

Good morning,

Once again, I hope you are all well and safe and that the past week has been kind to you. For some, I know there have been difficult times these last few days but I pray you feel God's peace with you today and in the days to come.

I have to admit to having a night away this week. The weather was so glorious that, on Wednesday evening, we loaded up our motorhome with bbq goodies and something nice to drink, and drove all of 200m to the end of our field, where we sat outside enjoying lamb kebabs and a glass of wine, looking at the view of our house, before settling down for the night. The drive home in the morning took all of 90 seconds, but the stay 'away' was a treat! I have heard also of people having camp-outs in their back gardens. I realise for some open space is not a reality, but I hope that this week, they too may have been able to sit by an open window and feel the warmth of the sun on their skin, or get outside to a green space nearby. Perhaps it won't be too long now before we can venture a little further afield, or even, I pray, meet up with others. I am sure, like me, you are really starting to miss the company and hugs of friends and family. I hope you can feel the virtual hug enclosed with these words!

I attach the reflection for this Sunday, please send it on to anyone you wish.

This week marks the start of Thy Kingdom Come prayer call. This is an annual call to pray, during the days between Ascension and Pentecost, for others to come to know Jesus. It has been running since 2016. Here is the link to find out

more: <https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news-and-events/news/2020/moderator-urges-churches-to-support-thy-kingdom-come>

and here is the Thy Kingdom Come song and video

<https://vimeo.com/417621944>

Next Sunday is Pentecost, the birthday of the worldwide Church. Although we are all in our own homes at the moment, we are being encouraged to join together in celebration of Pentecost online next Sunday at 10am. There will be links via the Church of Scotland website and Facebook pages. I hope to 'see' you all there!

With this in mind, I will not be sending out a reflection next Sunday but will be back the week after.

Meantime, as ever, keep safe, you are precious to God - He loves you.

Blessings

Valerie

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