

**Lectionary**  
Readings for every day  
You Select!



in the HCUC

**No. 10**

**For 3 July 2011**

**Dear Friends**

Now its time to turn on the light. We have spent time exploring the treasures of darkness (Is 45:3); and more time making sure we see light and darkness not as separate and opposite but as complementary and included in the oneness of creation. So now its time to turn to light. And when I do I am silent as light itself. What can I say? I'm in the dark. I can tell you the bits the scientists have already told us. There is the mind boggling fact that light travels at 299,792 kilometres a second. With this speed light can circle the equator 7 times in one second, or travel to the moon and back in 2-1/2 seconds. They also tell us that the colours we can see are the different wave lengths of the white light of the sun. We see only the small spectrum from red to violet, which is in every rainbow.

Yet in another sense scientists know very little about light. Einstein himself said "For the rest of my life, I want to reflect on what light is." There is something mysterious and wonderful about light. I encourage you to allow yourself to be truly awed. For example, to realise that matter is light trapped by gravitation. In every particle of matter there are one million particles of light. 'Even the human body stores immense amounts of light' writes one physicist, who illustrates the equation by saying 'we contain enough light to illuminate a rugby field for 3 hours with one million watts of floodlighting.'

To know that matter and light are ultimately interchangeable seems to deepen the hidden aspects of our own inner being—we seem very physical matter. Ah! But what is the potential for what we call enlightenment and inner transformation? Is this an aspect where science, theology and spirituality begin to converge?

Our ancient ancestors considered light to be filled with the power of divinity itself. So let's turn to some of the ancient and modern poets, philosophers, saints and prophets.

I'm still awed into silence!

***Sincerely, Lester***

	<b>Psalm</b>	<b>Epistle/OT</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
Monday 4 July:	91:1-10	Gen 28:10-end	Matt 9:18-26
Tuesday 5 July:	17:1-8	Gen 32:22-end	Matt 9:32-end
Wednesday 6 July:	33:1-4, 18-end	Gen 41:55-end; 42:5-7,17-end	Matt 10:1-7
Thursday 7 July:	105:11-17	Gen 44:18-21, 23-29; 45:1-5	Matt 10:7-15
Friday 8 July:	37:3-6,27-28	Gen 46:1-7,28-30	Matt 10:16-23
Saturday 9 July:	105:1-7	Gen 49:29-end; 50:15-25	Matt 10:24-33
<b>Sunday 10 July <u>Pentecost 4</u></b>			
Ps 119:105-112; Gen 25:19-34; Rom 8:1-11; Matt 13:24-30,36-43			

	<b>Psalm</b>	<b>Epistle/OT</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
Monday 11 July:	124	Exod 1:8-14,22	Matt 10:34-11:1
Tuesday 12 July:	69:1,2,31-end	Exod 2:1-15	Matt 11:20-24
Wednesday 13 July:	103:1-7	Exod 3:1-6,9-12	Matt 11:25-27
Thursday 14 July:	105:1-2,23	Exod 3:13-20	Matt 11:28-end
Friday 15 July:	116:10-end	Exod 11:10-12:14	Matt 12:1-8
Saturday 16 July:	136:1-4,10-15	Exod 12:37-42	Matt 12:14-21
<b>Sunday 17 July <u>Pentecost 5</u></b>			
Ps 139:1-12,23-24; Gen 28:10-19a; Rom 8:12-25; Matt 13:24-30,36-43			

	<b>Psalm</b>	<b>Epistle/OT</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
Monday 18 July:	136:1-4,10-15	Exod 14:5-18	Matt 12:38-42
Tuesday 19 July:	105:37-44	Exod 14:21-15:1	Matt 12:46-end
Wednesday 20 July:	78:17-31	Exod 16:1-5,9-15	Matt 13:1-9
Thursday 21 July:	94	Exod 19:1-2,9-11, 16-20	Matt 13:10-17
Friday 22 July:	19:7-11	Exod 20:1-17	Matt 13:18-23
Saturday 23 July:	50:1-6, 14-15	Exod 24:3-8	Matt 13:24-30
<b>Sunday 24 July <u>Pentecost 6</u></b>			
Ps 105:1-1,45b; Gen 29:15-28; Rom 8:26-39; Matt 13:31-33,44-52			

## IMAGES AND DIMENSIONS OF LIGHT

Here are some of the dimensions of light expressed by Lotte and Werner Pelz:

*“Each day the returning light recreates the world picking up where it left it yesterday, picking out the loveliness and the scars, the beauty and the wrinkles, the daffodils and the weeds, the wheat fields and the battlefields. The light can be merciful and merciless. It adds a new dimension to our life. It liberates and betrays us. We can walk freely in the light, we can dance, find our way—and we are discovered. Light is indefinable. It has no shape or colour, yet gives shape and colour to all things. It is still like the statue which it surrounds. Light can sometimes be turned off, it can never be contradicted. At times we can direct it: into this corner, that page or screen, this face. There are times when we simply have to let ourselves be directed by it.”*

Then they liken the words of Jesus to the light by which we live.  
*“His words return upon us like the recurring day. His words bring a certain order simply by illuminating our daily life, forcing us to see it as it is, and to see ourselves as we are. Like light the words of Jesus are homeless ... yet they ‘put in their place’ everything they meet. Like light the words of Jesus cannot be contradicted. But we can turn our back on them or draw the blinds.”*

### What of the Bible?

From the first to the last page there is an emphasis that light is basic, foundational, eternal. It reaches from the shout of God “Let there be light” — and there it was; to the seer’s vision of the city of God “which has not need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light.” (Rev 21:23, 22:5)

Along with numerous references to light in the NT letters—too many to feature here, but a sample could be: Romans 13:12; Eph 5:8; Col 1:12; 1 Peter 2:4; 1 John 1:5. (here you need to do your own delving and reflecting).

### I AM LIGHT

In John’s gospel light is inseparable from life, love and truth. These are all aspects of the I AM that Jesus refers to, and which he worked at getting us to awaken to, realising is also the I AM we are. Marilyn Ferguson in “The Aquarian Conspiracy” reminds us that “Light is the oldest and most pervasive metaphor in spiritual experience.”

“Light ... light” wrote T S Eliot “visible reminder of invisible light”.

## GOD IS LIGHT and SO ARE YOU

☼ The Lord is my light  
and my salvation,  
whom shall I fear?  
- The Psalmist

☼ This is the message we  
have heard from him  
and proclaim to you:-  
God is light  
and in God  
is no darkness at all.  
- 1 John 1:5

☼ Let the light penetrate  
the darkness  
until the darkness shines  
and  
there is no longer any  
division between the two.  
- A Hasidic saying

☼ Give thanks for those  
who made their life  
a light  
caught from the Christ-  
flame,  
bursting through the  
night,  
who touched the truth,  
who burned for what is  
right,  
ALLELUIA!  
- Shirley E Murray

\* A skilled astronomer  
(Olbers by name) noted  
that there were  
relatively few stars  
nearby; the further  
away he looked, the  
more there were.

Lawrence Ferlinghette  
wrote a poem about it:

“So that from this we  
can deduce that in the  
infinite distances  
there MUST be a place  
there must be a place  
where all is light and  
that the light  
from that high place  
where all is light  
simply hasn’t got  
here yet...”

\* The boy asked:  
“Dad, if the glow-  
worm has its tail cut  
off will it be  
delighted?!!”

Lighten our darkness O Lord