



Scroll

Monday 27th January



A person scrolling through news on a smartphone.

[japanexperterna.se - www.japanexperterna.se/?attachment_id=3068 (archived: https://web.archive.org/web/20240511030329/https://www.japanexperterna.se/17470913285_a8eae3ebc0_o/)]

Scripture: Psalm 98

O sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvellous things.
His right hand and his holy arm
have gained him victory.
The LORD has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.
Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.
Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy
at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming
to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.

To reflect

In twenty-first century Scotland the word scroll often refers to being online, to scrolling through online news, social media posts, encountering but not engaging with material, news and people. How do you engage with news and the world around you as you scroll through news, or through television channels or flick through the pages of newspapers? It is easy to 'doomscroll' seeing the hurt, pain and desolation of the world, it is easy to see the poor, the oppressed and the captive that Jesus spoke Isaiah's prophecy about in Sunday's Gospel. It is not so easy to see hope and the goodness of God.

Today as you scroll through and peruse the world, through television channels, social media or through printed media you're invited to pay attention and to pray for the people and situation that you see.

To discover God in the smallest and most ordinary things, as well as in the greatest, is to possess a rare and sublime faith. To find contentment in the present moment is to relish and adore the divine will in the succession of all the things to be done and suffered which make up the duty to the present moment.

Jean-Pierre de Caussade, *The Sacrament of the Present Moment*, 1887.

Dear God, as I scroll through the news today, guide my heart to see beyond the headlines and to feel compassion for those experiencing hardship. Help me to discern truth from noise, and to respond with prayer and action where needed. Keep me grounded in your peace even amidst the chaos of the world. Amen.

[from Bible Study Tools]

To Listen (these and other suggestions can be found on a Spotify playlist at

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/0F5bU2sf4OiOtQY3q78Rf2?si=a99cbbf61e7d4587>)

- 'Take This Moment' by John Bell and Graham Maule, one version is by the Cathedral Singers. The first verse is 'Take this moment, sign and space; Take my friends around; Here among us make the place, Where your love is found.'
- 'Glimmer in the Dust' by Hillsong United. This worship song is a reminder of the hope we have in God.

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