



Resources & Reflections Week of August 9th

MOVING AHEAD

There is always a choice! We can bemoan the present ... or plan for the future.

Being “stuck” in the present means we pull in, curl up, look down, and finally dry up. Our hopes and dreams dissipate like mist on the lake of life. Ultimately, that’s not very helpful. That person who compiled Proverbs was right: “Where there is no vision the people perish.” (Proverbs 29:18)

To live, to sustain ourselves, to grow and flourish, we need to think ahead. Perhaps you remember the hymn quoted in the April 27th The Beacon? (This is the hymn we haven’t sung, but I assure you we will.)

It’s the second verse I have in mind.

“Each noble service that has been wrought
Was first conceived as a fruitful thought;
Each worthy cause with a future glorious
By quietly growing becomes victorious.”

Our future depends on nurturing that “fruitful thought.” Any advance, any good direction, any progress begins with the small idea. One wonders how many ideas can we grow?

“WON’T LET GO”

You fill me up, Strength for the journey.
Always enough, Everything I need,
When I am lonely, you’re out there to hold me.
You’ll never leave me alone.

When I’m ready to give up, Lord, you are with me,
You won’t let me go, You keep holding me tight.
Still at the end, Right where I was,
You came dependable God.
You are always my friend,

On you I can count, You do not deny me.
You’re there when my soul seems deepest in need.
Goodness and mercy, shall follow beside me,
I’m not alone, you are with me indeed.

There’s safety in your arms,
You won’t let me go.
God is with us, God goes before us,
And God mops up the blunders we make
Travis Greene (b. 1984)

A PRAYER

As the wind wants to make everything dance,
may your gravity be lightened by grace.
As time remains free of all that it frames,
may fear or worry never put you in chains.
May your prayer of listening deepen enough
so you may hear the laughter of God.

Amen.



A WEEK OF SCRIPTURE READING

Sunday - 10th Sunday after Pentecost August 9th

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26,45
An Epistle Reading: Romans 10:5-15
The Gospel Reading: Matthew 14:22-33

Monday - August 10

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 5
The Gospel Reading: Mark 9:42-50

Tuesday - August 11

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 42
The Gospel Reading: Mark 10:1-16

Wednesday - August 12

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 89:1-18
The Gospel Reading: Mark 10:17-31

Thursday - August 13

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 97
The Gospel Reading: Mark 10:32-45

Friday - August 14

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 51
The Gospel Reading: Mark 10:46-52

Saturday - August 15

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 104
The Gospel Reading: Mark 11:1-11

Sunday - 11th Sunday after Pentecost August 16th

Psalm for the Day: Psalm 133
An Epistle Reading: Romans 11:1-2, 29-32
The Gospel Reading: Matthew 15:10-28



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

"FROM HOWARD THURMAN"

Our little lives, our big problems -
these we place upon Your altar!
The quietness in Your temple of silence
again and again rebuffs us:
For some there is no discipline
to hold them steady in the waiting,

Our little lives, our big problems -
these we place upon Your altar!
Pour out upon us whatever our spirits need
of life, of release
That we may find strength for these days -
Courage and hope for tomorrow.

In confidence we rest in Your sustaining grace
The grace which makes possible
triumph in defeat,
gain in loss,
and love in hate.

We rejoice this day to say:
Our little lives, our big problems -
these we place upon Your altar!

"Our Little Lives" by Howard Thurman

No matter how small your all may
seem to you, little becomes much, as
you place it in the Master's hand.

Danniebelle Hall



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