

In the beginning was the Word...

An Advent & Christmas Course from the Diocese of Aberdeen & Orkney



Fullness

Tuesday 2nd January 2024



Photo by Chris Campbell in Flickr (<https://www.flickr.com/photos/cgc/330598547>).

Scripture: Psalm 98

- ¹ Sing to the Lord a new song, *
for he has done marvellous things.
- ² With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.
- ³ The Lord has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- ⁴ He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- ⁵ Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

- ⁶ Sing to the Lord with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.
- ⁷ With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.
- ⁸ Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- ⁹ Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
when he comes to judge the earth.
- ¹⁰ In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

To reflect

The definition of fullness is “the quality or state of being filled completely or to utmost capacity”, like the coffee cup in the image above. In John 10:10b Jesus says “ I have come in order that you might have life—life in all its fullness.” (Good News Translation), in other translations the word abundance is used for fullness. Jesus came to give hope, peace and joy, as opposed to the thief that comes only to steal, kill and destroy (John 10:10a), Jesus is our Good Shepherd who knows us and we know him.

The Psalm appointed for today is Psalm 98, where the Psalmist praises God for all the good things God has done and extols the worshippers to sing a new song. Today you’re invited to reflect on what life in all its fullness and abundance means to you – what does that mean in all parts of your life and in your spiritual practices. What does mean, impact and imply in how you live out your Christian life – in acts of service, spreading the Good News, nurturing new believers and spreading Christ’s light in the world?

To Listen

Psalm 98 (Break Out in Joy) by Scottish Psalmist

<https://open.spotify.com/track/18uCVo82F8jLwyfz3fNQIT?si=21ddf53f35b14089>

Fullness by Elevation Worship, an acoustic version is

<https://open.spotify.com/track/7nedtWqbcnE4ZIHj05MHrk?si=3063b4e4d1dc45df>

...and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.