






For Wednesday Evening


READING :

Mark ch 14 v 10-11 and v 43-51

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- Traditionally this is the night we focus on Judas and ideas of betrayal – not only by him but also on how all the disciples run away and betray their promises.
 - But what do the others expect of this moment – they have come to Jerusalem believing they might die yet secretly hoping this might be the time when the Messiah reveals himself in physical power and regime changing effect.
 - How do they feel the eight who are not given starring roles? Andrew and Philip who have been with Jesus from the beginning get no mention here at the apparent climax of the story

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- So tonight we reflect on all those who are important but whose importance is overlooked by others:
 - Those without whom the world would not turn –
 - The mothers who support households in ways unnoticed,
 - The cleaners and drivers and others in NHS hierarchy who seem to be the buried part of the pyramid of fame and fortune.
 - The lettuce planter and harvester whom we will only notice when there is no salad for our summer feasts?

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- Not every act of selflessness in this time of lockdown will get five minutes of fame on social media –
 - But without them we would all be poorer,
 - Just as the Jesus story would not have been told without the ones who are only names, figures in the background, the ones whose name and contribution we stumble over when we are asked to name the twelve who sat down to dine with Jesus at the last supper.

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- Holy God
 - we sing “ for everyone born a place at the table”
 - sometimes as a way of remembering others
 - sometimes as a way of recognising we too easily forget
 - sometimes because we feel betrayed and outside
 - sometimes because we know what it feels like both to be excluded and to exclude
 - You show us in Jesus and his disciples how all of us are welcome
 - All are welcome in your kingdom to share your bread,
 - the bread of life
 - Today and always
 - So bless us to know our place
and to know it is alongside and not instead of someone else, everyone else.
 - In Jesus name we pray amen