WEEK OF SCRIPTURE READING

Sunday - 8th Sunday after Pentecost July 26th

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 128
An Epistle Reading: Romans 8:26-39
The Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Monday - July 27

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 85
The Gospel Reading: Mark 6:14-29

Tuesday - July 28

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 28
The Gospel Reading: Mark 6:30-46

Wednesday - July 29

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 125
The Gospel Reading: Mark 6:47-56

Thursday - July 30

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 81
The Gospel Reading: Mark 7:1-23

Friday - July 31

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 6
The Gospel Reading: Mark 7:24-37

Saturday - August 1

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 100
The Gospel Reading: Mark 8:1-10

Sunday - 8th Sunday after Pentecost August 2nd

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 17:1-7, 15
An Epistle Reading: Romans 9:1-5
The Gospel Reading: Matthew 14:13-21



*If the mail is slow,
We provide you with
a start on the new week.*

STRONGER Stronger Together

WE WILL PERSEVERE.

LIVING THE RESURRECTION LIFE

Often we want to be able to see into the future. We say "How will the next year be for me? Where will I be five or ten years from now?" There are no answers to these questions. Mostly we just have enough light to see the next step ... what it is we have to do in the coming hour or the next day.

The art of living is to enjoy what we can see and not complain about what remains in the dark. When we are able to take the next step with the trust that we will have enough light for the steps that will follow, we can walk through life with joy. Indeed, we will be surprised at how far we go.

Let us rejoice in this little light we carry with God's grace and not ask for the great beam that would take the shadows away.
Henri J. M. Nouwen, Called to Life

Henri Nouwen tells of standing before a great cathedral in England a few years ago, listening to the guide outline the history of its construction. This particular cathedral was begun in 1200 and finished in 1513. Concerning the emergence of that great church, Nouwen made a comment something like this: "It makes you realize that one's God-given dreams do not have to be wrapped up in an afternoon, rather they are an unfolding reality."



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