

Worship for Sunday 27th June 2021
from Brian & Clare Kennard

“Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion,
which cannot be shaken but endures for ever.”
(Psalm 125:1)

Suggested Hymn: *Lord I come to you*

LORD, I COME TO YOU,
Let my heart be changed, renewed,
Flowing from the grace
That I found in You.
And Lord, I've come to know
The weaknesses I see in me
Will be stripped away
By the power of Your love.

*Hold me close,
Let Your love surround me.
Bring me near, draw me to Your side.
And as I wait
I'll rise up like the eagle,
And I will soar with You,
Your Spirit leads me on
In the power of Your love.*

Lord, unveil my eyes,
Let me see You face to face,
The knowledge of Your love
As You live in me.
Lord, renew my mind
As Your will unfolds in my life,
In living every day
By the power of Your love.

Prayer time:

*Be still and focus on the awesome God we serve:
great beyond all words, but revealing Himself
through His Word, and most clearly through the
Word who became flesh - the Lord Jesus Christ.
Express your adoration, worship and praise in
whatever ways you can.*

The Bible says, “If we say we have no sin, we
deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we
confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us
our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness”
(1 John 4: 8-9)

*Let God speak to you about the attitudes and actions
that need changing in your life. Confess to Him your
weaknesses and failures, and receive His cleansing
and forgiveness as He has promised.*

Prayer for today (“Collect”):

Merciful God,
out of the depths We cry to you
and you hear our prayer.
Make us attentive to the voice of your Son
that we may rise from the death of sin
and take our place in the new creation.
We make our prayer through Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Reading: If you have a Bible of your own, please
read **Psalm 130**

**Reading: Mark 5: 21 - 43: Jesus Raises a Dead
Girl and Heals a Sick Woman**

²¹ When Jesus had again crossed over by boat to the
other side of the lake, a large crowd gathered around
him while he was by the lake. ²² Then one of the
synagogue leaders, named Jairus, came, and when
he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet. ²³ He pleaded
earnestly with him, “My little daughter is dying.
Please come and put your hands on her so that she
will be healed and live.” ²⁴ So Jesus went with him.
A large crowd followed and pressed around
him. ²⁵ And a woman was there who had been
subject to bleeding for twelve years. ²⁶ She had
suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors
and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting
better she grew worse. ²⁷ When she heard about
Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and
touched his cloak, ²⁸ because she thought, “If I just
touch his clothes, I will be healed.” ²⁹ Immediately
her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that
she was freed from her suffering.

³⁰ At once Jesus realized that power had gone out
from him. He turned around in the crowd and
asked, “Who touched my clothes?”

³¹ “You see the people crowding against you,” his
disciples answered, “and yet you can ask, ‘Who
touched me?’ ”

³² But Jesus kept looking around to see who had
done it. ³³ Then the woman, knowing what had

happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. ³⁴ He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."

³⁵ While Jesus was still speaking, some people came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher anymore?"

³⁶ Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, "Don't be afraid; just believe."

³⁷ He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James. ³⁸ When they came to the home of the synagogue leader, Jesus saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly. ³⁹ He went in and said to them, "Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep." ⁴⁰ But they laughed at him.

After he put them all out, he took the child's father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was. ⁴¹ He took her by the hand and said to her, "*Talitha koum!*" (which means "Little girl, I say to you, get up!"). ⁴² Immediately the girl stood up and began to walk around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished. ⁴³ He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this, and told them to give her something to eat.

Reflection: 'Who touched me?' (v31)

In today's scripture we have an account of two intertwined events, in which two people received miraculous healing from Jesus. As events unfolded, crowds of people were around Jesus, jostling for position...some curious to see what he would do, others perhaps just wanting to catch a glimpse of this famous young preacher from Galilee, still others with a sense of expectancy that they were in the presence of someone like no other.

When Jesus asks the question 'Who touched me?', the reaction of the disciples is perfectly reasonable...many people were coming into physical contact with Jesus as the crowd pressed round him. But Jesus meant more than merely someone brushing against him. Whatever the motivations of other members of the crowd, there was one person who **connected** with Jesus - physically, yes, but the physical touch was the outward action of a deeper and much more significant connection. This lady had **faith** in Jesus...she was convinced that He could and would meet her need. Although shy and not wanting to draw attention to herself, she pressed her way through the crowd to make contact...and when contact was made, a little bit like turning on a light

switch, healing flowed from Jesus into her body. Among the crowds of those today who hear about Jesus and know Bible stories like this one, Jesus knows who is trusting in Him, looking to him, putting confidence in him, connecting with him. That's what we need to do, isn't it...not just staying on the periphery, observers of the Jesus story but those who press in to connect with him by faith. And from such contact still flows healing, deliverance, forgiveness and peace. As the hymn writer put it in "*At even when the sun was set*":

**Thy touch has still its ancient power;
No word from Thee can fruitless fall;
Hear in this solemn evening hour,
And in Thy mercy heal us all.**

Whatever time of day, say "**Amen**" to that!

Prayers of intercession

In your own words, remember before God...for a genuine and lasting peace in Israel..those in authority in this country and around the world grappling with the present crisisall those "on the front line" whether NHS staff, transport workers, shop workers, the emergency services...those most personally affected by the Covid-19 outbreak: the bereaved, those seriously ill, those who have already lost their jobs.. the Church of Jesus Christ as together we seek to witness to the love and care of God in word and action....and the many other difficult problems humanity faces...and for yourself and your family. Remember, too, thankfulness!

The Lord's Prayer (traditional version):

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done; .
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The blessing: Now may the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with and remain with us always. Amen.