

# CONNECTING MEOTA January 24th, 2024

**This newsletter is meant to inspire, engage, and encourage everyone in the Meota Parish to seek God and reach out to one another throughout the week.**

**Our next church service will be**

**Sunday January 28th 10:30 am**

**at St George's Diamond Valley, Christ Church Millarville**

The people of St. James are welcome to worship with us at Christ Church or St. George's.  
We would love to see you and worship with you among us!!



**Join us for Worship  
In Person Services at 10:30am  
Christ Church, Millarville  
&  
St George's Diamond, Valley**

## MEOTA PARISH UPCOMING EVENTS

**Prayer and Praise** January 25, 7 pm St. George's

Pancake/Shrove Tuesday is Feb 13

Please come to St George's for pancakes, 4:30-7pm

Ash Wednesday is Feb 14, 7 pm St. George's

Fiddler on the Roof - Sat Feb 24, 2 pm, St George's

The Robe – Sat March 23, 2 pm, St. George's

Maundy Thursday March 28, 7 pm St. George's

Good Friday (Taize) March 29, St. George's 7 pm

Easter Sunday is March 31, 10:30 am

St. George's, Christ Church and St. James

## Lent BOOK STUDY- 40 Days of Generous Living

Ash Wednesday the books will be handed out.

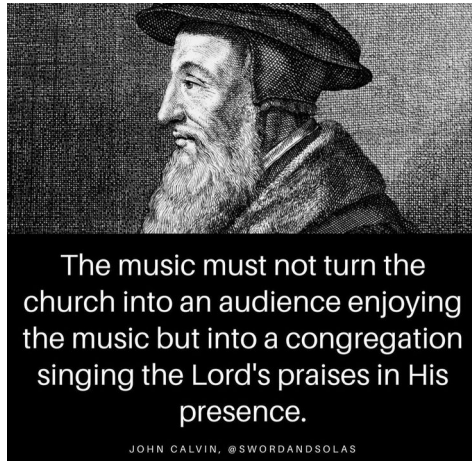
Zoom book conversation on Wed Feb 21,28, March 6 & 13, 7ish



## WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE HYMN?

We have looked at *I Was Full of Joy* and *How Great thou Art*.

Email [meotaparish@gmail.com](mailto:meotaparish@gmail.com) with your choice and I will research it for you!



This week we examine Shirley G's favourite:

### **I COME TO THE GARDEN ALONE**

Let us begin with the poet's own account of the hymn's composition, as he describes "the greatest morn in history":

One day in March, 1912, . . . I drew my Bible toward me; it opened at my favorite chapter, John 20 [1-18] . . .

That meeting of Jesus and Mary Magdalene had lost none of its power to charm.

As I read it that day, I seemed to be part of the scene. I became a silent witness to that dramatic moment in Mary's life, when she knelt before her Lord, and cried, "Rabboni!" . . .

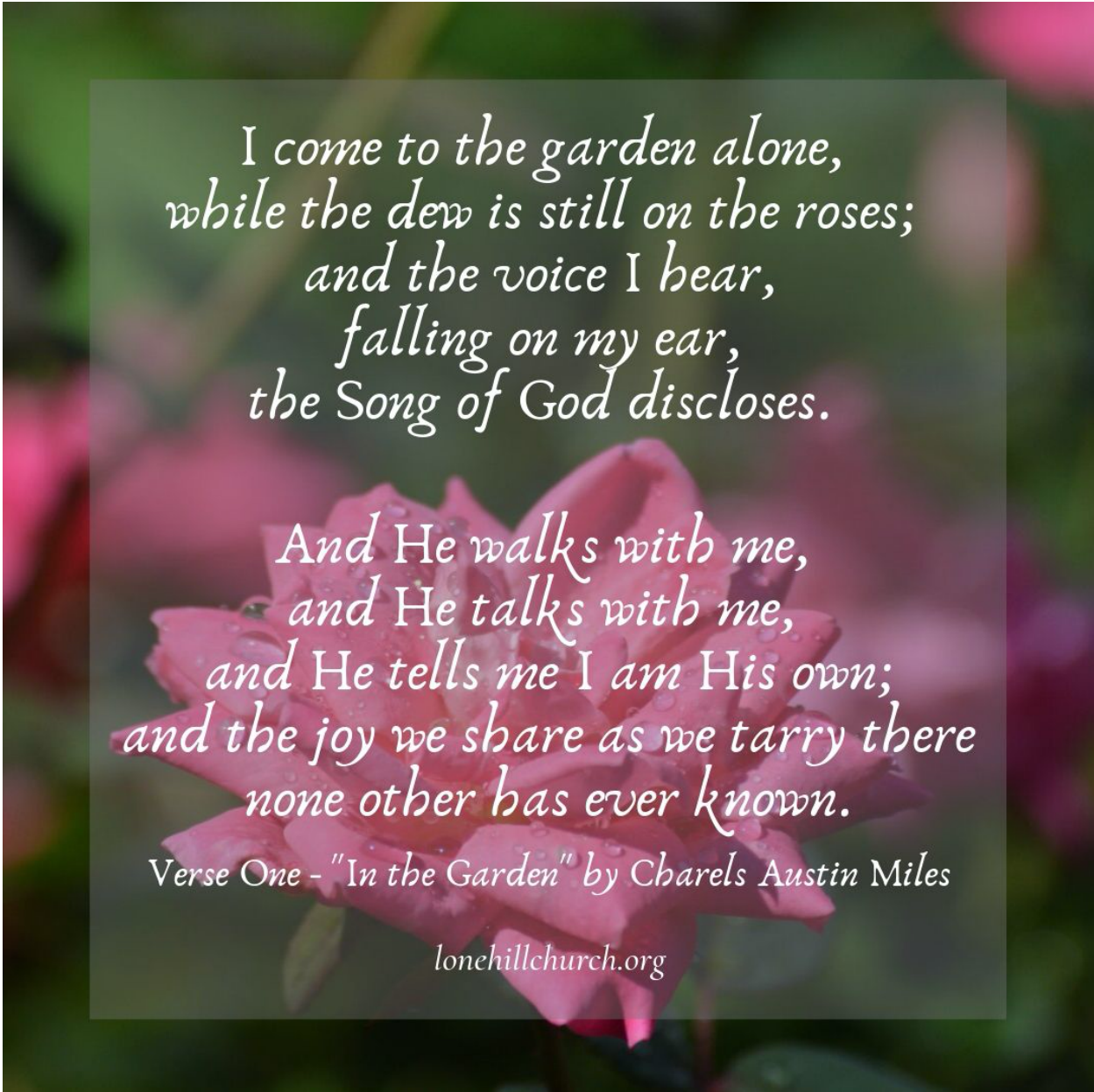
My hands were resting in the Bible while I stared at the light blue wall. As the light faded I seemed to be standing at the entrance of a garden, looking down a gently winding path, shaded by olive branches. [The author then describes the arrival of Mary, Peter, and John as they gathered at the tomb, followed by the appearance of Jesus.]

I awakened in full light, gripping the Bible, with muscles tense and nerves vibrating. Under the inspiration of this vision I wrote as quickly as the words could be formed the poem exactly as it has appeared (Sanville, 14).

CLICK ON THIS LINK TO GET A YOUTUBE VIDEO ON THE HISTORY OF THIS SONG

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=99uP4ODmoS4>

The first half is a commentary. You can fast forward to hear the song at minute 12:14



*I come to the garden alone,  
while the dew is still on the roses;  
and the voice I hear,  
falling on my ear,  
the Song of God discloses.*

*And He walks with me,  
and He talks with me,  
and He tells me I am His own;  
and the joy we share as we tarry there  
none other has ever known.*

*Verse One - "In the Garden" by Charels Austin Miles*

*lonehillchurch.org*

# SNOW ANGELS IN DIAMOND VALLEY

## Subject: Snow Angels Program in Diamond Valley

Hello, just passing along some community information that you may want to share. FCSS is currently promoting a **new version of the Snow Angels Program that involves the placement of signs in the yards of those who require assistance.** Able-bodied residents who see the signs are encouraged to shovel the walks at these homes when they can. Our hope is that this community-wide initiative will help people get to know their neighbours and encourage them to help out while getting some fresh air and exercise. We all know that “many hands make short work” and we are hoping this will ease the burden on having only one person responsible for a property.

**Residents who need snow shoveling assistance can register at the Town office for a sign.(or call Sue Nagel 587-621-0743)** If they are renters, they will need permission from their landlord (there is a form for this). ~~I'm attaching the registration form(s) in case you want to give one out to someone.~~ For more information please visit Snow Angels | Diamond Valley, AB<<https://www.diamondvalley.town/711/Snow-Angels>> or contact me via the info below



Thank you - stay warm and well!

**Suzan (Sue) Nagel**

Family and Community Support Services (FCSS)

**587-621-0743**

SuzanN@diamondvalley.town<mailto:[SuzanN@diamondvalley.town](mailto:SuzanN@diamondvalley.town)>

www.DiamondValley.town<<http://www.diamondvalley.town/>>



## What does our Prayer and Praise Service have for me?

January 25, 7 pm. St. George's Diamond Valley

God's word has a lot to say about praise and worship. The purpose of praise and worship—as it relates to singing, dancing, and praying—is to create an intimate space between you and the Lord, allowing Him to speak directly to your heart in such a way you are drawn nearer to Him. As a result, He is glorified, and you go deeper into your identity in Him. From [livingproof.co](http://livingproof.co)

## What Are Praise and Worship?

If you ask 100 people, “What are praise and worship?” you would get 100 different answers. This is because praise and worship are personal, uniquely touching the hearts of believers. But you would also find a common theme in the answers—the mouth sings what is in the heart.

Luke 6:45 reads, “... *For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.*”

**Praise and worship are opportunities to speak from your heart to the heart of God.**

When you praise and worship, you speak, sing, declare, and proclaim who God is and His power, as well as who you are as His child. Again, it reflects a connection—an intimate space—between you and Him.

## Why Are Praise and Worship Important?

### A Purposeful Way to Do Spiritual Warfare

**The purpose of praise and worship is to create a connection between you and the Lord.** It's a way to do spiritual warfare, which is critical in a believer's life. You know the enemy prowls around like a lion waiting to devour (1 Peter 5:8). Praise and worship—done in spirit and truth—create a protective wall around your heart.

The Bible says you overcome the enemy by the blood and the “word of your testimony.” Praise and worship are words of your testimony—your testimony of who God is and who you are in Him.

## A Purposeful Way to Step into God's Will

The Bible says to rejoice, pray, and thank God, for this is His will. **Praise and worship are ways to rejoice, pray, and thank God for what He is doing, has done, and will do. Worship songs speak truth in their lyrics. When you join in song, the words speak to your soul.**

Many ask, "What is God's will?" The word clearly states it is to rejoice! Worshipping and rejoicing are often overlooked parts of doing the will of God. Furthermore, many people receive a deeper understanding of God's will in other areas of their lives while in praise and worship.

### 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

- *"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."*

## A Purposeful Way to Invite God's Presence

Corporate praise and worship are important, and so are personal praise and worship. God wants to hear your voice, your words, your cares, and your heart. He wants you to enter into His presence. **The Bible says God inhabits, or enthrones, in the praises of His people.**

When you magnify God, singing of His wondrous works—from creation to the cross and into eternity—you **invite Him into your life**. It honors His greatness and focuses your mind on Him, no matter the season you are walking.

### Psalm 22:3

- *"But You are holy, enthroned in the praises of Israel."*





# A Special Prayer For You

May you *know* that God is  
by *your* side and may you *feel*  
His *deep* tender *love*  
*with* you *every*  
*moment* of  
*every* day.



I'm not sure my friends wants to come to church.  
Oh wait!! I can invite them for pancakes!!!!

# *Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner*



**Join us Tuesday Feb 13 4:30pm - 7pm  
@ St George's Anglican Church  
200 Main Street SW  
Diamond Valley, Alberta**

Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

### Readings

DEUTERONOMY 18:15-20; PSALM 111; 1 CORINTHIANS 8:1-13; MARK 1:21-28

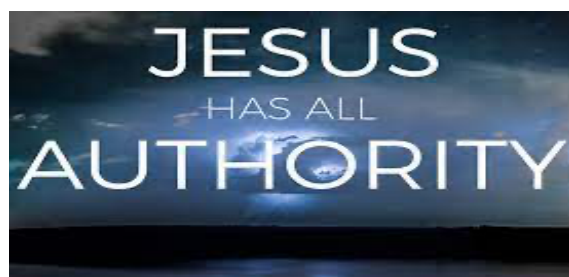
### Second Reading

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him. Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth - as in fact there are many gods and many lords - **yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.** It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. "Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

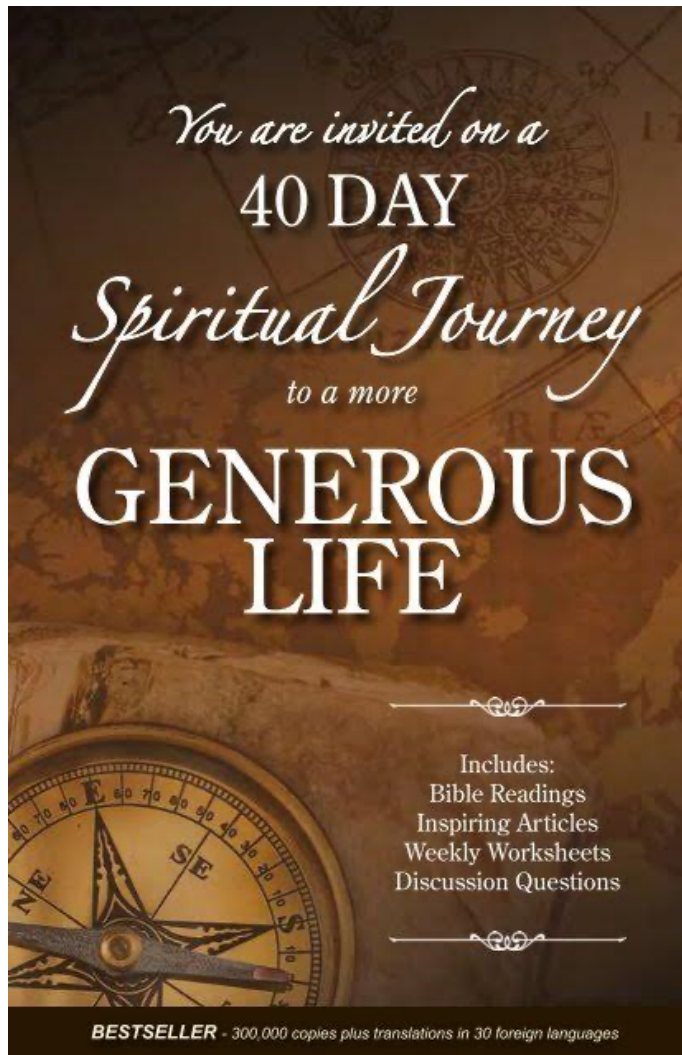
1 CORINTHIANS 8:1-13

### Gospel

They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, Jesus entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "**What is this? A new teaching - with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.**" **At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.**



**I love Venerable Alan's sermons. He always has great insight.  
Oh look, Ven. Alan is holding a Zoom chat on Wednesday evenings in Lent.**



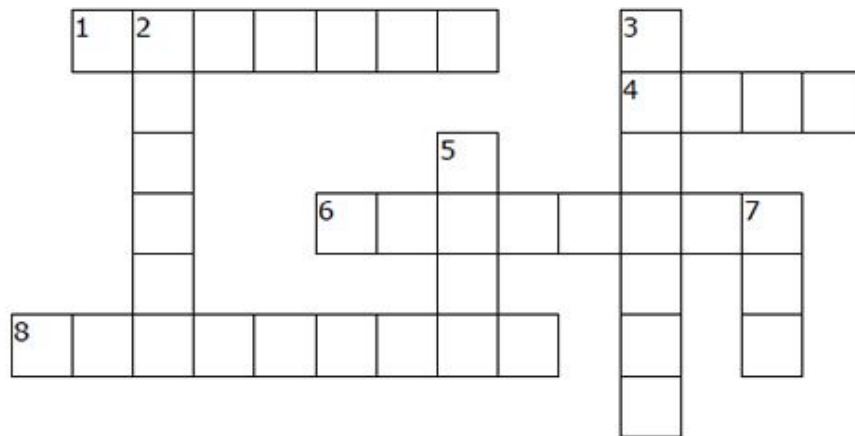
Ash Wednesday the little books will be handed out.  
Zoom book conversation on Wed Feb 21,28, March 6 &13, 7ish

It is a way to live out our gratitude for all that God has given us, reflecting the realization that we are the Body of Christ, responsible to love one another.

# Jesus Loves Us All

"By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:35 (NIV)

Based on John 13:31-35



## ACROSS

1. An order or a rule given with authority
4. To have feelings of compassion and concern for another person
6. Boys and girls between birth and puberty
8. Those who follow the teachings of Jesus

## DOWN

2. People aside from oneself
3. To give praise and honour to God or a person
5. A period of seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months, years, etc.
7. The opposite of old

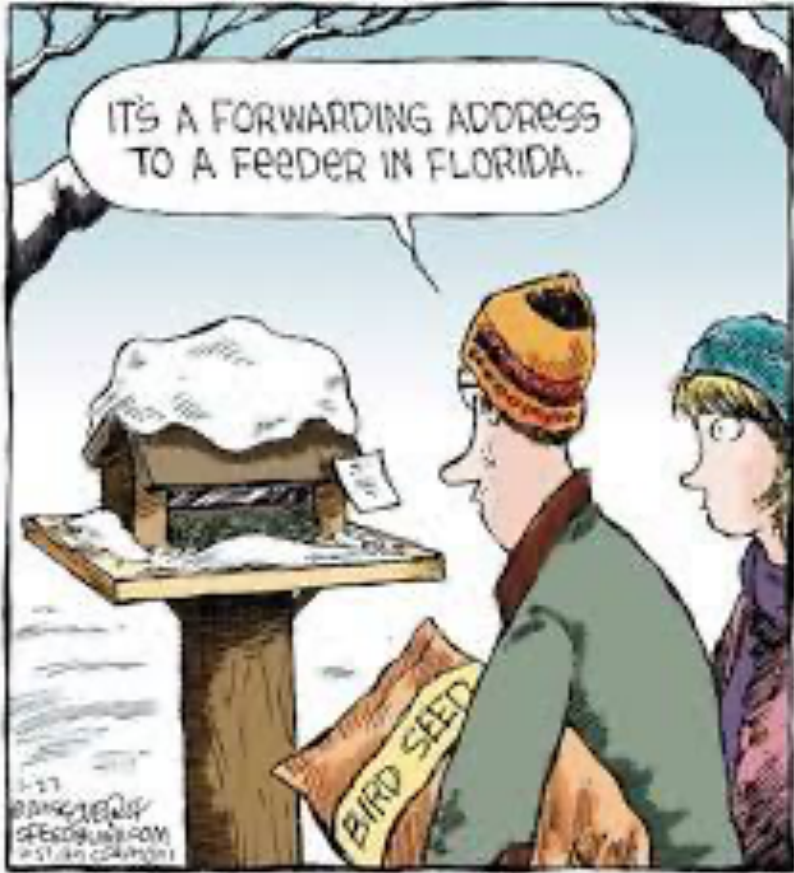
GLORIFY	COMMAND	TIME	OTHERS
NEW	DISCIPLES	CHILDREN	LOVE

# FUNNY BONES

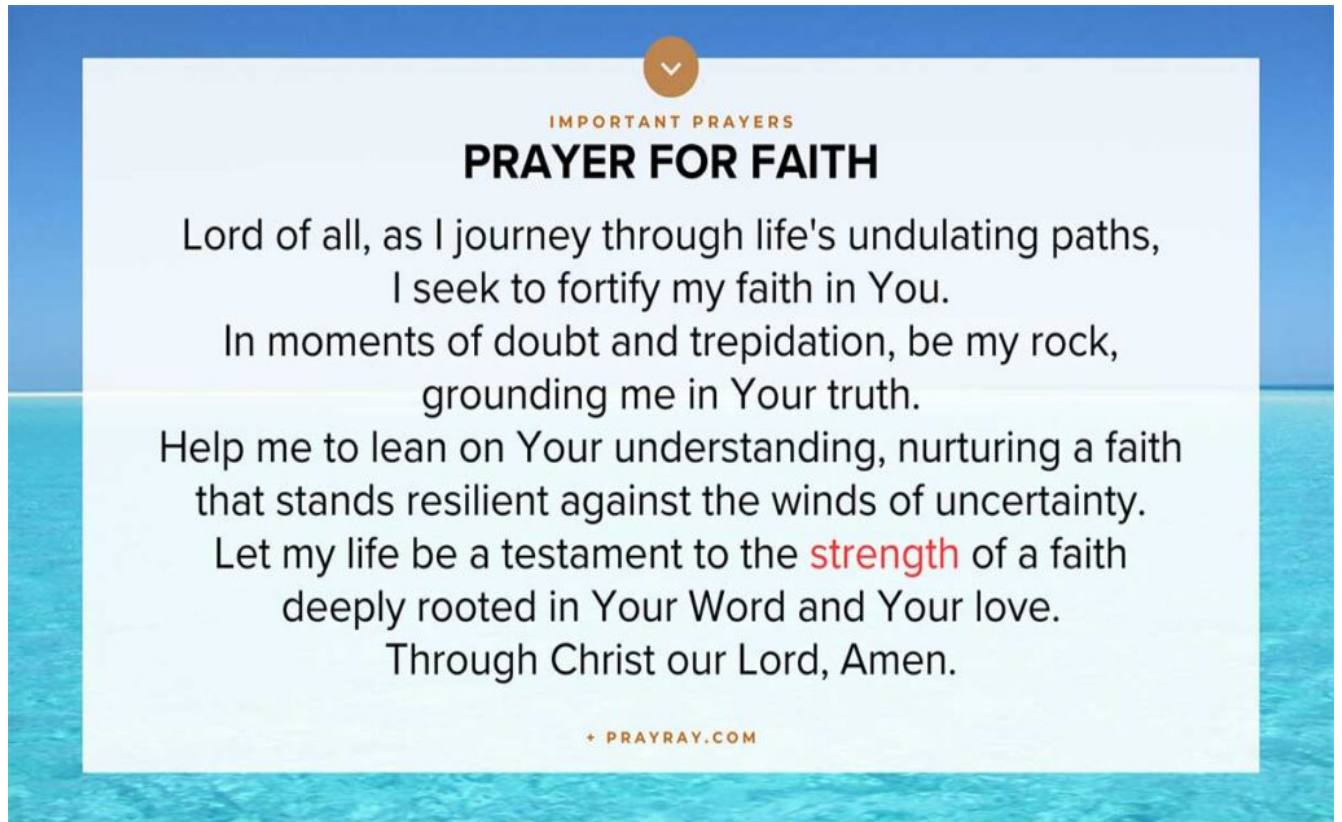
As per the Gospel reading:



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GO IN PEACE TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD



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IMPORTANT PRAYERS

## PRAYER FOR FAITH

Lord of all, as I journey through life's undulating paths,  
I seek to fortify my faith in You.  
In moments of doubt and trepidation, be my rock,  
grounding me in Your truth.  
Help me to lean on Your understanding, nurturing a faith  
that stands resilient against the winds of uncertainty.  
Let my life be a testament to the **strength** of a faith  
deeply rooted in Your Word and Your love.  
Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

+ PRAYRAY.COM

ALLELUIA!