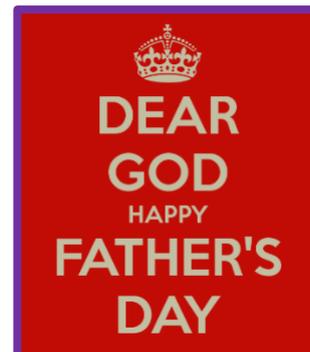
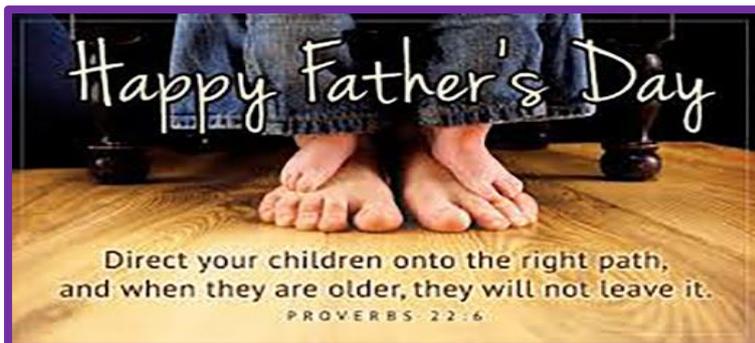


# Devotion – Week 14

Sunday 21st June 2020



Second Sunday

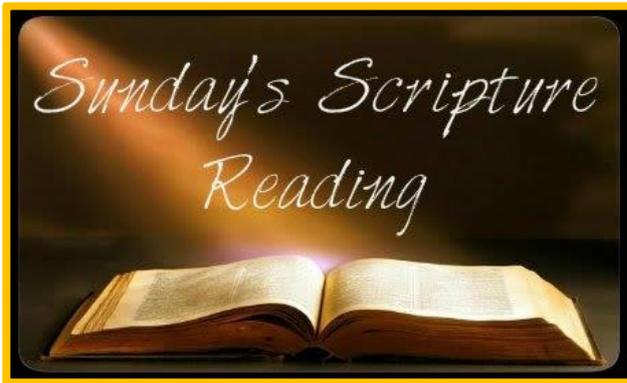


**G**ood morning to all my dear friends of John Ross Memorial Deaf Church. Welcome to Devotion Week 14. Today is the second Sunday after Trinity and Father's Day so a Happy Father's Day to all who are Fathers, to all who have Fathers and to all whose Fathers are in heaven. I do hope you are all safe and well keeping busy during these lockdown days.

I hope too that you are receiving devotions regularly by e mail or by post. If you have not received the devotions regularly (1 to 14) then please let me know and I will resend.

Love, prayers and God's many blessings to you all.

Richard  
**Rev Richard Durno**



### **Psalm 23 verses 1 to 6 E.V.D.**

1 The Lord is my shepherd.  
I will have everything I need

2 He lets me lie down in green pastures.  
He leads me by calm pools of water

3 He gives new strength to my soul  
for the good of his name.  
He leads me on paths of goodness,  
To show he is truly good.

4 Even if I walk through a valley as dark as  
the grave,  
I will not be afraid of any danger.”  
Why? Because you are with me, Lord.  
Your rod and staff comfort me.

5 Lord, you prepare my table  
in front of my enemies.  
You poured oil on my head.

My cup is full and spilling.

6 Goodness and mercy will be with me the rest  
of my life.  
And I will sit in the Lord's temple for a long,  
long time.

**May God bless this reading of his most holy words and to his name be all  
glory and praise. Amen**



## **“The Lord’s My Father”**

Reading Psalm 23 verses 1 to 6

**Text: verse 1 “The Lord is my shepherd”**

Today is Fathers’ Day and may I wish you all a happy Fathers’ Day. I would like to put some thoughts together about the importance of having good fathers in families. I really believe that to have good functional working families we should have both good mothers and equally good fathers.



**A small boy once explained to his teacher the meaning of Father's Day:  
"It's just like Mother's Day except it is dearer than Father's Day."**

**What is the meaning of a father... "A father is a man who carries pictures  
in his wallet where his money used to be."**

When we have Father's Day we should be looking at one of the well-known and popular Psalms and that is **Psalm 23** "**The Lord's my Shepherd** which is the best known and the best loved Psalm of all. Here are some interesting historical facts around King David.



**King David**

(David may look like the man in this picture)

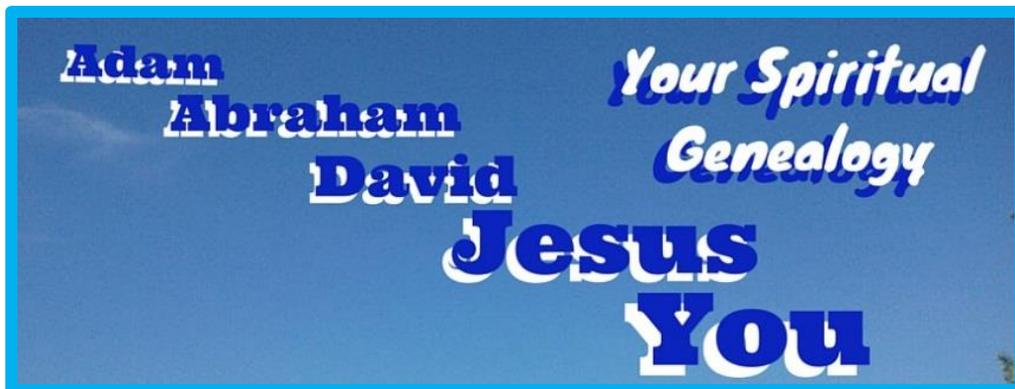
- There are 150 Psalms in the Old Testament book of the bible.
- The Lord God is praised throughout the book of Psalms.
- **King David** wrote some of the Psalms including Psalm 23.
- Today we will look at David and the work of the shepherd and his writing of one of the psalms.
- **King David** was born in Bethlehem and died in Jerusalem in 970 BCE aged 70 years after being king for 40 years. He died of natural causes.
- **King David** is the same David that when he was a young shepherd boy killed the giant Goliath one of the enemy soldiers on the battlefield with a stone and sling.
- **King David** had eight wives and his wives produced nineteen sons and one daughter.
- **Psalm 23** gives us a picture of God as a shepherd. Perhaps it is not surprising that the Jews chose this picture, because sheep farming was their greatest industry.
- **King David** was buried in Mount Zion Cemetery in Jerusalem. See below.



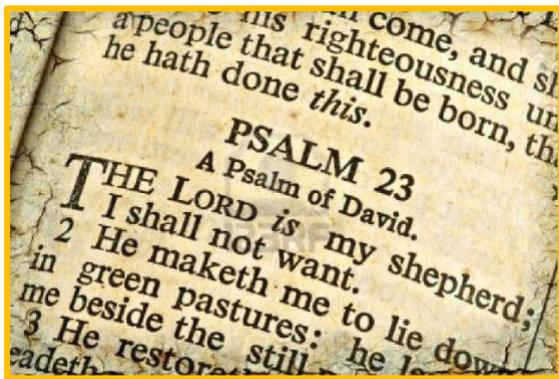
Mount Zion Cemetery  
Jerusalem



- Nobody knows when this Psalm was written but scholars tell us that it was believed to be written during the time in David's life when he was experiencing a very hard time.
- **King David** was one of many “bad dads” in the Bible.
- **Jesus** spoke of God as our Father and in fact used the word Abba, which is Aramaic for Father, and we today would say that to mean Dad.
- **Jesus** spoke Aramaic which is the language spoken when he grew up in Israel.



- In the New Testament, the genealogy (family tree) of **Jesus**, according to the Gospel of Luke, traces **Jesus'** lineage back to **King David** through the line of Nathan, which was the line of His mother, Mary.
- The Gospel of Matthew traces the genealogy (family tree) of Jesus through Solomon and through the line of Joseph his legal father.

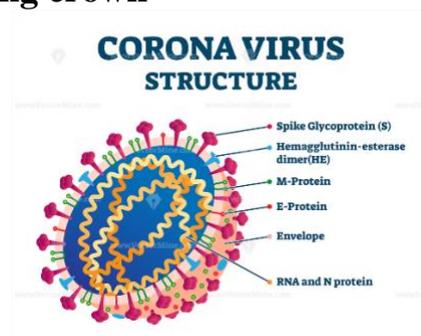


“He makes me down to lie in pastures green: he leadeth me the quiet waters by” Psalm 23:2

It is believed that King David and his army were running away from his son Absalom who wanted to take over the kingship of Israel. Whilst hiding and resting by the running river in the forests near Jericho King David said, “**The Lord is my Shepherd**” and from these words grew his famous **Psalm 23**.

King David looked at life as it was and was able to say “**God is my Shepherd**”. Is this not the message we all need today? We all need to look at our own lives and to realise that **God is our Shepherd, God is our strength, God is our support, God is our carer, God is our guard** in our difficult lock down days with our dangerous Coronavirus enemies around us wanting to take over the kingship of the world.

**Corona is Latin word meaning crown**



## The Hymn No 14 CH4 - 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm - Explained

- **“The Lord’s my Shepherd”** = That means a one-to-one relationship, as an individual person and the Father. We are not in a crowd or in a flock!
- **“I’ll not want”** = your God the Shepherd, the Father, will make sure we are never hungry and he the Father supplies us the way, the truth and the life!
- **“He (the Father) makes me down to lie in pastures green”** = The happiness of plenty of rest!
- **“He (the Father) leadeth me the quiet waters by”** = The cool place, peaceful and refreshing!
- **“My soul he (the Father) doth restore again”** = God the Father will give us a new energy and healing of our body and soul!
- **“and me to walk doth make within the paths of righteousness”** = God our Father our leader and guidance in following His will!
- **“even for his name’s sake”** = Our reason for life is with God the Father!
- **“Yea, (truly), though I walk in death’s dark vale”** = In our darkest times and through death God the Father is with us!
- **“Yet will I fear none ill”** = God the Father will protect us even at your lowest hour!
- **“For Thou art with me”** = God the Father and Shepherd will constantly be with us at all times!

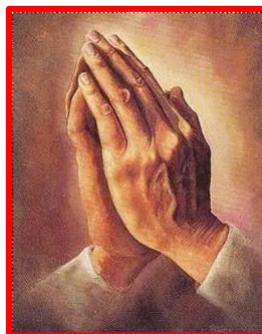
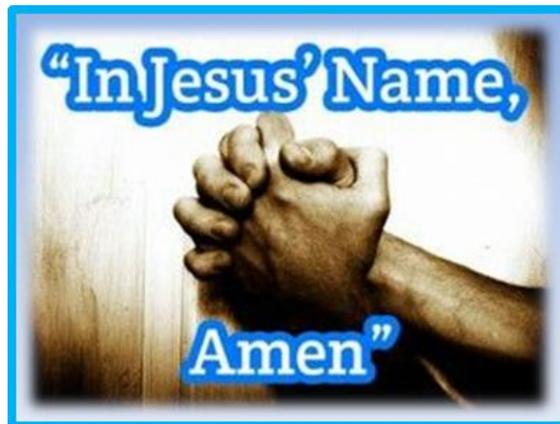
- **"and Thy rod and staff me comfort still" =**  
God the Father will protect us from our enemies!
- **"My table thou hast furnished in presence of my foes" =**  
God the Father's promise of support and hope in danger!
- **"my head thou dost with oil anoint" =**  
That's care, dedication and consecration/holy appointment!
- **"and my cup overflows" =**  
God the Father's love and power flowing into you and out to others!
- **"Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me" =**  
God the Father's blessing and power of grace, through faith will be with us always!
- **"And in God's house" =**  
God the Father will give us a place of safety in his home!
- **"for ever more" =**  
God the Father will look after us in his house forever!
- **"My dwelling place shall be" =**  
Where?.....In heaven"



**To have a good responsible earthly father we should expect.....**

- His regular presence
- We should have his kind discipline
- His faithfulness
- His goodness
- His unconditional love

**Just like we have all of that from our heavenly Father.**



**Adoration:**

We bow down  
And confess  
You are Lord  
In this place .....repeat

You are all I need  
It's your face I seek  
In the presence of your light  
We bow down

We bow down

We bow down

And confess

You are Lord

In this place.....repeat

Author: Robin Mark

Member of CFC, (Christian Fellowship Church) Belfast

Permission granted, with thanks, to print text

2020

### **Confession:**

Most merciful God hear our confession....

- We have sinned in thoughts, words and deeds
- We have not loved you with all of our hearts
- We have not loved others like we loved ourselves
- We have not properly helped the church during the lock down days
- We have not properly helped the helpless, the lost and the needy during the lock down days
- We have not given extra effort to pray, to study and to give of our money to church
- For being impatient with our families and friends especially the older folks during the lock down days

Loving Father accept our confession.

Forgive our sinful ways through the blood of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour,

### **Thanksgiving:**

Heavenly Father we want to give you thanks for.....

- Being near us all in the Spirit and for your daily guidance
- The people who organises the food delivery via the local Councils
- The safe arrivals of babies born every day and the nurses and doctors delivering babies
- Your help in making us all cope with the dangers of the virus around us
- The NHS staff both medical and non-medical helping people recover from this virus
- The new ideas of sending messages of Jesus to all church families via Zoom, Face time and other technologies
- The good weather we had since March which helps the mental health of all people

- Jesus who gave his life on the cross so that his blood shed to wipe away our sins.

### **Prayer for other people..**

- We pray Father for peaceful demonstrations in every city in the world.
- We pray for better relationships between people of all race and colour
- We pray for people who are trapped at home because of shielding. Help them Lord and take away their loneliness and frustrations.
- We pray for people who are unwell with Coronavirus
- We pray and comfort the people who have lost their loved ones during this time and their upset made worse for not having proper funeral services because of “social distancing” rules
- We pray for people in hospitals especially deaf people who may be feeling lonely with no visitors
- We pray for all the brave volunteers who are helping the hospitals with bringing clean clothes for the patients and food to hospital staff.
- We pray for all church ministers who are working from home and able to support their congregations from home
- We pray that shops will open soon and staff can go back to work
- We continue to pray for the wise decisions of politicians and scientists as they all work together in helping to plan the easing of this lockdown.
- We pray for the family of Dame Vera Lynn who died on 18<sup>th</sup> June aged 103. Dame Vera was a well known and well loved British entertainer.
- We say this prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us to pray and to say.....

### **The Lord’s Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

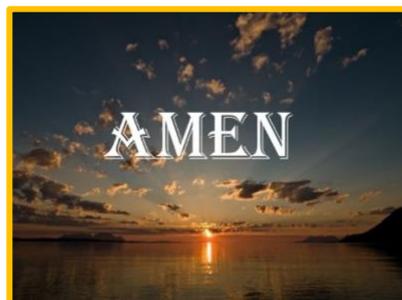
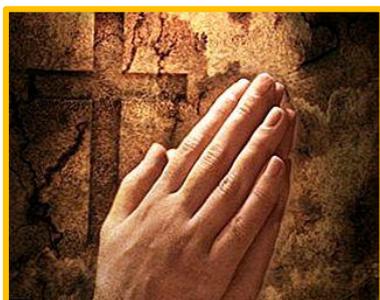
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

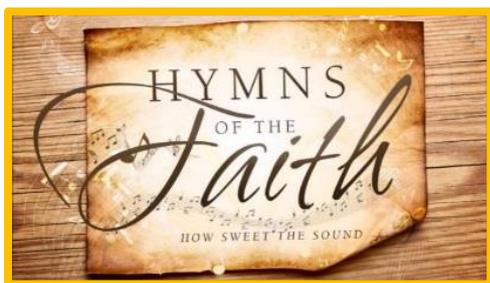
Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.





### Hymn CH3 No 97

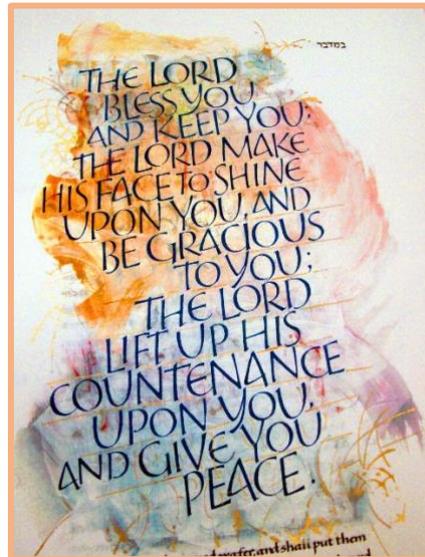
1. Father, lead me day, by day,  
Ever in thy perfect way;  
Teach me to be pure and true;  
Show me what I ought to do.
  
2. When in danger, make me brave;  
Make me know that Thou canst save;  
Keep me safe by Thy dear side;  
Let me in Thy love abide.
  
3. When I'm tempted to do wrong,  
Make me steadfast, wise and strong;  
And when all alone I stand,  
Shield me with Thy mighty hand.
  
4. When my heart is full of glee,  
Help me to remember thee,  
Happy most of all to know  
That my Father loves me so.
  
5. May I do the good I know,  
Be thy loving child below,  
Then at last go home to thee,  
Evermore thy child to be.

John Page Hopps, 1834 – 1911, altered



- Don't forget to go on Facebook and type in **BSL Church Worship** and you will see some very nice Christian messages signed by our deaf and hearing friends in the Church of England Ministry for the Deaf and on You Tube by the CDA (Catholic Deaf Association).
- If you are lonely or need a prayer or a chat, please contact.....
- Rev Richard Durno
- Messenger, Face Book, Face Time, Mobile Text: 07748607721
- E-mail [richard.durno@btinternet.com](mailto:richard.durno@btinternet.com)
- If you want to Face Time me it is best you text me first and find out when I am free to sign/talk with you.
- There is a weekly signed and subtitled worship services at **Claremont Parish Church** each Sunday at 10.30 am. Or can be watched any time through the week on this link:  
<https://www.claremontparishchurch.co.uk/Sundays/live-stream>
- **Deaf at Destiny Church in Glasgow.....**
- [Destiny Church Online - YouTube](#)
- <https://www.youtube.com/user/DestinyChurchTV>
- Please let me know if you know of anyone in the deaf church family or in the deaf community who are unwell at home or in hospital with any illness or suffering from COVID-19 so that we, the deaf church, can pray for them and perhaps Face Time them.
- Please forward on the JRM Deaf Church email Devotions 1-14 to any of your friends and families who have e mails.
- If they want to get the devotions regularly until COVID - 19 is over then let me know and I am happy to add their names and e mail addresses. They can contact me direct any time.

- You can read Devotions weeks 1 to 14 and also the **JRM Deaf Church** Quarterly Newsletters and Queen's Park Govanhill monthly newsletters on the Queen's Park Govanhill Church website:-  
<https://qpgpc.com/church-magazine/>
- [qpgpc.com/jrm/](https://qpgpc.com/jrm/)
- NOTE : You must use Ctrl + Click to follow the above links.



Aaronic  
Blessing

