

Some words of wisdom.

Blessed are they who wash their hands,  
for they shall hold living water;  
blessed are those who keep their distance,  
for they shall draw closer to God;  
blessed are they who self-quarantine,  
for they shall help others;  
blessed are those who do not hoard,  
for they shall feed families;  
blessed are those who sing songs to sheltering neighbors,  
for they shall be members of the heavenly host;  
blessed are parents who learn to teach at home,  
for they shall learn from their children;  
blessed are they who shop for older folks,  
for they shall receive everlasting thanks;  
blessed are the frontline health workers,  
for they shall be called healers of humanity.

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One day a father and his rich family took his son to a trip to the country with the firm purpose to show him how poor people can be. They spent a day and a night in the farm of a very poor family. When they got back from their trip the father asked his son, "How was the trip?"  
Very good Dad!"  
Did you see how poor people can be?" the father asked.  
Yeah!"  
And what did you learn?"  
The son answered, "I saw that we have a dog at home, and they have four. We have a pool that reaches to the middle of the garden, they have a creek that has no end. We have imported lamps in the garden, they have the stars. Our patio reaches to the front yard, they have a whole horizon."

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# WEEKLY NEWS SHEET



**Mount Martha Uniting**



**Sunday 16th August. 2020**

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**JOURNEY**  
OF  
*Faith*

# Mount Martha Uniting Church.

Sunday. 16th August 2020 Pentecost 11.

Readings Romans 11:1-2a . 29-32

Mathew 15: 10-20

International Month for indigenous people.

## From Karen.

We are going to trial our zoom morning tea at 11am today, Sunday August 16th after the service.

To join the morning tea you need to click on this link <https://monash.zoom.us/j/93974623566?pwd=MjZab2lvUVFFNW5CdGZ1dFhva2JJUT09> or go to <https://monash.zoom.us/join> and enter meeting-ID: 939 7462 3566 and password: 458863

Should you be using a Desktop computer which may not have a camera, others will not be able to see you. It will be necessary for you to use your lap top or tablet.

Your smart phone will also be fine!

Intercessory prayers have been included for today's activities

If you kindly hand deliver copies of the news sheet each week would you please down load and include the prayers so those that are not on line can have some inclusion.

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The United Nations annual listing for the observation of special days dedicated the 9th August to remember the some 300 million indigenous people in the world. Most all have lost their lands to other powers! They too are subject to the disease and viruses scourging the world!!

## Minister's Reflection

In the year 1943, Dietrich Bonhoeffer in his "Letters & Papers from Prison - page 347" asked himself this question in a form of a poem. Quotation: "WHO AM I?

Who am I? They often tell me I would step from my cell's confinement calmly, cheerfully, firmly, like a squire from his country-house.

Who am I? They often tell me I would talk to my warders freely and friendly and clearly, as though it were mine to command.

Who am I? They also tell me I would bear the days of misfortune equably, smilingly, proudly, like one accustomed to win.

Am I then really all that which other men tell of?

Or am I only what I know of myself, restless and longing and sick, like a bird in a cage, struggling for breath, as though hands were compressing my throat, earning for colours, for flowers, for the voices of birds, thirsting for words of kindness, for neighbourliness, trembling with anger at despotisms and petty humiliation, tossing in expectation of great events, powerlessly trembling for friends at an infinite distance, weary and empty at praying, at thinking, at making, faint, and ready to say farewell to it all?

Who am I? This or the other?

Am I one person today, and tomorrow another?

Am I both at once? A hypocrite before others, and before myself a contemptibly woebegone weakling?

Or is something within me still like a beaten army, fleeing in disorder from victory already achieved?

Who am I? They mock me, these lonely questions of mine. Whoever I am, thou knowest, O God, I am thine."

Struggle in difficult situations is similar, be it a Canaanite woman case, whose daughter struggles with demons and got rejected by Jesus calling her a dog; also with those in confinements, restless and sick, struggling for breath, with a compressed throat by coronavirus, and eventually die. Here, faith and hope matter as channel of being free in soul!