

**Thoughts for the week:**

“Faith is the art of holding on to things in spite of your changing moods and circumstances.” CS Lewis

“We must allow the Word of God to confront us, to disturb our security, to undermine our complacency and to overthrow our patterns of thought and behavior.”  
― **John Stott**

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." Proverbs 3:5-6

"For nothing will be impossible with God." Luke 1:37

**Hymns**

And can it be

Faithful One

10,000 reasons Bless the Lord O my soul

**Prayer for the week:**

 Almighty God,

you search us and know us:

may we rely on you in strength

and rest on you in weakness,

now and in all our days;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Isaiah 55:1-5 (NIV UK)

**Invitation to the thirsty**

 ‘Come, all you who are thirsty,  
    come to the waters;  
and you who have no money,  
    come, buy and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk  
    without money and without cost.  
2Why spend money on what is not bread,  
    and your labour on what does not satisfy?  
Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good,  
    and you will delight in the richest of fare.  
3Give ear and come to me;  
    listen, that you may live.  
I will make an everlasting covenant with you,  
    my faithful love promised to David.  
4See, I have made him a witness to the peoples,  
    a ruler and commander of the peoples.  
5Surely you will summon nations you know not,  
    and nations you do not know will come running to you,  
because of the Lord your God,  
    the Holy One of Israel,  
    for he has endowed you with splendour.’

Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21 (NIV UK)

### Jesus feeds the five thousand

13When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. 14When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed those who were ill.

15As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, ‘This is a remote place, and it’s already getting late. Send the crowds away, so that they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food.’

16Jesus replied, ‘They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.’

17‘We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish,’ they answered.

18‘Bring them here to me,’ he said. 19And he told the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. 20They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. 21The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.