



## FINDING A STILL CENTRE

In the midst of our busy lives  
A quiet place in the heart of our community  
March 1<sup>st</sup> 2020  
**God's Table For All.**

**Music on arrival:** Clarinet Quintet in A Major, Op.108. Largo. Mozart

### Call to Worship:

Leader: Jesus says, 'Come to me'

All: All who labour

Leader: Jesus says, 'Come to me'

All: All who are weary

Leader: Jesus says, 'Come to me'

All: All who fiercely resist evil and oppression

Leader: Jesus says, 'Come to me'

All: I will give you rest, I will give you justice, and I will give you freedom.

*'A Child's Laugh, Prayers of Justice and Hope', Edited by Maria Mankin and Maren Tirabassi. P169-170*



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### Opening Prayer:

May our courage to fight for a living wage  
Shine bright as the moon in a midnight sky.  
May the sound of our voices  
Reach the peak of the highest skyscraper  
And the depths of the lowest valley.  
May the movement of our hands and feet  
Be felt in the boardroom  
And celebrated in the throne room  
Moving from the assembly line to the picket line  
Enveloped in God's care.  
Secured by God's call  
Making a place at the table for all. Amen  
*'A Child's Laugh'. p170*

### Reflection

#### **Assurance of Grace**

*As we resist fear, God offers us courage.  
When we risk something big for something  
good, God offers us hope.  
As we exchange comfort for agitation, God  
offers us celebration.  
Giving up our guilt, we can embrace God's  
amazing grace.*

*'A Child's Laugh'. p 170*



## Reading:

### Drought

He came to me for water  
and my well was empty.  
I said, "It's not my fault.  
It seems that everyone  
Is thirsty, and I'm only me,  
one small well. When I'm down  
to the last drop, that's it.  
What do you expect? Miracles?  
I'm sorry, but that's your department."

He laughed. He usually does  
when I get angry about something.  
"Everything is miracle," he said.  
"Can you name me one thing which isn't?  
The greatest miracle here  
is that you're not only you.

### Lectio Divina: Matthew 11:28-29

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

### Centering Prayer and time of silence

### Music for meditation: Peacemakers:1V. I Offer You Peace. K. Jenkins

### Closing Prayer:

God of justice and mercy,  
Where there is bigotry,  
let us envision love.  
Where we hear cruelty,  
let us speak kindness.  
Where we see injustice,  
let us act with righteousness.  
Where we lose justice,  
let us find mercy.  
Facing the brokenness of this world,  
we ask for courage to seek your healing.  
When the money changers fill your temple,  
let our anger be righteousness and directed toward  
building your realm.  
This day-and every day that we draw breath-we ask for  
strength to be your voice as we speak truth to power.  
as we envision compassion and equity,  
as we seek your justice, your mercy, and your peace.

*Community Prayer P74. 'A Child's Laugh' - adapted*

One small well yes but connected  
to a great underground river  
which will never run dry.  
Know where the water comes from  
and take time to fill.  
It's as simple as that."

I said, "Well, of course I knew that,  
But I was so busy I forgot."

He smiled, "Some time you must meet  
My friends Mary and Martha.  
You remind me a lot of them."

"Which one?" I asked.

"Both," he replied.

*Aotearoa Psalms. Joy Cowley. Number 44.*



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### Blessing:

May justice rise to meet you  
May the urgency of now always be on  
your back  
May the hope for an economy that cares  
for all people warm upon your face  
and rains of a transformed world fall soft  
upon your fields  
And until we meet again, May God hold  
you in the palm of God's just hand.

*Benediction p172 'A Child Laughs'*