**LENT REFLECTIONS – GOD IS WAITING**

**Week 2: A Call to be Humble**

**Call to worship:**

Lent is an invitation once again to immerse ourselves in the teachings of our Lord.

Matthew 1: 28-30 says “Come to me all, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest… learn from me, for **I am gentle and humble in heart** and you will find rest for your souls…”

**Old Testament reading: Isaiah 58: 5-11**

5 When you fast, you make yourselves suffer; you bow your heads low like a blade of grass and spread out sackcloth and ashes to lie on. Is that what you call fasting? Do you think I will be pleased with that?

6 “The kind of fasting I want is this: Remove the chains of oppression and the yoke of injustice and let the oppressed go free. 7 Share your food with the hungry and open your homes to the homeless poor. Give clothes to those who have nothing to wear, and do not refuse to help your own relatives.

8 “Then my favour will shine on you like the morning sun, and your wounds will be quickly healed. I will always be with you to save you; my presence will protect you on every side. 9 When you pray, I will answer you. When you call to me, I will respond.

“If you put an end to oppression, to every gesture of contempt, and to every evil word; 10 if you give food to the hungry and satisfy those who are in need, then the darkness around you will turn to the brightness of noon. 11 And I will always guide you and satisfy you with good things. I will keep you strong and well. You will be like a garden that has plenty of water, like a spring of water that never goes dry.

**New Testament reading: 1 Peter 5: 5b-6**

5 In the same way, you younger people must submit yourselves to your elders. And all of you must put on the apron of humility, to serve one another; for the scripture says, “God resists the proud, but shows favour to the humble.” 6 Humble yourselves, then, under God's mighty hand, so that he will lift you up in his own good time.

**\*\*\*\*Silent reflection: GOD IS WAITING TO SEE OUR HUMILITY\*\*\*\***

**Prayer**

Almighty God, Creator of the universe,

I come humbly before your majesty, your might and your mercy.

I bow before your throne of grace to confess my pride and ask your forgiveness for thinking myself better than others.

I thank you with all my heart for providing us with the perfect model of modesty, our Lord Jesus Christ, who was meek and humble at heart to the end.

I pray for a heart like his –

A heart that is open to you;

A heart that is obedient to you;

A heart that is sensitive to you;

A heart that worships you only;

A heart that seeks your perfect will at all times.

I humble myself under your mighty hand, Father; do with me as you please.

In the matchless name of our Lord Jesus I pray,

Amen.

**Hymn**

**H&P 705: Take my life and let it be**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yoOa_7V6VTU>

Take my life and let it be

consecrated Lord, to thee.

Take my moments and my days,

let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move

at the impulse of thy love.

Take my feet and let them be

swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing

always, only for my king.

Take my lips and let them be

filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold

not a mite would I withhold.

Take my intellect and use

every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it Thine

it shall be no longer mine.

Take my heart it is thine own;

it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord I pour

at your feet its treasure store

Take myself and I will be

ever, only all for thee.

**Grace**

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us now and evermore, Amen.